

LEGISLATIVE BILL 179

Approved by the Governor March 18, 2015

Introduced by Brasch, 16.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the State Electrical Act; to amend sections 81-2113, 81-2117.01, and 81-2118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions for renewal of registration for apprentices as prescribed; to provide for continuing education as prescribed; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-2113, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2113 (1) A person may register with the board and pay a fee as provided in section 81-2118 to work as an apprentice electrician. Such registration shall entitle the registrant to act as an apprentice electrician to a Class B electrical contractor, an electrical contractor, a Class B journeyman electrician, a journeyman electrician, a residential journeyman electrician, a Class A master electrician, or a Class B master electrician as provided in subsection (2) of this section. At the time of registration renewal, an apprentice shall present documentary evidence of successful completion of the requisite hours of continuing education courses under section 81-2117.01 and pay the fee for renewal provided by section 81-2118. If an applicant for renewal fails to complete the required hours and submit the evidence to the board, the board shall assess up to a six-month increase of required experience necessary for the applicant to qualify for the examination under section 81-2115.

(2) An apprentice electrician shall do no electrical wiring except under the direct personal on-the-job supervision and control and in the immediate presence of a licensee under the State Electrical Act. Such supervision shall include both on-the-job training and related classroom training as approved by the board. The licensee may employ or supervise apprentice electricians at a ratio not to exceed three apprentice electricians to one licensee, except that such ratio and the other requirements of this section shall not be applicable to a teacher-student relationship within a classroom of a community college.

For purposes of this section, the direct personal on-the-job supervision and control and in the immediate presence of a licensee shall mean the licensee and the apprentice electrician shall be working at the same project location but shall not require that the licensee and apprentice electrician must be within sight of one another at all times.

(3) An apprentice electrician shall not install, alter, or repair electrical equipment except as provided in this section, and the licensee employing or supervising an apprentice electrician shall not authorize or permit such actions by the apprentice electrician.

Sec. 2. Section 81-2117.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2117.01 (1) In order to renew a license or registration issued under the State Electrical Act, the licensee or registrant shall be required to complete twelve contact hours of continuing education by ~~January 1, 1995, for renewal on such date and twelve contact hours by~~ January 1 of each odd-numbered year thereafter. The continuing education courses shall be approved by the board and may consist of training programs, courses, and seminars by the State Electrical Division or public or private schools, organizations, or associations. The contact hours shall include a minimum of six contact hours studying the National Electrical Code described in section 81-2104, and the remaining contact hours may include study of electrical circuit theory, blueprint reading, transformer and motor theory, electrical circuits and devices, control systems, programmable controllers, and microcomputers or any other study of electrical-related material that is approved by the board. Any additional hours studying the National Electrical Code shall be acceptable. For purposes of this section, a contact hour means ~~shall mean~~ fifty minutes of classroom attendance at an approved course under a qualified instructor approved by the board.

(2) An application for approval of the instructor and course offering shall be submitted annually on a form provided by the board. The approval by the board of the application shall be valid for one calendar year from the date of approval and shall include the following information:

- (a) Name of the sponsoring organization or school, if any, the address of such organization or school, and the name of the contact person;
- (b) The instructor's name, address, and telephone number;
- (c) The title of the course offering;
- (d) A description of all materials to be distributed to the participants;
- (e) The date and exact location of each presentation of the course offering;
- (f) The duration and time of the offering;
- (g) A detailed outline of the subject matter together with the time

sequence of each segment, faculty for each segment, and teaching technique used in each segment;

(h) The procedure for measuring attendance; and

(i) A description of the faculty, including name, background, and practical or teaching experience. A complete resume may be furnished.

Any application for approval of the instructor and course offering that is rejected shall be returned to the applicant with specific reasons for such rejection and stating what is needed for approval.

(3) If a continuing education course is approved, the licensee or registrant shall retain the attendance certificate and attach it to the application for renewal of his or her license or registration at the time of renewal. The licensee or registrant shall have the responsibility for record keeping and providing proof of attendance at continuing education courses.

(4) The instructor of each course shall provide an individual certificate of attendance to each licensee or registrant who attends ninety percent or more of the classroom hours. A certificate of attendance shall not be issued to a licensee or registrant who is absent for more than ten percent of the classroom hours. The certificate shall contain the licensee's or registrant's name and license or registration number, the course title, the date and location of the course, the number of credit hours, and the signature of the instructor.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that a registrant shall be denied renewal of a registration by the board based solely on a failure to complete the continuing education requirement under subsection (1) of this section.

Sec. 3. Section 81-2118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2118 All licenses or registrations issued under the State Electrical Act shall expire on December 31 of each even-numbered year. All license or registration applications shall include the applicant's social security number. The board shall establish the fees to be payable for examination, issuance, and renewal in amounts not to exceed:

(1) For examination:

(a) Electrical contractor, one hundred twenty-five dollars;

(b) Journeyman electrician, sixty dollars;

(c) Residential journeyman electrician, sixty dollars; and

(d) Fire alarm installer, sixty dollars;

(2) For each year of the two-year license period for issuance and renewal:

(a) Electrical contractor, one hundred twenty-five dollars; and

(b) Journeyman electrician, residential journeyman electrician, fire alarm installer, or special electrician, twenty-five dollars;

(3) For each year of the two-year registration license period for issuance and renewal ~~registration~~ as an apprentice electrician, twenty dollars; and

(4) For renewal on or after September 9, 1993, of the following licenses issued prior to such date for each year of the two-year license period:

(a) Class B electrical contractor, one hundred twenty-five dollars;

(b) Class A master electrician, one hundred twenty-five dollars;

(c) Class B master electrician, one hundred twenty-five dollars; and

(d) Class B journeyman electrician, installer, or special electrician, twenty-five dollars.

The holder of an expired license or registration may renew the license or registration for a period of three months from the date of expiration upon payment of the license or registration fee plus ten percent of the renewal fee for each month or portion thereof past the expiration date. All holders of licenses or registrations expired for more than three months shall apply for a new license or registration.

Sec. 4. Original sections 81-2113, 81-2117.01, and 81-2118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.