



CERTIFICATES OF FITNESS

Statutes and Regulations

August 2025

Effective date August 8, 2025

This document includes changes in regulation that
are not effective until the above date.

Labor Standards and Safety Division Mechanical Inspection



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Jobs are Alaska's Future

MECHANICAL INSPECTION

CUSTOMER COUNTER LOCATIONS

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The Juneau and Fairbanks offices are staffed by field inspectors.
Please contact the Anchorage office if you need to make an appointment at these offices or reach an inspector there.

Mechanical Inspection

www.labor.alaska.gov/lss/mihome.htm

Mechanical Inspection issues certificates of fitness for the following:
Electrician (Journeyman, Lineman, Residential Wireman, Trainee, Provisional)
Plumber (Journeyman, Gas, Utility, Trainee, Provisional)
Asbestos Abatement; Explosive Handler; Hazardous Paint
Boiler Operator (Class 1-4); Inspector (Amusement, Tramway, Boiler)

For questions and inquiries, email Mechanical Inspection

MI@alaska.gov

**For information on contractor licensing or
Electrical or Mechanical Administrators**

www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing.aspx

These licenses are issued by the Department of Commerce

Contents of this publication:

Statutes.....	3
Regulations	5
Frequently Asked Questions	25

Note to Readers: The statutes and administrative regulations listed in this publication were taken from the official codes, as of the effective date of the publication. However, there may be errors or omissions that have not been identified and changes that occurred after the publication was printed.

This publication is intended as an informational guide only and is not intended to serve as a precise statement of the statutes and regulations of the State of Alaska.

To be certain of the current laws and regulations, please refer to the official codes.

ALASKA STATUTES TITLE 18, CHAPTER 62

CERTIFICATES OF FITNESS

Sec. 18.62.010. Certificate of fitness required.

In connection with work performed subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580 and AS 18.60.705, a person may not be employed without a certificate of fitness to perform the work, except that a certificate of fitness may not be required of employees of an electric utility that does not have within its service area any portion of a city or unified municipality having more than 2,500 population.

Sec. 18.62.020. Application for and issuance of certificate.

- (a) The department shall issue certificates of fitness and renewal certificates of fitness. A journeyman level certificate and renewal certificate is valid for two years. A trainee level certificate and renewal certificate is valid for six years. A certificate may be issued only to an individual. An applicant for a certificate shall apply in writing, under oath, on a form prescribed by the department containing
 - (1) the name and address of the applicant;
 - (2) the applicant's age;
 - (3) the applicant's citizenship; and
 - (4) other information relevant to licensing that the department requires.
- (b) The department may adopt regulations allowing for the issuance of a provisional certificate of fitness to an individual who applies for a certificate of fitness under (a) of this section and holds a comparable certificate in another jurisdiction.

Sec. 18.62.030. Fees.

- (a) An applicant shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of \$50 when applying for a certificate of fitness. The department shall charge a fee of \$200 for the issuance of a trainee level certificate or renewal certificate and \$200 for the issuance of a journeyman level certificate or renewal certificate, to be prorated if issued for less than two years, and a fee of \$25 for the issuance of a duplicate certificate.
- (b) Fees collected under (a) of this section shall be deposited into the building safety account created under AS 44.31.025.

Sec. 18.62.040. Duration of certificate.

The department may cancel a certificate for cause. A certificate, if not cancelled for cause, is valid for the term it was issued for. A certificate holder whose certificate is about to expire may apply for a new certificate.

Sec. 18.62.050. Issuance and contents of certificate.

- (a) If, upon investigation and examination by the department, the applicant is found

competent by reason of training and experience, the department shall issue a certificate of fitness. The certificate shall set out the competency of the applicant and provide for positive identification of the applicant, and shall be carried on the person engaged in work subject to the requirement of a certificate of fitness under this chapter.

(b) [Repealed, Sec. 23 ch 81 SLA 1984].

(c) Verification by an Alaska-based labor union of a member's qualification to meet the requirements for a certificate of fitness may be accepted in lieu of examination or other requirement for issuing a certification under this chapter.

(d) Except for a plumber utility trainee level certificate of fitness, the department may not issue a trainee level certificate of fitness under (a) of this section unless the applicant is indentured in an apprenticeship program registered with the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, or a state apprenticeship agency recognized by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.

Sec. 18.62.060. Power of the department.

The department shall issue orders and adopt regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 18.62.070. Persons required to obtain certificate.

A person engaged in one of the following trades shall first obtain from the department the appropriate certificate of fitness in that trade:

- (1) electrical wiring subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580; and
- (2) plumbing subject to the uniform plumbing code; in this paragraph, “uniform plumbing code” means the minimum plumbing code adopted for the state under AS 18.60.705.

Sec. 18.62.080. Penalty

A person, either an employer or employee, who violates a provision of this chapter or of a regulation adopted under this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.

Sec. 18.62.100. Definition.

In this chapter, "department" means the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 8, CHAPTER 90 PLUMBERS AND ELECTRICIANS

8 AAC 90.105. Holder in possession.

- (a) An individual engaged in the performance of work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580 and AS 18.60.705 shall have an appropriate certificate of fitness or a trainee certificate of fitness, except that an individual who has been certified by the Department of Environmental Conservation under AS 46.30 and 18 AAC 74 to install septic systems may also install associated septic sewer piping from within two feet of a serviced structure to the septic system without a plumber restricted PU certificate of fitness. The certificate must be in the individual's possession when performing work in the trade.
- (b) For purposes of AS 18.62.010, 18.62.070(1), and this section, work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580 does not include electrical maintenance within the limitations set out in 8 AAC 70.035. (Eff. 9/13/80, Register 75; am 6/14/84, Register 90; am 9/27/2008, Register 187; am 2/23/2011, Register 197)

8 AAC 90.110. Application for certificate of fitness.

An individual may obtain an application for a certificate of fitness at any office of the division or by writing to the director at the division's office in Juneau. In addition to the requirements listed in this chapter, each applicant shall provide the applicant's social security number to the department. Upon request, the department will provide the social security number to the child support services agency created in AS 25.27.010, or the child support enforcement agency of another state, for child support enforcement purposes authorized under law.

Editor's note: The applications described in 8 AAC 90.110 may be obtained on the Mechanical Inspection website: www.labor.alaska.gov/lss/mihome.htm

8 AAC 90.111. Reciprocity.

- (a) The department may reciprocate a plumbing or electrical certificate of fitness with any jurisdiction that has substantially similar requirements to the state.
- (b) To determine if a jurisdiction has substantially similar requirements to the state, the department may consider
 - (1) the number of work hours required for licensure in the jurisdiction;
 - (2) whether the jurisdiction has a testing requirement;
 - (3) whether the jurisdiction requires membership in a registered apprenticeship program; and
 - (4) other factors the department determines are relevant to assess whether a jurisdiction's requirements are substantially similar to the state.

8 AAC 90.112. Provisional certificate of fitness.

- (a) An applicant seeking a certificate under 8 AAC 90.111 and this section must hold a current certificate or license in another jurisdiction and must have held that license for a full year before the application date. The department may require the applicant to provide additional information to clarify the requirements of the jurisdiction where the current license is held.
- (b) The department will issue a provisional certificate to the holder of a current electrical or plumbing journeyman certificate or license from another jurisdiction.
- (c) An applicant who currently holds a substantially similar certificate or license to the state's electrical journeyman or plumbing journeyman certificate of fitness shall submit an application on a form provided by the department and a
 - (1) \$50 application fee;
 - (2) \$100 certificate fee, prorated as described in AS 18.62.030(a); and
 - (3) copy of the applicant's current license from another jurisdiction.
- (d) A provisional certificate issued under this section expires on the earlier of the following dates:
 - (1) one year from the date the provisional certificate was issued; or
 - (2) the date the current certificate or license from another jurisdiction expires.
- (e) When performing work under a provisional certificate issued under this section, the certificate holder shall
 - (1) carry both the provisional certificate and the current certificate or license from another jurisdiction; and
 - (2) perform work to the appropriate code in the state.
- (f) The department may immediately cancel a provisional certificate if an applicant's
 - (1) application is incomplete or contains a false statement;
 - (2) credentials or accompanying documents are insufficient; or
 - (3) current certificate or license was not issued by another jurisdiction with substantially similar requirements to the state.
- (g) A plumber journeyman provisional certificate holder may not perform gas work.
- (h) The department will process a provisional certificate application as a reciprocal application under 8 AAC 90.111 and this section. If the department determines that an applicant's current certificate or license was issued by another jurisdiction that does not have substantially similar requirements to the state, the department will contact the applicant to request proof of hours. The applicant must take an examination before the department will issue a journeyman certificate to the applicant.

8 AAC 90.115. Plumber and electrician examinations.

- (a) Except as provided under (b) and (e) of this section, an individual who holds the appropriate trainee certificate of fitness may request an appointment to take an examination for electrician journeyman, power lineman journeyman, residential wireman, plumber journeyman, plumber restricted PG, or plumber restricted PU at the offices of the division in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.
- (b) An applicant may request that an examination be made available at a location not specified under (a) of this section by submitting a written request to the office of the division in Anchorage. In response to the applicant's written request, the department may
 - (1) if able to reasonably provide the resources to administer the examination at the applicant's requested location, make the examination available at the applicant's requested location;
 - (2) refer the applicant to an approved third-party testing facility; the applicant shall be responsible for the expense of taking an examination at a third-party testing facility; for an applicant's examination from a third-party testing facility to be valid, the third-party testing facility must provide the applicant with its own examination and provide documentation to the department that the applicant received a passing score; or
 - (3) refer the applicant to an approved exam proctor; the applicant shall be responsible for the expense of taking an examination provided by an exam proctor; for an applicant's examination from an exam proctor to be valid, the exam proctor must provide the applicant's examination to the department for grading.
- (c) The minimum passing score for an examination under this section is 70 percent.
- (d) An applicant who fails to pass an examination administered by the department or conducted by proctor under this section is eligible to retake the examination 30 days after the date of the failed examination.
- (e) A union based in the state may administer its own examination to an applicant under this section if an agreement on examination standards is in place between the union and the department. The union must provide documentation to the department that the applicant passed the examination with a score of not less than 70 percent by providing a sworn affidavit by a union official on a form provided by the department.

8 AAC 90.120. Appeal certificate of fitness denial.

A person whose application for a certificate of fitness under this chapter is denied may appeal the denial decision under the provisions of 8 AAC 90.190.

8 AAC 90.125. Definition.

In 8 AAC 90.105 - 8 AAC 90.125, "jurisdiction" means

- (1) a state within the meaning given in AS 01.10.060;
- (2) a local government within a state, if the local government issues certificates of fitness or licenses to journeyman electricians or journeyman plumbers.

8 AAC 90.130.Plumber journeyman certificate of fitness.

- (a) A plumber journeyman certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to perform work that is subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010.
- (b) A plumber journeyman certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant
 - (1) passes an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; and
 - (2) submits one of the following:
 - (A) documented proof on a notarized form provided by the department, or by notarized statements on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant has a minimum of 8,000 hours of legally obtained work experience in work subject to the standards established by the local authority having jurisdiction if the standards are at least as stringent as those established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010; or
 - (B) a sworn affidavit from an official of an Alaska-based union, on a form provided by the department, that demonstrates that the applicant meets the experience requirements set out in (A) of this paragraph; the affidavit must specify
 - (i) the number of qualifying hours of experience the applicant claims for classification for which the applicant seeks certification;
 - (ii) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (i) of this subparagraph were worked; and
 - (iii) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
- (c) The department will count no more than
 - (1) 500 hours of plumber restricted PU work toward the work experience required in (b) of this section; or
 - (2) 2,000 hours of plumber restricted PG work toward the work experience required in (b) of this section.
- (d) Classroom hours earned in a United States Department of Labor registered

apprenticeship program or accredited educational training program in the plumbing field may be substituted for up to 1,000 hours of work experience required under (b) of this section.

8 AAC 90.135.Plumber restricted PG certificate of fitness.

- (a) A plumber restricted PG certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to install fuel and gas piping within property lines of the premises.
- (b) A plumber restricted PG certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant
 - (1) submits documented proof of legally obtained experience on a notarized form provided by the department, or by notarized statements on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant
 - (A) has worked for at least 2,000 hours installing fuel and gas piping within property lines of the premises;
 - (B) has a minimum of 4,000 hours' work experience in plumbing work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010; and
 - (C) passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; or
 - (2) submits to the department, on a form provided by the department, a sworn affidavit from an official of a union based in the state that demonstrates that the applicant meets the work experience requirements set out under (1) of this subsection and has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; the affidavit must specify
 - (A) the number of qualifying hours' experience the applicant claims for the classification for which the applicant seeks certification; apprenticeship hours must be noted if apprenticeship hours are being used for qualification;
 - (B) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (A) of this paragraph were worked; and
 - (C) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work has performed.
- (c) An accredited apprenticeship classroom program or educational training in the plumbing field may be substituted for up to 500 hours' work experience in work that is subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010.

8 AAC 90.137.Plumber restricted PU certificate of fitness.

- (a) A plumber restricted PU certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to install
 - (1) water service piping from the street, right-of-way main, water well, or storage tank

- to the first stop valve of the serviced structure or other point of use or distribution on the serviced property;
 - (2) building sewer piping from within two feet of a serviced structure to a public sewer, private sewer, private sewage disposal system, or other point of disposal; and
 - (3) building storm drains that receive the discharge of roof drains, leaders, downspouts, or conductors, if the storm drains are installed from within two feet of a commercial structure, or from within two feet of a residential structure of four or more dwelling units, to the street, the right-of-way main line, or a point of disposal approved by the federal, state, or local agency having jurisdiction.
- (b) A plumber restricted PU certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant
- (1) submits documented proof of experience on a notarized form provided by the department, or by notarized statement on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant has worked for at least 1,000 hours installing water, sewer, or storm lines subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010, and has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; or
 - (2) submits to the department, on a form provided by the department, a sworn affidavit from an official of a union based in the state that demonstrates that the applicant meets the work experience requirements set out under (1) of this subsection, and has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; the affidavit must specify
 - (A) the number of qualifying hours' experience the applicant claims for the classification for which the applicant seeks certification; apprenticeship hours must be noted if apprenticeship hours are being used for qualification;
 - (B) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (A) of this paragraph were worked; and
 - (C) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
- (c) An accredited apprenticeship classroom program or educational training in the plumbing field may be substituted for up to 125 hours' work experience in work that is subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010.
- (d) Repealed 2/23/2011.
- (e) Repealed 2/23/2011.

8 AAC 90.140.Plumber trainee certificate of fitness.

- (a) A trainee certificate of fitness authorizes the holder to perform work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and performed under the conditions set out

under this section.

- (b) The department will issue a trainee certificate of fitness upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030 if the applicant submits documented proof of indenture in an apprentice plumber program accredited by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.
- (c) The ratio of individuals working under trainee certificates on a job site may not be more than two plumber trainees for every certified plumber journeyman.
- (d) Repealed.
- (e)-Repealed

8 AAC 90.145.Plumber utility trainee certificate of fitness.

- (a) A trainee certificate of fitness authorizes the holder to perform work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 90.137(a) performed under the conditions set out under this section. If the trainee's job requires the trainee to perform work subject to the standards of AS 18.60.705 and beyond the limits of the plumber utility specialist, the trainee must be licensed subject to the requirements of 8 AAC 90.140.
- (b) The department will issue a trainee certificate of fitness upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant submits a notarized letter from the applicant's employer on company letterhead stating that the
 - (1) trainee will be under the direct supervision of a journeyman plumber or a restricted plumber PU certificate of fitness holder at all times while performing to the code; and
 - (2) trainee's activities will be limited exclusively to the functions outlined in 8 AAC 90.137 while performing the functions of a plumber utility specialist.
- (c) The ratio of individuals working under trainee certificates on a job site may not be more than two plumber utility trainees for every certified plumber journeyman.
- (d) Repealed.

8 AAC 90.150.Plumber examination.

Repealed.

8 AAC 90.160.Electrician journeyman certificate of fitness.

- (a) An electrician journeyman certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to perform work that is subject to the standards of the National Electrical Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025.
- (b) An electrician journeyman certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant

- (1) has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; and
- (2) submits one of the following:
 - (A) documented proof on a notarized form provided by the department, or notarized statements on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant has a minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience subject to standards of the National electrical Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025; or
 - (B) a sworn affidavit from an official of an Alaska-based union, on a form provided by the department, that demonstrates that the applicant meets the work experience requirements set out in (A) of this paragraph; the affidavit must specify
 - (i) the number of qualifying hours of experience the applicant claims for the classification for which the applicant seeks certification;
 - (ii) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (i) of this subparagraph were worked; and
 - (iii) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
- (c) The department will count no more than 2,000 hours of residential electrical work towards the minimum of 8,000 hours' work experience required under this section.
- (d) Classroom hours earned in a United States Department of Labor registered apprenticeship program or accredited educational training program in the electrical field may be substituted for up to 1,000 hours of work experience required under this section.
- (e) Up to 1,000 hours of experience as a power lineman may be used to meet the work experience requirements of this section.
- (f) Experience as a maintenance electrician may not be used to meet the work experience requirements of this section.
- (g) Repealed.

8 AAC 90.162. Power lineman journeyman certificate of fitness.

- (a) A power lineman journeyman certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to perform the work that is described in 8 AAC 90.900(17) and subject to the National Electrical Safety Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025.
- (b) A power lineman journeyman certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant
 - (1) passes an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; and

(2) submits one of the following:

- (A) documented proof on a notarized form provided by the department, or notarized statements on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant has a minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience subject to the National Electrical Safety Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025; or
 - (B) a sworn affidavit from an official of an Alaska-based union, on a form provided by the department, that demonstrates that the applicant meets the work experience requirements set out in (A) of this paragraph; the affidavit must specify
 - (i) the number of qualifying hours of experience the applicant claims for the classification for which the applicant seeks certification;
 - (ii) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (i) of this subparagraph were worked; and
 - (iii) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
 - (C) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
- (c) Classroom hours earned in a United States Department of Labor registered apprenticeship program or accredited educational training program in the electrical field may be substituted for up to 1,000 hours of work experience required under this section.
- (d) Experience as an electrician may be substituted for up to 1,000 hours' work experience required under this section.
- (e) Experience as a maintenance electrician may not be used to meet the work experience requirements of this section.

8 AAC 90.164. Residential wireman certificate of fitness.

- (a) A residential wireman certificate of fitness authorizes the holder of the certificate to perform work that is described in 8 AAC 90.900(18).
- (b) A residential wireman certificate of fitness will be issued by the department upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant
 - (1) submits documented proof on a notarized form provided by the department, or notarized statements on letterhead stationery from employers, that the applicant has a minimum of 4,000 hours of work experience as a residential wireman, and has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; or
 - (2) submits to the department, on a form provided by the department, a sworn affidavit from an official of a union based in the state that demonstrates that the applicant

meets the work experience requirements set out in (1) of this subsection and has passed an examination that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.115; the affidavit must specify

- (A) the number of qualifying hours' experience the applicant claims for the classification for which the applicant seeks certification; apprenticeship hours must be noted if apprenticeship hours are being used for qualification;
 - (B) the inclusive dates during which the hours claimed in (A) of this paragraph were worked; and
 - (C) the type of work performed and the name of each contractor for whom the work was performed.
- (c) An accredited apprenticeship classroom program or educational training in the electrical field may be substituted for up to 500 hours' work experience required under this section.
- (d) Experience as a maintenance electrician may not be used to meet the work experience requirements of this section.

8 AAC 90.165. Electrician and power lineman trainee certificates of fitness.

- (a) A trainee certificate of fitness authorizes the holder to perform work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580 and performed under the conditions set out under this section.
- (b) The department will issue a trainee certificate of fitness upon payment of the applicable fees required by AS 18.62.030, if the applicant submits documented proof of indenture in an apprentice electrician program accredited by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.
- (c) The ratio of individuals working under trainee certificates on a job site may not be more than two electrician trainees for every certified electrician journeyman or residential wireman, as applicable, or two power lineman trainees for every certified power lineman journeyman.
- (d) Notwithstanding (a) - (c) of this section, a person holding a power lineman journeyman certificate of fitness may work as a trainee on a project within the scope of the National Electrical Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025(a), a person holding a residential wireman certificate of fitness may work as a trainee on a project within the scope of the National Electrical Safety Code established in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025(b), and on a project within the scope of the National Electrical Code that is outside the scope of a residential wireman, and a person holding an electrical journeyman certificate of fitness may work as a trainee on a project within the scope of the National Electrical Safety Code.
- (e) Repealed.
- (f) Apprentice programs must return trainee certificates surrendered under (e) to the

Anchorage office of the mechanical inspection section not later than 30 days from the date of surrender.

8 AAC 90.170.Electrician examination.

Repealed.

8 AAC 90.180.Renewal of certificate of fitness.

- (a) The department will mail a notice of renewal to each certificate of fitness card holder's address currently on file, prior to the expiration date of the certificate.
- (b) Except as provided in 8 AAC 90.192 - 8 AAC 90.200, the department will renew a standard certificate of fitness without reexamination if the certificate holder requests renewal of the certificate not later than two years after the expiration date of the certificate and pays the applicable fees under AS 18.62.030.
- (c) The department will renew a trainee certificate of fitness if the certificate holder
 - (1) requests renewal of the certificate of fitness;
 - (2) submits documented proof of indenture in an apprentice program accredited by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship; and
 - (3) pays the applicable fee required under AS 18.62.030.
- (d) The certificate of fitness becomes invalid as of the date of expiration for purposes of performing work subject to AS 18.60.580 or 18.60.705.

8 AAC 90.185.Cancellation of certificate of fitness.

- (a) The department may cancel a certificate of fitness upon a finding that the certificate holder
 - (1) falsified information furnished to the department on an application for a certificate of fitness; or
 - (2) violated a cease and desist order issued by the department; or
 - (3) has a history of performing substandard work to the extent that the public's best interest is jeopardized; or
 - (4) has failed to comply with state laws and regulations regarding the use of the certificate of fitness.
- (b) If, after an investigation, the department finds that a violation described in (a) of this section has occurred, the department will notify the certificate holder by personal service or certified mail of its findings regarding the violation and its intention to cancel the certificate of fitness. The certificate holder has 20 days from the date of personal service or certified mailing of the notice of intent to cancel the certificate to request a hearing. The department's findings are final if the certificate holder does not timely request a hearing without good cause. The certificate holder must provide, in

writing, the reasons why the certificate should not be cancelled and a summary of the facts opposing a cancellation. For the purposes of this subsection, "good cause" means

- (1) a circumstance beyond the certificate holder's control that prevents the certificate holder from submitting a timely request for a hearing; or
 - (2) any other circumstance as determined on an individual basis by the director.
- (c) If the department cancels a certificate holder's certificate of fitness, the certificate holder may apply for a new certificate of fitness 90 days after the previous certificate's cancellation date, or at an earlier time as determined by the director. To apply for a new certificate of fitness, the certificate holder must
- (1) pass an examination administered by the department; and
 - (2) pay the applicable fees set out under AS 18.62.030.

8 AAC 90.186.Hearing on cancellation of certificate of fitness.

- (a) A respondent may be represented by counsel. If counsel for a party notifies the division, in writing, that counsel is appearing in the matter on behalf of the party, service of notices, memoranda, recommendations, or other documents, will be considered sufficient if made on the party or counsel or both.
- (b) The division will give notice to the respondent of the time and place of the hearing on an alleged violation under 8 AAC 90.185 by certified mail or by personal service at least 15 days before the hearing. The notice will contain a summary of investigative findings that will be considered at the hearing. Service to the current address a respondent has provided to the division for a certificate of fitness shall be considered valid service.
- (c) The location of any oral hearing will be designated by the division considering the convenience of all persons involved. All hearings are public.
- (d) The director will designate a hearing officer to preside over the hearing and to make findings of fact and conclusions of law to be used as a basis for the director's decision.
- (e) The hearing officer has full authority to control the procedure of the hearing and to rule on all motions and objections.
- (f) The hearing officer may admit any relevant evidence, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory or court rule which might make the admission of the evidence over objection improper in civil actions, if it is evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. Hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining any direct evidence, but will not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions. The hearing officer may issue subpoenas at the request of either party or on the hearing officer's own motion.
- (g) Evidence must be given under oath or affirmation. If an oral hearing is held, a record of the proceedings will be kept.

- (h) The hearing officer, respondent, and complainant may
 - (1) call and examine witnesses;
 - (2) cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issue at hand, even if that matter was not covered in direct examination; and
 - (3) introduce exhibits.
- (i) If the respondent does not testify on the respondent's own behalf, the respondent may be called and examined as if under cross-examination.
- (j) The hearing officer may, for good cause shown, continue a hearing from day to day or recess it to a later date or to a different place by announcement at the hearing or by notice.
- (k) The department has the burden of proving that the alleged violations have occurred. The standard of proof required is by a preponderance of the evidence.

8 AAC 90.187.Decision from hearing on cancellation of certificate of fitness.

- (a) The hearing officer will prepare a written recommendation to the director containing findings of fact and conclusions of law. A copy of the recommendations will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the respondent and to the complainant, if any. The director may accept the recommendations, in part or in whole, or may remand the matter for further hearing. The director must act upon the hearing officer's recommendation and render a decision within 30 days of receiving the recommendation from the hearing officer.
- (b) Upon making a decision, the director will serve it upon the respondent and complainant, if any, by personal service or certified mail.
- (c) A person whose certificate of fitness has been cancelled shall return the certificate to the director within 30 days after the date of personal service or the certified mailing of the decision that the person's certificate has been cancelled.

8 AAC 90.190.Appeal of denial of renewal or cease work order.

- (a) A denial of a request to renew a certificate for failure to meet the requirements of 8 AAC 90.180, or a notice under 8 AAC 90.205(c) to cease work, are final unless the person affected files an appeal with the commissioner within 30 days after receipt of the notice of denial of renewal or to cease work. The appeal must be in writing and must include
 - (1) a specification of objections to the department's findings, and a concise summary of facts in support of each objection; and
 - (2) a description of the relief sought.
- (b) The commissioner's decision will be based upon the department's record, including the written appeal, and will state the facts relied upon by the commissioner in deciding the

matter.

- (c) The commissioner will, in his or her discretion, hold a hearing on the appeal to supplement the record where clarification or additional facts are necessary for a proper resolution of the appeal.
- (d) A hearing held under this section will be conducted in accordance with AS 44.62.330 - 44.62.640 in the Administrative Procedure Act, except that the director or the director's designee shall act as the hearing officer.
- (e) Within 30 days after the hearing, a copy of the decision will be sent to the appellant. Within 30 days after the decision is issued, the appellant may appeal to the superior court.
- (f) Repealed 12/25/98.

8 AAC 90.192.Hours of continuing education for plumber journeyman and electrician journeyman certificate of fitness.

- (a) Before a plumber journeyman or electrician journeyman certificate of fitness is renewed under 8 AAC 90.180, the certificate holder must provide proof to the department that the continuing education requirements set out in this section have been met. To be considered by the department for the current renewal period, the continuing education must have been completed during the 24-month period before the request for renewal of the certificate is made.
- (b) An applicant for renewal of an electrician journeyman certificate of fitness must satisfactorily complete an approved program, within the preceding 24-month period, of at least 16 hours. At least eight hours must cover significant changes or updates to the National Electrical Code, as adopted by AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025, and no more than eight hours may be industry related.
- (c) An applicant for renewal of a plumber journeyman certificate of fitness must satisfactorily complete at least 16 hours of continuing education workshops, formal correspondence programs, individual study programs, or a combination approved by the department within the preceding 24-month period, of at least 16 hours. At least eight hours must cover significant changes or updates to the Uniform Plumbing Code, as adopted by AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010, not more than eight hours may be industry related.
- (d) An authorized provider of a course of instruction may use that course for credit towards renewal of the provider's certificate of fitness if the course was presented within the 24-month period before application for renewal.

8 AAC 90.194.Approved plumber and electrician workshops.

- (a) The director may approve a continuing education program if
 - (1) the course has been approved by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional

Licensing under 12 AAC 39.420 before the training date; or

- (2) at least 30 days before the training date, the course provider provides a description of the program and the number of hours of instruction to the director, the program must be based on either the currently adopted or newer edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code for plumber journeymen or the National Electrical Code for electrician journeymen and require participants to register.
- (b) the provider must provide verification of satisfactory completion of the program to each participant in the form of a completion certificate. The completion certificate must include the
 - (A) name of the sponsoring organization;
 - (B) location of the workshop or course;
 - (C) title, course number, and description;
 - (D) name of the principal instructor;
 - (E) dates of attendance or period of instruction; and
 - (F) number of continuing education hours claimed.

8 AAC 90.195. Formal correspondence and individual study.

The director will approve a formal correspondence or individual study program if the formal correspondence or other individual study program

- (1) pertains to the standards set out in AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010 for a plumber journeyman and in AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025 for an electrician journeyman;
- (2) requires registration of the participants; and
- (3) provides evidence of continuing education credit awarded for the satisfactory completion of the formal correspondence or individual study program.

8 AAC 90.196. Report of continuing education for plumber journeyman and electrician journeyman certificates of fitness.

- (a) At the time of application for renewal, an applicant renewing a journeyman certificate of fitness under 8 AAC 90.180 shall submit evidence that the applicant satisfactorily completed the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.192. The evidence of completion must be in the form of a certificate that meets the requirements set out under 8 AAC 90.194(b).
- (b) Falsification of any evidence submitted to the department under this section is grounds for disciplinary action under 8 AAC 90.185.

8 AAC 90.198. Waiver of continuing education for plumber journeyman and electrician journeyman certificates of fitness.

An applicant that is unable to obtain the required continuing education hours for a plumber

journeyman or electrician journeyman certificate of fitness renewal may request a waiver by explaining the circumstances in writing to the director. If the director determines that the applicant was prevented from complying with the continuing education requirements by circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, the director will prescribe an alternative method of compliance with those requirements as it considers appropriate to the individual situation.

8 AAC 90.200.Edition of plumbing code and electrical code acceptable for continuing education.

The director may accept a course of continuing education credit that covers a more recent edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code for plumber journeymen or the National Electrical Code for electrician journeymen than the edition currently adopted by the state.

8 AAC 90.205.Right of inspection.

- (a) An inspector must be given free access during reasonable hours to any premises where plumbing or electrical work subject to the standards established in AS 18.60.580 and AS 18.60.705 is being performed.
- (b) The inspector may request any person performing work for which a certificate of fitness is required to exhibit the certificate of fitness.
- (c) The inspector may immediately serve upon a person performing work without a certificate of fitness a notice to cease any further work for which a certificate is required until a certificate of fitness is obtained from the department. The inspector will serve a copy of the notice on the worker's employer.

8 AAC 90.890.Work legally performed and experience legally obtained.

- (a) For purposes of compliance with a minimum work or experience requirement in this chapter, work is legally performed, and experience is legally obtained while performing work, if the work is performed
 - (1) for a contractor with a current, valid license, registration, certificate, or other credential required for practice of the contractor's trade or profession by the law of the state in which the work is performed, and if the work is performed in the state in which the contractor is licensed, registered, certificated, or otherwise credentialed; if the work is performed in a state that does not require a license, registration, certificate, or other credential for practice of the contractor's trade or profession, the department will consider documented work or experience to be in compliance with this paragraph;
 - (2) under the direct supervision of a journeyman tradesperson; and
 - (3) in compliance with the laws of the state in which the work is performed.
- (b) The department will count work performed as part of military service as vocational or military hours as follows:

- (1) the department will determine which military occupational specialty (MOS) codes or Air Force specialty codes (AFSC) qualify for hands-on experience in the trade;
- (2) the department will determine which vocational schools qualify for vocational experience in the trade;
- (3) an applicant may claim up to 500 hours per full year assigned to a qualifying MOS or AFSC;
- (4) the maximum amount of military service or vocational hours an applicant may claim on an application is half the total required for the certificate;
- (5) the applicant must submit proof of hours on a copy of the applicant's DD Form 214 or a certificate issued by the vocational training program.

8 AAC 90.900. Definitions.

In this chapter and AS 18.62,

- (1) "accredited" means approved by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship;
- (2) "apprentice" means a worker at least 16 years of age who is legally performing work to learn a skilled trade;
- (3) "approved program" means a program consisting of any combination of continuing education workshops, formal correspondence programs, or individual study programs that meets the requirements of this chapter;
- (4) "commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and workforce development or the commissioner's designee;
- (5) "day" means a calendar day;
- (6) "department" means the Department of Labor and Workforce Development;
- (7) "director" means the director of the labor standards and safety division of the department, or the director's designee;
- (8) "direct supervision" means a certified journeyman is on the same job site, on the same floor and in close and continual control of the trainee and is responsible for the competency of the work performed by the trainee while the trainee is legally performing work subject to the standards established in either AS 18.60.580 and 8 AAC 70.025 or AS 18.60.705 and 8 AAC 63.010;
- (9) "division" means the labor standards and safety division of the department;
- (10) "electrician journeyman" means a person who performs work necessary to the installation and construction of electrical work within buildings and within property lines of any given property, beginning at the secondary side of the transformer, subject to the National Electrical Code, but does not include a person performing linework consisting of poles and towers, including wires or cables and other apparatus supported by them;
- (11) "examination" means a series of prepared questions administered in writing, orally, or both;
- (12) "industry related"
 - (A) for an electrician journeyman is related to electrical installation techniques for the electrical journeyman trade as defined in 8 AAC 90.900;
 - (B) for a plumber journeyman is related to plumbing installation techniques for the plumber journeyman trade as defined in 8 AAC 90.900;
 - (C) does not include management skills or techniques, such as general construction industry safety, first aid, planning, scheduling, supervision, designing, estimating, or marketing and sales;

- (13) "inspector" means an inspector of the labor standards and safety division of the department, or a designee;
- (14) "plumber journeyman" means a person who performs plumbing work in the installation, removal, alteration, or repair of plumbing and drainage systems, within the property lines of the premises; in this paragraph, "plumbing and drainage systems"
- (A) includes all
- (i) building supply and distribution piping for potable water;
 - (ii) water treating or utilization equipment;
 - (iii) plumbing fixtures and traps;
 - (iv) drainage and vent pipes;
 - (v) building drains and building sewers;
 - (vi) medical gas and medical vacuum systems;
 - (vii) liquid and fuel gas piping;
 - (viii) swimming pool, spa, and hot tub piping;
 - (ix) joints, connections, devices, receptacles, appurtenances, water heaters, and vents for items listed in (i) - (viii) of this subparagraph and within the property lines of the premises; and
 - (x) harbor distribution piping for potable water.
- (B) does not include the mains of a public sewer system or a public sewage treatment or disposal plant;
- (15) "plumber restricted PG" means a person authorized with a certificate of fitness to install fuel and gas piping within property lines of the premises;
- (16) "plumber restricted PU" means a person authorized with a certificate of fitness to install
- (A) water service piping from the street, right-of-way main, water well, or storage tank to the first stop valve of the serviced structure or other point of use or distribution on the serviced property;
- (B) building sewer piping from within two feet of a serviced structure to a public sewer, private sewer, private sewage disposal system, or other point of disposal; and
- (C) building storm drains that receive the discharge of roof drains, leaders, downspouts, or conductors, if the storm drains are installed from within two feet of a commercial structure, or from within two feet of a residential structure of four or more dwelling units, to the street, the right-of-way main line, or a point of disposal approved by the federal, state, or local agency having jurisdiction;
- (17) "power lineman journeyman" means a person who performs work necessary to the

assembly, installation, or erection of all electrical apparatus, devices, wires, cables, supports, insulators, conductors, ducts, and raceways when part of primary distributing systems outside of buildings, regardless of whether within property lines of any given property, including outdoor substations and electrical connections up to and including the setting of transformers and the connecting of busses to them;

- (18) "residential wireman" means a person who performs work necessary to the installation, construction, and operation of residential electrical systems, beginning at the point of attachment of the service drop or the service lateral on the load side of the meter, and whose work is limited to residential occupancies providing for no more than four residential units on a common foundation;
- (19) "trainee" means an individual who is legally performing work to learn a skilled trade on the job under the training and direct supervision of an experienced journeyman plumber or electrician and who, during the training, is given opportunities to develop progressive skills in that trade.

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions for Alaska Trade Licensing

Q: What trade certificates does the Mechanical Inspection section issue?

A: Mechanical Inspection issues certificates of fitness for the following: Electrician (Journeyman, Lineman, Residential Wireman, Trainee, Provisional); Plumber (Journeyman, Gas, Utility, Trainee, Provisional); Asbestos Abatement; Explosive Handler; Hazardous Paint; Boiler Operator (Class 1-4); Inspectors (Amusement, Tramway, Boiler).

We do not issue business licenses, contractor licenses, or administrator licenses. Please contact the Department of Commerce, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/>.

Q: What is the process to work in the plumbing and electrical trade in Alaska?

A: Find an employer to sponsor you in the Registered Apprenticeship Program (Federal DOL). Have your employer print out the Davis Bacon Letter showing your registration. Submit that letter and your Trainee Application ([Mechanical Inspection Forms, Alaska Department of Labor](#)) to our office (MI@ALASKA.GOV). There will be a 7-10 business day processing time and you will receive your certificate via email.

The Trainee COF allows you to perform code work while supervised by a journey-level worker. Track hours for submission on our Experience Verification Form. We recommend having your employer complete this form at the termination of employment of ever six months of employment.

Once you have earned 8,000 qualifying hours you may apply for Plumber Journeyman or Electrician Journeyman. Submit your new application with your EVF(s) to our office for processing. Once we validate your application packet, we will schedule an exam. Passing the examination with a score of 70% or more allows us to complete the process and issue your journey-level COF.

Q: How do I earn hours for my trade certificate of fitness?

A: To begin earning hours, you must be sponsored by an employer and registered with the federal Registered Apprenticeship Program. Submit a copy of your Davis Bacon Letter printed from the RAPIDS system to our office along with your application for a Trainee COF. Once issued, this certificate allows you to begin accumulating hours towards your trade certificate.

Q: What hours count towards my trade certificate of fitness?

A: Per 8 AAC 90.890, we may only count hours worked for a contractor with valid credentials in the state in which you worked. This work must be subject to the applicable code and the work must be performed under the direct supervision of a journey-level tradesperson. Maintenance work does not qualify.

In 2025, we will begin accepting vocational/military hours. Vocational programs with hands-on learning may certify hours. Military service in a qualifying specialty will allow

500 hours per year of service in that specialty. Military/Vocational hours are limited to half the normal hours required for that COF (4,000 hours may be used for Electrician Journeyman or Plumbing Journeyman, for example)

Q: How can I pay for my application and certificate?

A: We accept cash, checks, and Visa, Mastercard, and American Express in our office. When sending an application, please include separate checks for the application and certificate fees. If you wish to use a credit card, please complete the credit card information on the application.

Q: May I work while waiting for my certificate of fitness to process?

A: You may not perform code work covered by your COF. You may perform other work for your employer or perform classroom study.

Q: Should I call over and over and over again if someone doesn't answer?

A: Please don't. We have limited staff and every phone call takes away time from processing applications. If you don't reach a person when you call, please leave a detailed message with a good call back number so that we may respond. We encourage you to ask questions via email at mi@alaska.gov.

Q: Why does the licensing process take so long?

A: Our application and verification system is outdated and we have limited staff to process applications. In addition to our applications, we receive many phone calls daily. We process all requests in the order received. Incomplete applications will be rejected in order to process completed applications in less time.

Q: Can I pay to expedite my certificate of fitness?

A: No. We do not have the authorization to charge extra for faster processing.

Q: How early am I allowed to renew my certificate of fitness?

A: You may renew 90 days prior to the expiration date of your current certificate.

Q: How to I renew a certificate of fitness that will expire soon?

A: Send an email to mi@alaska.gov with the subject "COF Renewal".

Complete a Renewal Application available on our web site and attach it to the email.

Please allow 7-10 business days for processing. The next business day, you'll receive an email with the renewed COF to print.

Note: You will receive an auto-reply when we receive your email. Please do not call to check the status prior to the ten business days.

If you do not wish to use email, please mail a letter containing the printed renewal

application with a check for \$200 payable to Alaska Department of Labor. You may also come into our office to request a renewal and pay with cash/check/card at the counter. This will still process in 7-10 business days and be emailed to you.

Q: Does Alaska issue a Master license for the plumbing or electrical trades?

A: No. Alaska has a Journeyman COF which allows for work covered by the code. Alaska also has Mechanical Administrator and Electrical Administrator licenses which cover supervision and sign-off of code work. Refer to [DCCED](#) for details on these licenses.

Q: May I conduct code work using my Administrator license?

A: No. The Administrator licenses do not allow the holder to perform code work.

Q: May I hold both an Administrator license and a trade COF?

A: Yes. There is no restriction on having both, and this allows the holder to function like how a master trades license works in many other states.

Q: How do I receive or renew my Administrator license?

A: Please contact the Department of Commerce, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/>.

Q: How do I reciprocate my license from another state or jurisdiction?

A: As of August 8, 2025, we accept applications to reciprocate Electrician Journeyman and Plumbing Journeyman COFs with other states and jurisdictions within the United States without a mutual agreement between states.

Q: What if my employer is no longer available to sign an Experience Verification?

A: EVFs must be completed by the employer. AS 18.62.050(c) allows for an Alaska-based union to submit hours in lieu of an employer. If you are not able to reach your employer, please contact the appropriate union in Alaska to review your qualifications and submit hours on behalf of your former employer.

Q: What if my union is unwilling or unable to sign an Experience Verification Form?

A: Worked hours are intended to be submitted directly by your employer. Unions are allowed to complete these forms and do so as a courtesy. We recommend that you have the EVF completed by your employer directly every six months or on the last day of work for that employer. Keep these in a safe location as they will need to be submitted when you apply for the new certificate.

Q: Who can manage my COF information?

A: Only you as the licensee may request that information be updated. Please contact us via email at mi@alaska.gov to request a change to your contact information.

Q: How does the new Provisional Certificate of Fitness work?

A: Per 8 AAC 90.112, Provisional Plumber Journeyman and Provisional Electrician Journeyman work as follows:

If you hold a valid trade license in another US state or jurisdiction you may apply for a provisional version of that license in Alaska if: (a) You submit a completed application and include a copy of their current license in another state or jurisdiction; and (b) You pay the \$150 application and certificate fee.

Additional documentation may need to be provided to demonstrate that the out-of-state license is substantially equivalent to the Alaska trade certificate.

When approved and issued, you will be allowed to perform work in Alaska in the appropriate trade. You must carry both the provisional COF and their qualifying out-of-state license. The provisional certificate will expire one year from issue, or on the date of expiration of your qualifying license, whichever is sooner.

While the provisional COF may not be renewed, it may be re-applied for if needed.

If requested on the application, we will process the provisional application as a reciprocal application once the initial provisional COF is issued. The duration of the upgraded certificate will be based on the date of expiration of your provisional certificate.

Because many states do not include fuel gas work as part of their plumber license, provisional certificates do not allow you to perform fuel gas work in Alaska.

Q: How do Provisional and Reciprocal certificates differ?

A: Provisional certificates are a once-and-done certificate. They are good for up to one year and require the holder to have and maintain an equivalent out-of-state license. The intention of this license is to allow temporary workers to come to Alaska for short-term projects quickly. Provisional certificate holders may not supervise trainee work.

The reciprocal certificate is issued for a full two years and may be renewed as a normal journey-level certificate. It does not depend on maintaining a license in any other jurisdiction. Reciprocal certificate holders may supervise trainee workers.