

CHAPTER 32**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
OF MASTER PLUMBERS****Authority**

N.J.S.A. 45:14C-7.

Source and Effective DateEffective: May 21, 2015.
See: 47 N.J.R. 1344(a).**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, expires on May 21, 2022.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, was adopted and became effective prior to September 1, 1969.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 32 was readopted as R.1987 d.481, effective October 23, 1987. See: 19 N.J.R. 1630(a), 19 N.J.R. 2197(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 32 was readopted as R.1992 d.457, effective October 21, 1992. See: 24 N.J.R. 2334(a), 24 N.J.R. 4270(b). As part of R.1992 d.457, effective November 16, 1992, Subchapter 2, regarding a "uniform penalty letter," was repealed and Subchapter 2, Fees, was adopted as new rules.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 32 was readopted as R.1997 d.456, effective October 8, 1997. As part of R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997, Subchapter 1, General Rules and Regulations, was renamed Purpose and Scope, Board Meetings; Subchapter 2, Fees, was recodified as Subchapter 5, Fees; and Subchapter 2, Application, Experience Requirements, Examination; Subchapter 3, Identification of Licensees; Bona Fide Representative; Supervision; and Subchapter 4, Miscellaneous, were adopted as new rules. See: 29 N.J.R. 3592(a), 29 N.J.R. 4704(b).

Subchapter 6, Continuing Education, was adopted as R.2002 d.80, effective March 18, 2002. See: 33 N.J.R. 3731(a), 34 N.J.R. 1266(a).

Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, was readopted as R.2003 d.165, effective March 28, 2003. See: 34 N.J.R. 3675(a), 35 N.J.R. 1671(a).

Subchapter 7, Medical Gas Piping, was adopted as new rules by R.2007 d.137, effective May 7, 2007. See: 38 N.J.R. 3737(a), 39 N.J.R. 1748(b).

Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, was readopted as R.2008 d.260, effective August 4, 2008. See: 40 N.J.R. 1607(a), 40 N.J.R. 5045(b).

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1b, Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, was scheduled to expire on August 4, 2015. See: 43 N.J.R. 1203(a).

Chapter 32, State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, was readopted, effective May 21, 2015. See: Source and Effective Date.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE, BOARD
MEETINGS****13:32-1.1 Purpose and scope**

The rules contained in this chapter implement the provisions of the State Plumbing Licensing Law (N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq.) and provide for the licensing and regulation of master plumbers and the regulation of plumbing contractors.

Repeal and New Rule, R.1987 d.481, effective November 16, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1630(a), 19 N.J.R. 2197(c).

Old text replaced.

New Rule, R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3592(a), 29 N.J.R. 4704(b).

Former N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.1, "Board Meetings" recodified to N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.2.

Amended by R.2001 d.12, effective March 3, 2001.

See: 31 N.J.R. 3984(a), 33 N.J.R. 56(a).

Inserted "and regulation" preceding "of master plumbers" and substituted "and the regulation of plumbing contractors" for "and qualified journeymen".

Amended by R.2003 d.165, effective April 21, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 3675(a), 35 N.J.R. 1671(a).

Deleted "of 1968, P.L. 1978, c.362" following "State Plumbing Licensing Law"; revised the N.J.S.A. reference.

13:32-1.2 Board meetings

(a) Regular Board meetings shall be held in accordance with a schedule that is published yearly and filed with the Secretary of State.

(b) Special meetings may be held at the request of a Board member or called by the chairman with publication of appropriate notice pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

(c) A majority of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum thereof and no action of the Board shall be taken except on the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the entire Board.

(d) In the absence of the chairman, members shall select one of the members attending the meeting to serve as chairman for that meeting.

(e) Copies of the minutes of meetings shall be mailed to all members as soon as practicable after each meeting.

Repeal and New Rule, R.1987 d.481, effective November 16, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1630(a), 19 N.J.R. 2197(c).

Old text replaced.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.1 by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3592(a), 29 N.J.R. 4704(b).

Former N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.2, "Application; qualifications; examination registration form" recodified to N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.1.

Case Notes

Remand to properly composed state board of examiners of master plumbers for reconsideration of imposition of sanctions upon master plumber was appropriate; four out of seven members of board originally imposing sanctions were not statutorily qualified to hold positions. Matter of Fichner, 144 N.J. 459, 677 A.2d 201 (1996).

13:32-1.3 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Apprentice plumber" means any person other than a master plumber or journeyman plumber who, as his or her principal occupation, is engaged in learning and assisting in the installation of plumbing.

"Board" means the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers.

"Bona fide representative" means a licensed master plumber who is the holder of not less than 10 percent of a plumbing contractor in the State of New Jersey.

"Journeyman plumber" means an individual who has completed four years engaged in learning and assisting in the installation of plumbing and who works under the supervision of a master plumber or supervisory journeyman plumber.

"Licensed master plumber" means a person licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq. who has the qualifications, training, experience and technical knowledge necessary to properly plan, lay out, install and repair plumbing apparatus and equipment and to supervise others in the performance of such work in accordance with the rules established in this chapter.

"Plumbing" means the practice, materials and fixtures used in the installation, maintenance, extension, alteration, repair and removal of all piping, plumbing fixtures, plumbing appliances and plumbing apparatus in connection with any of the following:

1. Sanitary drainage;
2. Storm facilities and building sewers to their respective final connection to an approved point of disposal;
3. Venting systems; and
4. Public and private water supply systems of any premises to and within the property line of any building or structure to their final connection with an approved supply system.

"Plumbing" also means the practice and materials used in the installation, maintenance, extension, alteration, repair or removal of storm water, refrigeration and air conditioning drains, liquid waste or sewage. "Plumbing" does not include the final connection to an approved point of disposal or an approved supply system which extends beyond three feet of a building or structure.

"Plumbing contractor" means any individual licensed master plumber operating as a sole proprietor who, or a firm, partnership, corporation or other legal entity, which undertakes for another the planning, laying out, supervising, installing or making of additions, alterations and repairs in the installation of plumbing who either acts, or has a licensed master plumber who acts, as a bona fide representative as required by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-2(d) and (h) and this chapter.

"Propane services" means the performing of safety and leak testing of, and the performing of installation, maintenance, repair, removal, adjustment, and other services to propane appliances including, without limitation, ranges, water heaters, heaters, furnaces, containers, and other propane fueled systems, for residential and commercial applications.

13:32-2.5 Licensure

(a) After an applicant has successfully passed the licensing examination, he or she shall submit to the Board:

1. A surety bond in the sum of \$3,000 as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14C-26;
2. A completed application for a pressure seal; and
3. The licensing fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1.

New Rule, R.2003 d.165, effective April 21, 2003.
See: 34 N.J.R. 3675(a), 35 N.J.R. 1671(a).

13:32-2.6 Renewal of license

(a) Licenses shall be renewed biennially on a form provided by the Board. Each applicant for renewal shall attest that the continuing education requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:32-6.1 have been completed during the prior biennial period.

(b) The Board shall send a notice of renewal to each licensed master plumber, at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the license. If the notice to renew is not sent at least 60 days prior to the expiration date, no monetary penalties or fines shall apply to the holder for any unlicensed practice during the period following the licensure expiration, not to exceed the number of days short of the 60 before the notice of renewal was sent.

(c) The licensed master plumber shall submit the renewal application and pay the renewal fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1 prior to the date of expiration of the license. If the licensed master plumber does not renew the license prior to its expiration date, the licensed master plumber may renew the license no later than 30 days after its expiration date by submitting a renewal application and paying a renewal fee and a late fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1. A licensed master plumber who fails to renew the license within 30 days after the expiration date of the license shall be suspended without a hearing.

(d) A person who continues to practice or hold himself or herself out as a licensed master plumber after being suspended pursuant to (c) above shall be deemed to have committed unlicensed practice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14C-12.3, even if no notice of suspension has been provided to the person.

(e) A person seeking reinstatement within five years following the suspension of a license pursuant to (c) above shall submit the following to the Board:

1. A completed reinstatement application;
2. Payment of all past delinquent renewal fees as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1;
3. Payment of a reinstatement fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1;

4. A certification verifying completion of the continuing education credits required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-6.1 for each biennial renewal period the license is suspended; and

5. An affidavit of employment listing each job held during the period of suspension which includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each employer.

(f) A person seeking reinstatement after more than five years following the suspension of a license pursuant to (c) above shall successfully complete the examination required for initial licensure as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.3 and shall submit:

1. A completed reinstatement application;
2. Payment of all past delinquent renewal fees as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1;
3. Payment of a reinstatement fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1; and
4. An affidavit of employment listing each job held during the period of suspension which includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each employer.

(g) Renewal applications for all licensed master plumbers shall provide the applicant with the option of either active or inactive renewal. Applicants electing to renew as inactive shall not practice or hold themselves out to the public as licensed master plumbers. A licensed master plumber renewing as inactive shall submit to the Board:

1. A completed renewal application; and
2. The pressure seal.

(h) Upon application to the Board, the Board may permit an applicant who has been on inactive status to return to active status provided such applicant completes the continuing education credits that are required per biennial period for each biennial period that the applicant is on inactive status and the applicant pays the renewal fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1. The Board shall return the licensed master plumber's pressure seal when the licensed master plumber returns to active status.

New Rule, R.2003 d.165, effective April 21, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 3675(a), 35 N.J.R. 1671(a).

Amended by R.2008 d.260, effective September 2, 2008.

See: 40 N.J.R. 1607(a), 40 N.J.R. 5045(b).

In (b), substituted "any unlicensed practice during the period following the licensure expiration, not to exceed the number of days short of the 60 before the notice of renewal was sent" for "failure to renew"; in (d) and the introductory paragraphs of (e) and (f), inserted "pursuant to (c) above"; and in (d), substituted "himself" for "him".

13:32-2.7 Credit towards licensure for education, training, and experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces

(a) An applicant who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States (Armed Forces) and who does not meet all

of the training, education, and experience requirements for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.2 may apply to the Board for recognition of the applicant's training, education, or experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces, which the Board shall consider, together with any training, education, and experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, for determining substantial equivalence to the training, education, and experience required for licensure.

(b) The Board shall issue a license to the applicant, if the applicant presents evidence to the Board that:

1. The applicant has been honorably discharged from active military service;

2. The relevant training, education, and experience the applicant received in the military, together with any training, education, and experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, is substantially equivalent in scope and character to the training, education, and experience required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.2.

i. An applicant seeking credit for military training and experience shall submit to the Board the applicant's Verification of Military Experience and Training (VMET) Document, DD Form 2586.

ii. An applicant seeking credit for education courses and/or training completed while in the military shall submit to the Board a Joint Services Transcript of his or her education/training for a determination that the education courses and/or training completed are substantially equivalent in level, scope, and intent to the program required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.2. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education and/or training, the Board shall consider only those education courses and/or training relevant to the practice of plumbing that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian plumbing education; and

3. The applicant complies with all other requirements for licensure, including successful completion of licensing examination.

(c) It is the applicant's responsibility to provide timely and complete evidence of the training, education, and experience gained in the military for review and consideration.

(d) If the applicant's military training, education, and experience, or a portion thereof, is not deemed to be substantially equivalent to that required for licensure, the Board shall credit whatever portion of the military training, education, and experience that is substantially equivalent towards meeting the requirements under N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.2 for the issuance of the license.

(e) Satisfactory evidence of such training, education, and experience shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

New Rule, R.2015 d.071, effective May 4, 2015.
See: 46 N.J.R. 2320(a), 47 N.J.R. 901(b).

SUBCHAPTER 3. IDENTIFICATION OF LICENSEES; BONA FIDE REPRESENTATIVE; SUPERVISION

13:32-3.1 Identification of licensed master plumber; vehicles, stationery; advertising

(a) All commercial vehicles used in the practice of State-licensed master plumbing shall be marked on both sides with the following information:

1. The name of the licensed master plumber in lettering at least one inch in height;

2. The words "Plumbing license number" or "Plumbing Lic. #" followed by the license number of the owner or qualified bona fide representative in lettering at least one inch in height; and

4. Evidence that the applicant has successfully completed 20 hours of classroom training related to the performance of brazing medical gas piping required to install, improve, repair or maintain medical gas piping taught by an instructor certified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.5, including 10 hours in practical, hands-on experience in brazing;

5. Evidence that the applicant has passed the examination requirements of (c) below; and

6. The application fee and initial certification fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1.

(c) To qualify for certification, an applicant shall either:

1. Successfully pass the NITC Brazing Processes; or
2. Successfully pass a brazer examination offered by the AWS and successfully complete a training program in brazing of medical gas piping approved by a major medical gas producer.

13:32-7.5 Certification of medical gas piping instructors

(a) To be eligible for certification as a medical gas piping instructor an applicant shall be either:

1. A licensed master plumber in New Jersey;
2. A journeyman plumber who has successfully completed an apprenticeship program accredited by the United States Department of Labor;
3. A steam fitter or pipe fitter employed by a plumbing contractor;
4. An individual who has engaged in the practice of installing medical gas piping for the past five years; or
5. An individual who holds certification from NFPA for the past five years.

(b) An applicant for certification as a medical gas piping instructor shall submit to the Board:

1. A completed application for certification;
2. Evidence that the applicant has met the qualifications of (a) above;
3. Evidence that the applicant has successfully completed a 40-hour course that covers the January 19, 2004 ASSE Series 6050 Professional Qualifications Standards for Medical Gas Systems Instructors, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, published by the ASSE, 901 Canterbury Road, Suite A, Westlake, OH, 44145;
4. Evidence that the applicant has passed the examination requirements of (c) below; and
5. The application fee and initial certification fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1.

(c) To qualify for certification, an applicant shall:

1. Successfully pass the NITC Medical Gas Instructor examination; or

2. Successfully pass a brazer examination offered by the AWS and a training program in instructional training approved by a major medical gas producer.

13:32-7.5A Credit towards certification for education, training and experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces

(a) An applicant who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States (Armed Forces) and who does not meet all of the training, education, and experience requirements for certification under N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3, 7.4, or 7.5 may apply to the Board for recognition of the applicant's training, education, or experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces, which the Board shall consider, together with any training, education, and experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, for determining substantial equivalence to the training, education, and experience required for certification.

(b) The Board shall issue a certificate to the applicant, if the applicant presents evidence to the Board that:

1. The applicant has been honorably discharged from active military service;
2. The relevant training, education, and experience the applicant received in the military, together with any training, education, and experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, is substantially equivalent in scope and character to the training, education, and experience required for certification under N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3, 7.4, or 7.5.

i. An applicant seeking credit for military training and experience shall submit to the Board the applicant's Verification of Military Experience and Training (VMET) Document, DD Form 2586.

ii. An applicant seeking credit for education courses and/or training completed while in the military shall submit to the Board a Joint Services Transcript of his or her education/training for a determination that the education courses and/or training completed are substantially equivalent in level, scope, and intent to the program required for certification under N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3, 7.4, or 7.5. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education and/or training, the Board shall consider only those education courses and/or training relevant to the practice of installing or brazing medical gas piping, or acting as a medical gas piping instructor, that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian medical gas piping education; and

3. The applicant complies with all other requirements for certification, including successful completion of certification examination.

(c) It is the applicant's responsibility to provide timely and complete evidence of the training, education, and experience gained in the military for review and consideration.

(d) If the applicant's military training, education, and experience, or a portion thereof, is not deemed to be substantially equivalent to that required for certification, the Board shall credit whatever portion of the military training, education, and experience that is substantially equivalent towards meeting the requirements under N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3, 7.4, or 7.5 for the issuance of the certificate.

(e) Satisfactory evidence of such training, education, and experience shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

New Rule, R.2015 d.071, effective May 4, 2015.
See: 46 N.J.R. 2320(a), 47 N.J.R. 901(b).

13:32-7.6 Certification for individuals engaged in practice prior to January 7, 2004

(a) An applicant who applies prior to May 7, 2009 and who has engaged in the installation, improvement, repair or maintenance of medical gas piping since at least January 7, 2001, shall be eligible for certification if he or she meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3(c).

(b) An applicant who applies prior to May 7, 2009 and who has engaged in brazing incidental to the installation, improvement, repair or maintenance of medical gas piping since at least January 7, 2001, shall be eligible for certification if he or she meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:37-7.4(c).

13:32-7.7 Renewal of certificates

(a) Certificates for instructors and installers shall be renewed triennially on a form provided by the Board. Certificates to perform only brazing incidental to installation of medical gas piping shall be renewed annually on a form provided by the Board.

(b) The Board shall send a notice of renewal to each certificant at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the certificate. If the notice to renew is not sent 60 days prior to the expiration date, no monetary penalty or fines shall apply to the holder for any unlicensed practice during the period following the licensure expiration, not to exceed the number of days short of 60 before the renewals were issued.

(c) Certificants shall submit the renewal application and pay the renewal fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1 prior to the date of expiration of the certificate. If a certificant does not renew the certificate prior to its expiration date, he or she may renew the certificate no later than 30 days after its expiration date by submitting a renewal application and paying a renewal fee and a late fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1. A certificant who fails to renew the certificate within 30

days after the expiration date of the certificate shall be suspended without a hearing.

(d) A person who continues to practice or hold him or herself out as a certificant after being suspended pursuant to (c) above shall be deemed to have engaged in uncertified practice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14C-28, even if no notice of suspension has been provided to the person.

(e) A person seeking reinstatement within five years following the suspension of a certificate pursuant to (c) above shall submit to the Board:

1. A completed reinstatement application;
2. Payment of all past delinquent renewal fees as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1;
3. Payment of a reinstatement fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1; and
4. An affidavit of employment listing each job held during the period of suspension which includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each employer.

(f) A person seeking reinstatement after more than five years following the suspension of a certificate pursuant to (c) above shall successfully complete the examination required for initial certification as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-7.3(c), 7.4(c) or 7.5(c) and shall submit to the Board:

1. A completed reinstatement application;
2. Payment of all past delinquent renewal fees as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1;
3. Payment of a reinstatement fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1; and
4. An affidavit of employment listing each job held during the period of suspension which includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each employer.

(g) Renewal applications for certificants shall provide the applicant with the option of either active or inactive renewal. Applicants electing to renew as inactive shall not practice or hold themselves out to the public as certificants. A certificant renewing as inactive shall submit a completed renewal application to the Board.

(h) Upon application to the Board, the Board may permit an applicant who has been on inactive status to return to active status provided such applicant pays the renewal fee as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1.

Amended by R.2008 d.260, effective September 2, 2008.
See: 40 N.J.R. 1607(a), 40 N.J.R. 5045(b).

In (d) and the introductory paragraphs of (e) and (f), inserted "pursuant to (c) above".