

13:32-1.4 Scope of practice

(a) This section prescribes the permissible scope of plumbing practice which shall include that which is defined as plumbing in N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.3.

(b) Plumbing shall be performed by a master plumber, an authorized plumbing contractor, or by employees working under the supervision of a master plumber as permitted by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 13:32-3.3.

(c) For purposes of this section, the following shall also be considered within the scope of the practice of plumbing and shall only be performed by individuals designated in (b) above:

1. Performing of plumbing work, including minor work and ordinary repairs even though a permit is not required;
2. Installation and service of storm, sanitary, and water piping to the final point of connection within three feet of the exterior of a building or structure located on private property;
3. Installation of the water service and backflow preventer for fire suppression systems and water sprinkler systems;
4. Plumbing work performed at a place of business by employees of that business on property owned by the business;
5. Disconnection and sealing of water and sewer lines;
6. Installation and service of all direct and indirect drain piping associated with mechanical equipment that is connected to a sewer system;
7. Installation and completion of plumbing, at no cost, notwithstanding that the property is owned by a nonprofit organization;
8. Installation or disconnection of water filtration or water softening equipment, water heaters, humidifiers, ice making equipment or backflow preventers;
9. Installation of water piping on the house side of a well water compression tank; and
10. Installation and service of storm, sanitary and water piping between buildings or structures on a property.

(d) For purposes of this section, the following is not within the scope of the practice of plumbing and may be performed by individuals who are not licensed master plumbers:

1. The clearance of stoppages and installation or removal of a cleanout or cleanout equivalent necessary to clear the stoppage;

2. The installation and service of storm, sanitary, and water piping from the final point of connection more than three feet from the exterior of a building or structure located on private property;

3. The installation, service, and maintenance of fire suppression systems and lawn sprinkler systems downstream from a back flow prevention device;

4. The installation, service, and maintenance of gas and hydronic piping;

5. The demolition or removal of plumbing, provided the water and sewer utilities are first disconnected and sealed outside the building;

6. The installation and service of transmission piping by water or sewer utilities; and

7. The installation and service of water lines to mechanical equipment downstream from a back flow prevention device.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

1. A single-family home owner who performs plumbing work in his or her own dwelling; and
2. Plumbing work performed by full-time employees of a public agency on property owned by that agency.

(f) A licensed master plumber who performs a task which is not considered plumbing as outlined in (d) above shall perform the task in a manner consistent with professional plumbing standards.

(g) An individual who is licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 58:4A-23 et seq. is not engaged in the unlicensed practice of plumbing when he or she is performing the tasks that he or she is licensed to perform.

Amended by R.1973 d.170, effective June 22, 1973.

See: 5 N.J.R. 90(a), 5 N.J.R. 239(c).

Repealed by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Section was "Bond".

New Rule, R.2005 d.69, effective February 22, 2005.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1718(b), 37 N.J.R. 616(a).

13:32-1.5 (Reserved)

Repeal and New Rule, R.1983 d.580, effective December 19, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 1171(a), 15 N.J.R. 2172(c).

Repealed old rule concerning dual representation prohibited and adopted new rule.

Amended by R.1992 d.457, effective November 16, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2334(a), 24 N.J.R. 4270(b).

Stylistic revisions to (a)1; revised (b)1.

Recodified to N.J.A.C. 13:32-3.2 and N.J.A.C. 13:32-3.3 by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Section was "Bona fide representative, responsibilities and limitations".

13:32-1.6 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

3. Supervise in the manner described in (a)3i through iv below the performance of all plumbing work performed by the plumbing contractor for which the licensed master plumber acts as the bona fide representative. Such supervision shall assure the effective compliance with State and local plumbing codes and the performance of work in accordance with proper plumbing practice;

i. If the person performing the work is a New Jersey licensed master plumber, the bona fide representative shall require at the beginning of the job an initial report on the work to be performed and upon completion of the job a final report on the work performed;

ii. If the person performing the work is a supervisory journeyman, the bona fide representative or a New Jersey licensed master plumber employed by the bona fide representative shall maintain daily contact with the supervisory journeyman either directly, by telephone or through writing. Any such contact shall be recorded by and maintained in the files of the bona fide representative or the New Jersey licensed master plumber employed by the bona fide representative;

iii. If the person performing the work is a journeyman, the bona fide representative, a New Jersey licensed master plumber employed by the bona fide representative or the supervisor journeyman shall maintain daily contact with the journeyman either directly, by telephone or through writing and, where the work requires a plumbing permit, shall inspect the work upon completion. Any such contact shall be recorded by the bona fide representative, the New Jersey licensed master plumber employed by the bona fide representative or the supervisory journeyman; and

iv. If the person performing the work is an apprentice, the bona fide representative shall ensure constant on-site supervision by a New Jersey licensed master plumber employed by the bona fide representative or a supervisory journeyman during all times that plumbing services are being performed;

4. Be responsible for any and all violations of N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq. committed by employees of the plumbing contractor for which he or she is serving as a bona fide representative if said violations were committed during the course of work which he or she was required to supervise;

5. Serve as a bona fide representative for only one plumbing contractor;

6. Maintain a place of business in the State of New Jersey; and

7. Provide each supervisory journeyman of the plumbing contractor that performs plumbing work with an identification card that includes:

i. The name of the supervisory journeyman;

ii. The name and address of the plumbing contractor;

iii. The name and license number of the bona fide representative;

iv. The seal of the bona fide representative; and

v. The issue and expiration dates of the identification card. The expiration date shall not exceed one year from the date of issue.

(b) Nothing herein shall preclude the Board from proceeding against both the bona fide representative for an entity or any other licensed master plumber employed by such an entity who can be shown to have violated the Board's enabling legislation or any regulation adopted thereunder. Nothing shall preclude any person entitled to maintain an action on a bond from proceeding pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-4.3 against the bona fide representative and any other licensed master plumber who has failed to perform the duties required by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq.

(c) The bona fide representative of any plumbing contractor which contracts to provide plumbing services to a consumer and wishes to subcontract that plumbing work to another plumbing contractor shall:

1. Subcontract only to a plumbing contractor who is either a sole proprietor or which has a bona fide representative who is registered with the Board. The bona fide representative for the original plumbing contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that the subcontractor has a registered bona fide representative;

2. Require of the subcontractor that a copy of any permit applications, permits and changes in application or permit shall be delivered to the original plumbing contractor within five business days of the date the application or permit is filed;

3. Notify the consumer, prior to the beginning of any work, that the work has been subcontracted to another licensed master plumber or legally qualified plumbing contractor and provide the consumer with the name, address and telephone number of the subcontractor and the name and license number of the subcontractor's bona fide representative;

4. Advise the consumer prior to the beginning of any work that he or she has the right to terminate the contract prior to the beginning of any work because of the subcontracting;

5. Notify the consumer that the original contractor as well as the subcontractor remain liable for any defects, damages or other losses which may result from the negligence, misconduct or insolvency of the subcontractor;

6. Require that the subcontractor immediately notify the original contractor of any complaints by the consumer or the consumer's representative or by any governmental official; and

7. Supervise the work of the bona fide representative for the subcontractor in the same manner as required by (a)3i above.

(d) The bona fide representative shall have sufficient knowledge of the plumbing contractor's bookkeeping system and financial accounts to inform the Board, upon request by the Board, regarding the plumbing contractor's price-setting, billings, costs, subcontractors, overhead costs and profits.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.5(b) and (c) and amended by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Amended N.J.A.C. references.

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

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

Rewrote the section.

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

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

Substituted "licensed master plumber" for "licensee" throughout.

13:32-3.4 Supervision

Any plumbing work that a licensed master plumber agrees to perform, that has not been subcontracted to another licensed master plumber, shall be performed only by the licensed master plumber or the employees of the licensed master plumber or the plumbing contractor.

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

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

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

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

Rewrote the section.

SUBCHAPTER 4. MISCELLANEOUS

13:32-4.1 Requirement of pressure seal; penalties for misuse; return of pressure seal

(a) At the time of the issuance of the license the Board shall furnish a seal to the licensed master plumber.

(b) The seal shall be used exclusively by the licensed master plumber in the conduct of the plumbing business practice. The licensed master plumber shall impress the seal upon all applications for plumbing permits.

(c) Use of a seal by any person other than the State licensed master plumber to whom it was issued or the securing of a plumbing permit for an unlicensed person shall be deemed to be the use or employment of dishonesty, fraud, deception, misrepresentation or false pretense. Such conduct may be grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of an unauthorized user if he or she is already licensed by the Board. With respect to an unlicensed user, such conduct shall be grounds for the refusal to issue a State license at any point in the future. Nothing herein shall be deemed to preclude a bona fide representative from securing a plumbing permit for the plumbing contractor he or she represents.

(d) A licensed master plumber who willfully or negligently allows an unlicensed or unauthorized person to use his or her seal shall be subject to such penalties and sanctions as shall be imposed by the Board pursuant to authority granted by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 and 45:1-14 et seq.

(e) A licensed master plumber who fails to renew the license in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1 or who has had his or her license suspended or revoked for any reason shall return the pressure seal to the Board within 30 days of the suspension, revocation or lapse of license.

(f) A licensed master plumber who no longer possesses a pressure seal due to theft, loss or other cause, shall replace the seal by submitting to the Board:

1. A notarized letter, detailing why the licensed master plumber no longer possesses the pressure seal; and

2. The replacement pressure seal fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1.

New Rule, R.1982 d.388, effective November 1, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 750(a), 14 N.J.R. 1219(e).

Amended by R.1991 d.170, effective April 1, 1991.

See: 22 N.J.R. 784(a), 23 N.J.R. 1009(b).

Added "or the securing of a plumbing permit for an unlicensed person" and "Nothing herein shall be deemed to preclude a bona fide representative from securing a plumbing permit for the plumbing contractor he represents." is (b).

Amended by R.1992 d.457, effective November 16, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2334(a), 24 N.J.R. 4270(b).

Revised (a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.8 and amended by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Deleted (b); recodified (c) as (b); and added new (c) through (e).

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

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

Rewrote the section.

13:32-4.2 Requirement of identification card

(a) At the time of the biennial renewal of the license, the Board shall furnish a wallet size identification card to every licensed master plumber. The card shall be used exclusively by the licensed master plumber in the conduct of his or her practice. A licensed master plumber is required to present the identification card upon request when applying for plumbing permits.

(b) Use of an identification card by any person, other than the licensed master plumber to whom the identification card is issued or by the agent authorized to act on behalf of the licensed master plumber, shall be deemed to be the use or employment of dishonesty, fraud, deception, misrepresentation or false pretense. Such conduct shall be unlawful and may be grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of the unauthorized user if he or she is already licensed by the Board. With respect to an unlicensed user, such conduct shall be grounds for the refusal to issue a State license in the future.

(c) A licensed master plumber who willfully or negligently allows an unlicensed or unauthorized person to use his or her identification card shall be deemed to have engaged in occupational misconduct and shall be subject to such penalties and sanctions as shall be imposed by the Board pursuant to authority granted by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 and 45:1-14 et seq.

New Rule, R.1987 d.257, effective July 6, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 352(b), 19 N.J.R. 1227(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.9 and amended by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Added (c).

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

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

Rewrote the section.

13:32-4.3 Actions on the surety bond

(a) Any person, partnership or corporation including any political subdivision of State government who has been injured, aggrieved or damaged through the failure of a licensed master plumber to perform the duties required by N.J.S.A. 45:14C-1 et seq. or any rule of the Board shall be eligible to receive the financial protection of, and may maintain an action on the surety bond.

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

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

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

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

Deleted former (a); recodified former (b) as (a); in new (a), substituted "a licensed master plumber" for "the obligor", and substituted "the surety bond" for "such bond".

13:32-4.4 Change of address; service of process

(a) Every licensed master plumber shall notify the Board in writing of the licensed master plumber's office address. Every licensed master plumber shall notify the Board in writing of any change in his or her residence or business within 10 days after such change.

(b) Service of an administrative complaint or other process initiated by the Board, the Attorney General or the Division of Consumer Affairs at the licensed master plumber's address on file with the Board shall be deemed adequate notice for the commencement of any inquiry or disciplinary proceeding against the licensed master plumber.

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

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

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

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

In (a), substituted "notify the Board in writing" for "give notice in writing to the Board"; substituted "licensed master plumber" for "licensee" throughout.

13:32-4.5 Unconscionable pricing

(a) A licensed master plumber of the Board shall not charge an excessive price for services. A price is excessive when, after review of the facts, a licensed master plumber of ordinary prudence would be left with a definite and firm

conviction that the price is so high as to be manifestly unconscionable or overreaching under the circumstances.

(b) Factors which may be considered in determining whether a price is excessive include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The time and effort required;
2. The novelty or difficulty of the job;
3. The skill required to perform the job properly;
4. Any special conditions placed upon the performance of the job by the person or entity for which the work is being performed;
5. The experience, reputation and ability of the licensed master plumber to perform the services; and
6. The price customarily charged in the locality for similar services.

(c) Charging an excessive price shall constitute occupational misconduct within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and may subject the licensed master plumber to disciplinary action.

New Rule, R.1991 d.170, effective April 1, 1991.

See: 22 N.J.R. 784(a), 23 N.J.R. 1009(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-1.12 by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

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

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

Substituted "licensed master plumber" for "licensee" throughout.

Case Notes

Votes of members of State Board of Master Plumbers in disciplinary proceeding. Matter of Fichner, 282 N.J.Super. 422, 660 A.2d 545 (A.D.1995).

SUBCHAPTER 5. FEES

13:32-5.1 Fee schedule

(a) The following fees shall be charged by the Board:

1. Application fee without prior registration (non-refundable)\$100.00
2. Application fee with prior registration (non-refundable) 50.00
3. Initial license fee:
 - i. If paid during the first year of a biennial renewal period 160.00
 - ii. If paid during the second year of a biennial renewal period 80.00
4. License renewal fee, biennial 160.00
5. Registration as an apprentice (non-refundable) 50.00
6. Registration as a journeyman without prior registration (non-refundable)..... 75.00

7. Registration as a journeyman with prior registration (non-refundable).....	50.00
8. Late renewal fee	50.00
9. Reinstatement fee	150.00
10. Replacement seal press.....	40.00
11. Duplicate license fee	25.00
12. Replacement wall certificate	40.00
13. Verification of licensure.....	25.00
14. Continuing education sponsor application fee.....	100.00

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:32-2.1 by R.1997 d.456, effective November 3, 1997.

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

Amended by R.1999 d.212, effective July 6, 1999.

See: 31 N.J.R. 836(b), 31 N.J.R. 1816(b).

Rewrote (a).

Amended by R.2002 d.80, effective March 18, 2002.

See: 33 N.J.R. 3731(a), 34 N.J.R. 1266(a).

In (a), added 14.

SUBCHAPTER 6. CONTINUING EDUCATION

13:32-6.1 License renewal, continuing education requirement

(a) Every licensee shall successfully complete five credits of continuing education at an approved course per biennial period. Licensees applying for their first biennial renewal are exempt from this continuing education requirement.

(b) A licensee shall indicate on the license renewal form that he or she has completed the continuing education requirements required by this subchapter. Failure to meet the continuing education requirements as set forth in this subchapter or the falsification of any information submitted with the renewal application may result in an appearance before the Board, or the imposition of disciplinary sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 et seq.

(c) Every licensee shall maintain, for a period of four years, a record of all verification of attendance forms for all continuing education courses the licensee has completed. Licensees who teach a continuing education course during a biennial period shall maintain, for a four year period, records which indicate that the licensee has taught a Board approved continuing education course.

(d) The Board may review the records of any licensee, at any time, in order to ensure that the licensee has complied with the continuing education requirements.

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

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

Deleted former (c); recodified former (d) through (e) as (c) through (d).

Public Notice: Continuing education topics.

See: 37 N.J.R. 4582(a).

13:32-6.2 Continuing education sponsors; Board approval; duties

(a) All sponsors of continuing education courses shall obtain Board approval prior to offering a continuing education course for an upcoming biennial period. The Board shall maintain a list of approved courses at the Board offices and shall furnish this information to licensees upon request.

(b) A sponsor seeking Board approval shall appear before the Board and submit, prior to that appearance, the following:

1. Detailed descriptions of course content and estimated hours of instruction;

2. Curriculum vitae of each instructor, including specific background which qualifies the individual as an instructor in specific areas; and

3. The continuing education sponsor application fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:32-5.1(a)14.

(c) The sponsor of a continuing education course shall furnish each attendee a verification of attendance, which shall include the following:

1. The title, date and location of course or program offering;

2. The name and license number of the attendee;

3. The number of hours attended; and

4. The name and signature of the sponsor or instructor.

(d) The sponsor of a continuing education course shall monitor the attendance at each approved course and maintain an attendance log which lists the name and license number of every licensee who attends a course. The program sponsor shall submit the attendance log to the Board upon completion of the course. The log shall document that each licensee has completed the sponsor's course.

(e) The sponsor shall obtain course evaluations from both participants and instructors and maintain these evaluations as part of the sponsor records.

(f) The Board may evaluate the performance of any continuing education instructor through observation of the instructor during the presentation of a course or evaluate the qualifications and abilities of the instructor by conducting an interview during a Board meeting.

(g) A continuing education class shall consist of no more than 50 people.

13:32-6.3 Required course topics

(a) Three months prior to the beginning of a biennial period, the Board shall determine which topics shall be provided by program sponsors for the upcoming biennial period. The Board shall determine these topics at a regularly scheduled public Board meeting.