

R156. Commerce, Occupational and Professional Licensing.

R156-55c. Plumber Licensing Act Rule.

R156-55c-101. Title.

This rule is known as the "Plumber Licensing Act Rule".

R156-55c-102. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in Title 58, Chapters 1 and 55, as used in Title 58, Chapters 1 and 55 or this rule:

(1) "Immediate supervision", as used in Subsections 58-55-102(5) and 58-55-102(23) and this rule, means the apprentice and the supervising plumber are physically present on the same project or job site but are not required to be within sight of one another.

(2) "Minor plumbing work that is incidental", as used in Subsection 58-55-305(1)(k)(i) and this rule, means:

(a) installation, repair or replacement of the following residential type Plumbing Appliances:

- (i) dishwashers;
- (ii) refrigerators;
- (iii) freezers;
- (iv) ice makers;
- (v) stoves;
- (vi) ranges;
- (vii) clothes washers;
- (viii) clothes dryers; and

(b) repair or replacement of the following residential type Plumbing Appurtenances, Fixtures and Systems, when the cost of the repair or replacement does not exceed \$300 in total value, including all labor and materials, and including all changes or additions to the contracted or agreed upon work:

- (i) tub or shower trim;
- (ii) tub or shower valve;
- (iii) toilet flush valve;
- (iv) toilet removal and reset;
- (v) garbage disposal;
- (vi) kitchen or lavatory sink P-trap;
- (vii) kitchen or lavatory faucet rebuild and install;
- (viii) supply line replacement after the fixture valve; and

(3) "Minor plumbing work that is incidental", as used in Subsection 58-55-305(1)(k)(i), does not include installation or replacement of a water heater, or work to include the initial installation of Plumbing Appurtenances, Fixtures and Systems.

(4) Plumbing Appliances, Appurtenances, Fixtures, and Systems, as used in this rule, shall have the same meaning as defined by Title 15A, State Construction and Fire Codes Act.

(5) "Unprofessional conduct" as defined in Title 58, Chapters 1 and 55, is further defined in accordance with Subsection 58-1-203(1)(e), in Subsection R156-55c-501.

R156-55c-103. Authority - Purpose.

This rule is adopted by the Division under the authority of Subsection 58-1-106(1)(a) to enable the Division to administer Title 58, Chapter 55.

R156-55c-104. Organization - Relationship to Rule R156-1.

The organization of this rule and its relationship to Rule R156-1 is as described in Section R156-1-107.

R156-55c-302a. Qualification for Licensure - Training and Instruction Requirement.

In accordance with Subsections 58-1-203(2) and 58-1-301(3), the training and instruction requirements for licensure in Subsection 58-55-302(3)(c) and (d) are defined, clarified, or established as follows:

(1) An applicant for a journeyman plumber's license shall demonstrate successful completion of the requirements of either paragraph (a) or (b):

(a)(i) 8,000 hours of training and instruction in not less than four years that meets the requirements of Subsections R156-55c-302a(4) and (6).

(ii) the 8,000 hours shall include 576 clock hours of related classroom instruction that meets the requirements of Subsection R156-55c-302a(5);

(iii) the apprenticeship shall be obtained while licensed as an apprentice plumber;

(iv) the apprenticeship shall include on the job training and instruction in nine of the 11 work process areas listed in Table I; and

(v) the hours obtained in any work process area shall be at least the number of hours listed in Table I.

(b)(i) 16,000 hours of on the job training and instruction in not less than eight years;

(ii) the apprenticeship shall be obtained while licensed as an apprentice plumber;

(iii) the hours shall include on the job training and instruction in nine of the 11 work process areas listed in Table I; and

(iv) the hours obtained in any work process shall be at least the number of hours listed in Table I.

TABLE I
Training and Instruction

Work Process	Minimum Hours
A. Use of hand tools, equipment and pipe machinery	200
B. Installation of piping for waste, soil, sewer and vent lines	2,000
C. Installation of hot and cold water for domestic purposes	1,400
D. Installation and setting of plumbing appliances and fixtures	1,200
E. Maintenance and repair of plumbing	600
F. General pipe work including process and industrial hours	600
G. Gas piping or service piping	400
H. Welding, soldering and brazing as it applies to the trade	100
I. Service and maintenance of gas controls and equipment	100
J. Hydronics piping and equipment installation	300
K. Fire suppression system installation	100

(2) An applicant for a residential journeyman plumber's license shall demonstrate successful completion of the requirements of paragraph (a) or (b):

(a)(i) 6,000 hours of training and instruction in not less than three years that meets the requirements of Subsections R156-55c-302a(4) and (6).

(ii) the 6,000 hours shall include 432 clock hours of related classroom instruction that meets the requirements of Subsection R156-55c-302a(5);

(iii) the 6,000 hours shall be obtained while licensed as an apprentice plumber;

(iv) the apprenticeship shall include on the job training and instruction in eight of the ten work process areas listed in Table II; and

(v) the hours obtained in any work process area shall include at least the number of hours listed in Table II.

(b)(i) 12,000 hours of experience in not less than six years which has been documented using a form provided by the Division;

(ii) the experience shall be obtained while licensed as an apprentice plumber;

(iii) at least 9,000 hours of experience shall be directly involved in the plumbing trade;

(iv) the hours shall be in eight of the ten work process areas listed in Table II; and

(v) the hours obtained in any work process area shall include at least the number of hours listed in Table II.

TABLE II
Training and Instruction

Work Process	Minimum Hours
A. Use of hand tools, equipment and pipe machinery	100
B. Installation of piping for waste, soil, sewer and vent lines	1,600
C. Installation of hot and cold water for domestic purposes	1,200
D. Installation and setting of plumbing appliances and fixtures	800
E. Maintenance and repair of plumbing	600
F. Gas piping or service piping	400
G. Service and maintenance of gas controls and equipment	100
H. Welding, soldering and brazing as it applies to the trade	100
I. Hydronics piping and equipment installation	300
J. Fire suppression system installation	100

(3) A licensed residential journeyman plumber applying for a journeyman plumber's license shall complete 2,000 hours of on the job training in industrial or commercial plumbing while licensed as an apprentice plumber, which shall include successful completion of an approved fourth year course of classroom instruction.

(4) On the job training and instruction required in this section shall include measurements of an apprentice's performance in the plumbing trade.

(5) Formal classroom instruction required by this section shall meet the following requirements:

(a) instruction shall be conducted by an entity approved by the Utah Board of Regents, Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees or by another similar out of state body that approves formal plumbing educational programs; and

(b) instruction shall be conducted by competent qualified staff and shall include measures of competency and achievement level of each apprentice.

(6) Apprentice plumbers shall engage in the plumbing trades only in accordance with the following:

(a) except as provided in Subsection 58-55-302(3)(e)(ii) for fourth through tenth year apprentices, while engaging in the plumbing trade, an apprentice plumber shall be under the immediate supervision of a journeyman plumber for commercial or industrial work, and by a residential journeyman or journeyman plumber for residential work;

(b) the apprentice shall engage in the plumbing trade in accordance with the instruction of the supervising plumber; and

(c) the apprentice shall work in a ratio of not to exceed two apprentice plumbers to one supervising plumber.

R156-55c-302b. Qualifications for Licensure - Examination Requirements.

In accordance with Subsections 58-1-203(2) and 58-1-301(3), the examination requirements for licensure in Subsection 58-55-302(1)(c)(i) are as follows:

(1) The applicant shall obtain a minimum score of 70% on the Utah Plumbers Licensing Examination that shall consist of a written section and practical section.

(2) Admission to the examinations is permitted after:

(a) the applicant has completed all requirements for licensure set forth in this section and in Sections R156-55c-302a and R156-55c-302c; or

(b) the applicant has completed:

(i) the first semester of the fourth year of the apprentice education program set forth in Subsection R156-55c-302a(1)(a)(ii); and

(ii) not less than 6,000 hours of the experience required under Subsection R156-55c-302a(1)(a)(i).

(3) (a) If an applicant fails any section of the examination, the applicant shall retake that section.

(b) An applicant shall wait at least 25 days for the first two retakes, and thereafter shall wait 120 days between retakes.

(4) If an applicant passes any section of the examination but does not pass the entire examination, the passing score for that section shall be valid for one year from the pass date. After one year the applicant shall retake any previously passed section to support any subsequent application for licensure.

R156-55c-302c. Qualifications for Licensure - Master Supervisory Experience and Education Requirements.

In accordance with Subsections 58-55-302(3)(a)(i)(A) and 58-55-302(3)(b)(i), the minimum supervisory experience qualifications for licensure as a master plumber and residential master plumber are established as follows:

(1) An applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of 4000 hours of supervisory experience that includes each of the following categories and minimum number of hours:

(a) supervising employees: 700 hours;

(b) supervising construction projects: 700 hours;

(c) cost/price management: 300 hours; and
(d) miscellaneous construction experience: 300 hours in any one or more of the following: accounting/financial principles, contract negotiations, conflict resolutions, marketing, human resources and government regulation pertaining to business and the construction trades.

(2) The following, or the substantial equivalent thereof, as determined by the Board in collaboration with the Commission, shall apply to the minimum supervisory experience qualifications established in Subsection (1):

(a) supervisory experience shall be obtained while licensed in the proper license classification as either a journeyman plumber or a residential journeyman plumber;

(b) supervisory experience shall be obtained as an employee of a licensed plumbing contractor, whose employer covers the applicant with workers compensation and unemployment insurances and deducts federal and state taxes from the applicant's compensation;

(c) all supervisory experience shall be under the immediate supervision of the applicant's employer; and

(d) no more than 2000 hours of experience may be earned during any 12-month period.

(3) An associate of applied science or similar or higher educational degree, in accordance with Subsection 58-55-302(3)(a)(i)(B), shall fulfill 2000 hours of the 4000 hour supervisory experience requirement. Such an applicant shall complete the remaining minimum 2000 hour supervisory experience listed above in Subsection R156-55c-302c(1).

(a) The degree shall be accredited by one of the following:

- (i) Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (ii) New England Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (iii) North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (iv) Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities;
- (v) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; or
- (vi) Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

(b) The degree shall be in one of the following courses of study:

- (i) accounting;
- (ii) apprenticeship;
- (iii) business management;
- (iv) communications;
- (v) computer systems and computer information systems;
- (vi) construction management;
- (vii) engineering;
- (viii) environmental technology;
- (ix) finance;
- (x) human resources; or
- (xi) marketing.

R156-55c-303. Renewal Cycle - Procedures.

(1) In accordance with Subsection 58-1-308(1), the renewal date for the two-year renewal cycle applicable to licensees under Title 58, Chapter 55, is established by rule in Section R156-1-308a(1).

(2) Renewal procedures shall be in accordance with Section R156-1-308c.

R156-55c-304. Continuing Education - Standards.

(1) Required Hours. Pursuant to Sections 58-55-302.7 and 58-55-303, each licensee shall complete 12 hours of continuing education during each two-year license term. A minimum of eight hours shall be core education. The remaining four hours may be professional education.

(2) "Core continuing education" is defined as education covering:

(a) International Building, Mechanical, Plumbing, and International Energy Conservation Codes and Utah building code amendments as adopted or proposed for adoption;

- (b) the Americans with Disability Act;
- (c) medical gas, National Fire Protection Association 13D and 54; and
- (d) hydronics and waste water treatment.
- (3) "Professional continuing education" is defined as education covering:
 - (a) energy conservation, management training, new technology, plan reading; and
 - (b) lien laws and Utah construction registry
 - (c) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training; and
 - (d) government regulations.
- (4) Non-acceptable course subject matter includes the following types of courses and other similar courses:
 - (a) mechanical office and business skills, such as typing, speed reading, memory improvement, and report writing;
 - (b) physical well-being or personal development, such as personal motivation, stress management, time management, or dress for success;
 - (c) presentations by a supplier or a supplier representative to promote a particular product or line of products; and
 - (d) meetings held in conjunction with the general business of the licensee or employer.
- (5) The Division may:
 - (a) waive the continuing education requirements for a licensee that is an instructor of an approved education apprenticeship program; or
 - (b) waive or defer the continuing education requirements as provided in Section R156-1-308d.
- (6) A continuing education course shall meet the following standards:
 - (a) Time. Each hour of continuing education course credit shall consist of at least 50 minutes of education in the form of seminars, lectures, conferences, training sessions, or distance learning modules. The remaining ten minutes may be used for breaks.
 - (b) Provider. The course provider shall meet the requirements of this section and shall be one of the following:
 - (i) a recognized accredited college or university;
 - (ii) a state or federal agency;
 - (iii) a professional association or organization involved in the construction trades; or
 - (iv) a commercial continuing education provider providing a program related to the plumbing trade.
 - (c) Content. The content of the course shall be relevant to the practice of the plumbing trade and consistent with the laws and rules of this state.
 - (d) Objectives. The learning objectives of the course shall be reasonably and clearly stated.
 - (e) Teaching Methods. The course shall be presented in a competent, well organized and sequential manner consistent with the stated purpose and objective of the program.
 - (f) Faculty. The course shall be prepared and presented by individuals who are qualified by education, training, and experience.
 - (g) Distance learning. A course that is provided through internet or home study courses may be recognized for continuing education if the course verifies registration and participation in the course by means of a passing a test demonstrating that the participant has learned the material presented. Test questions shall be randomized for each participant.
 - (h) Documentation. The course provider shall have a competent method of registration of individuals who actually completed the course, shall maintain records of attendance that are available for review by the Division, and shall provide to individuals completing the course a certificate that contains the following information:
 - (i) the date of the course;
 - (ii) the name of the course provider;

- (iii) the name of the instructor;
- (iv) the course title;
- (v) the hours of continuing education credit;
- (vi) the attendee's name;
- (vii) the attendee's license number; and
- (viii) the signature of the course provider.

(7) On a random basis, the Division may assign monitors at no charge to attend a course for the purpose of evaluating the course and the instructor.

(8) Each licensee shall maintain adequate documentation as proof of compliance with this section, such as certificates of completion, course handouts, and materials. The licensee shall retain this proof for a period of three years from the end of the renewal period for which the continuing education is due. Each licensee shall assure that the course provider has submitted the verification of attendance to the continuing education registry on behalf of the licensee as specified in Subsection (10). Alternatively, the licensee may submit the course for approval and pay any course approval fees and attendance recording fees.

(9) Licensees who lecture in approved continuing education courses shall receive two hours of continuing education for each hour spent lecturing. However, no lecturing or teaching credit is available for participation in a panel discussion.

(10) A course provider shall submit to the continuing education registry, in the format required by the continuing education registry:

- (a) applications for approval of continuing education courses; and
- (b) on behalf of each licensee, verification of the licensee's attendance and completion of a continuing education course.

(11) The Division shall review continuing education courses which have been submitted through the continuing education registry and approve only those courses that meet the standards set forth under this section.

(12) Continuing Education Registry.

(a) The Division shall designate an entity to act as the Continuing Education Registry under this rule.

(b) The Continuing Education Registry, in consultation with the Division and the Commission, shall:

(i) through its internet site electronically receive applications for course approval from continuing education course providers, and submit to the Division for review and approval only those courses which meet the standards set forth under this section;

(ii) publish on its website listings of continuing education courses approved by the Division, which meet the standards for continuing education credit under this rule;

(iii) maintain accurate records of approved qualified continuing education courses;

(iv) maintain accurate records of verification of attendance and completion for each individual licensee, which the licensee may review for compliance with this rule; and

(v) make records of approved continuing education programs and attendance and completion available for audit by representatives of the Division.

(c) Fees. The Continuing Education Registry may charge a reasonable fee to continuing education providers or licensees for services provided for review and approval of continuing education programs.

R156-55c-305. Licensure by Endorsement.

The Division may issue a license by endorsement in accordance with the provisions of Section 58-1-302.

R156-55c-401. Conduct of Apprentice and Supervising Plumber.

(1) The conduct of licensed apprentice plumbers and their licensed supervisors shall be in accordance with Subsections 58-55-302(3)(e), 58-55-501, 58-55-502 and R156-55c-501.

(2) For the purposes of Subsections 58-55-302(3)(e) and 58-55-501(12), one of the following shall apply:

(a) the supervisor and apprentice employees shall be employees of the same plumbing contractor; or

(b) the plumbing contractor may contract with a licensed professional employer organization to employ such persons.

R156-55c-501. Unprofessional Conduct.

"Unprofessional conduct" includes:

(1) failing to comply with the supervision requirements established by Subsection 58-55-302(3)(e);

(2) failing as a licensed plumber to carry a copy of his current plumber's license on his person or in close proximity to his person when performing plumbing work or to display that license upon request of a representative of the Division or any law enforcement officer;

(3) failing as a plumbing contractor to certify work experience and supervisory hours when requested by a plumber who is or has been an employee of the plumbing contractor; and

(4) failing as a licensee to provide proof of completed continuing education within 30 days of the Division's request.

R156-55c-502. Administrative Penalties.

(1) The administrative penalties defined in Section R156-55a-503 of the Utah Construction Trades Licensing Act Rule are hereby adopted as the administrative penalties under this rule.

(2) The administrative penalty for a violation of Subsection 58-1-501(2)(o) under this rule shall be in accordance with Section R156-1-502.

KEY: occupational licensing, licensing, plumbers, plumbing

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: April 10, 2017

Notice of Continuation: August 8, 2016

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 58-1-106(1)(a); 58-1-202(1)(a); 58-55-101

PLUMBER LICENSING ACT RULE

R156-55c Utah Administrative Code Issued April 10, 2017

Disclaimer: The statute/rule above is an unofficial version provided for convenience only and may not be identical to the official versions on the Utah State Legislature (www.le.utah.gov) and the Utah Division of Administrative Rules (www.rules.utah.gov) websites.