

CCLD REVIEW

CONSTRUCTION CODES AND LICENSING DIVISION
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

FALL 2012

New license types for satellite system installers

The 2012 legislature passed a law creating a new business license and a new personal license for installers of satellite broadcast communications systems.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2012, companies that contract to install or repair satellite broadcast communication systems on residential dwellings as defined in the Minnesota Electrical Act can apply for a satellite system contractor (SSC) license. In order to obtain this license, the company must have an owner, officer or managing employee obtain a satellite system installer (SSI) license.

Prior to Oct. 1, 2012, these companies and individuals were required to be licensed as a technology systems contractor (TSC) and power limited technician (PLT). The installation of satellite antenna systems is not restricted to satellite system contractors and may be performed by Class A electrical contractors and technology system contractors without the need to obtain a separate SSC license.

Under the new license program, an individual needs to successfully

complete a certification program sponsored by the Satellite Broadcasting and Communications Association of America, Inc. (SBCA) or another program approved by the Board of Electricity, and then pass a 25 question written exam administered by CCLD.

The fees for the exam and licenses are the same as those for other similar licenses issued by CCLD:

- the exam fee is \$50,
- the license fee for a SSI is \$54.80, and
- the license fee for a SSC is \$206.80.

The license renewal dates for the new licenses will be the same as the TSC and PLT: the contractor licenses will expire August 1 of each even-numbered year and the personal licenses expire two years from the date of issue.

Individual employees of a licensed SSC may perform satellite system installations and repairs as long as they're actively registered with CCLD as a registered unlicensed individual.



New business and personal licenses for installers of satellite broadcast communications systems were created by the 2012 Minnesota Legislature.

More information and forms

License and exam application:
www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/LicElectrical-Contractor.asp

Satellite installer FAQs:
www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/SSI_FAQ.asp

SBCA's certification program:
www.sbcatest.com

Exams

DLI to offer residential contractor exams in St. Paul, outstate

On Jan. 1, 2013, CCLD staff will begin administering exams for residential building contractors, residential remodelers, residential roofers and manufactured home installers. In the past, these exams were administered by a third-party vendor.

They will also implement other improvements to exam administration including introducing additional steps to

validate the questions used in the exams.

An additional exam day will be conducted each week in St. Paul and the number of outstate testing locations will be increased to six. Prospective licensees will be able to apply for and schedule the exams on DLI's website.

Register for CCLD's Fall Seminar

The Construction Codes and Licensing Division has scheduled its 2012 Fall Seminar "Minnesota's Code History, Understanding Rule Issues, Important Information on DLI's Website, Chapter 326B & Energy Code" for nine locations throughout Minnesota.

Presenters Herman Hauglid, Building Code Representative, Don Sivigny, Building Code Representative Senior, and Colleen Clayton, CCLD Rulemaker, will discuss Minnesota's code history and identify key statute items related to all stakeholders in the construction industry. Clayton will answer questions about state rulemaking as it applies to adopting the Minnesota State Building Code.

Attendees will obtain detailed information, and step-by-step procedures about how to find valuable information from the [Department of Labor and Industry's new website](#).

The program will conclude with an introduction to the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Attendees will learn about the intricacies of the IECC and the current Minnesota Energy Code chapters 1322 and 1323.

» For dates, locations and full details about the seminar visit <https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/events/events.aspx>

Lead certification

Reminder: EPA lead rule is in effect

A Federal Environmental Protection Agency law requires contractors doing work on pre-1978 child occupied residential buildings to test for and abate lead in the areas of those buildings on which they are working.

The Minnesota Legislature passed a law, effective Feb. 1, 2011, intended to work in conjunction with this Federal law. This Minnesota law is contained in Minnesota Statutes 326B.106, subd. 13 and 14.

In accordance with these laws, a building permit may not be issued for work on pre-1978 residential structures unless the licensed residential

contractor requesting the permit has the required lead certification or one of the exceptions in the Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 745.82, can be met.

More information:

[Renovation, Repair and Painting \(RRP\) from the EPA](#)

[Pre-Renovation Education Program: Department of Health](#)

[View a directory of approved continuing education classes on DLI's website](#)

CCLD Review is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

Receive email notification when an issue is available by [subscribing online](#).

Contact information

CCLD main contact info

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Visit the [Contact Us](#) page

Licensing information

DLI.License@state.mn.us

Business/Contractor Licenses and Bonds: (651) 284-5034

(Including: Electrical, HPP, Plumbing, Residential, Manufactured Structures, Mechanical Bonds, Technology System, Water Conditioning)

Personal Licenses and

Certificates: (651) 284-5031

(Including: Boiler Engineers, Electricians, Plumbers, Power Limited Technicians, Pipefitters, Unlicensed Individuals, Building Officials)

Electrical information

Phone: (651) 284-5026

Fax: (651) 284-5749

DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us

Boiler, High-Pressure Piping, Boats-for-Hire inspection

Phone: (651) 284-5544

Fax: (651) 284-5737

DLI.Code@state.mn.us

Plumbing information

Phone: (651) 284-5063

Fax: (651) 284-5748

DLI.Plumbing@state.mn.us

License enforcement details

Phone: (651) 284-5069

Fax: (651) 284-5746

DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us

Contractor registration program

Phone: (651) 284-5074

DLI.register@state.mn.us

Contractor registration program now in effect

The contractor registration program created by the legislature in its 2012 session is now up and running, with over 4,000 contractors registered since online registration became available in July.

This law also establishes a framework within which individual construction workers may be determined to be employees or independent contractors.

Beginning Sept. 15, 2012, all building construction or improvement contractors who are not already licensed or registered with DLI are required to be registered under this new pilot program. Contractors who fail to register may be deemed to be employees of the contractors for whom they are providing construction services, and both the unregistered contractor and the contractor that hired the unregistered contractor may be subject to civil penalties.

The registration process is free and can be done quickly and easily on DLI's website. Contractors who hire other contractors as independent contractors are required to verify that their subcontractors are properly registered by looking them up using the DLI online license look-up tool.



Contractor Registration

New state law requires registration for some construction contractors



Learn more and register

For more information about the contractor registration project and to register visit www.dli.mn.gov/register.

Questions?

Contact DLI by phone at (651) 284-5074 or by email at dli.register@state.mn.us.

The goal of the program is that individuals and businesses that hold themselves out as construction contractors are in compliance with Minnesota laws and that all construction workers are properly classified. To determine the effectiveness of the pilot project the agency will analyze registration information, worker misclassification complaints, investigations and enforcement actions.

Draft NEC

Submit comments soon for 2014 National Electrical Code

Time is running out to submit comments about the proposals for the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC). The deadline for submitting comments is Oct. 17, 2012.

A copy of the comment form can be downloaded at www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/CodesStandards/2014NECCommentform.doc

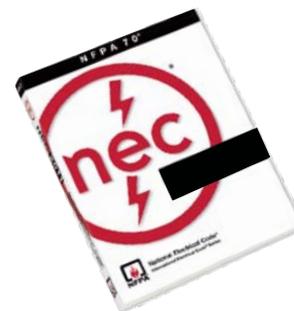
The NEC Report on Proposals was published June 27, 2012 and is available for review at www.nfpa.org/AboutTheCodes/AboutTheCodes.asp?docnum=70&tab=nextedition

In addition, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has published

a draft copy of the 2014 National Electrical Code online. This draft incorporates the committee actions on the public and committee proposals.

The draft copy essentially reflects what the 2014 NEC would look like if the accepted proposals remain in place. However, the draft copy of the NEC could be subject to change pending the outcome of the comment phase. Download a draft copy of the 2014 NEC at www.nfpa.org/Assets/files/AboutTheCodes/70/70-A2013-ROPDraft.pdf

All of the submitted comments will be processed and published in the NEC



Report on Comments on March 22, 2013.

Following the NFPA Annual Meeting in June and issuance by the NFPA Standards Council in August, the 2014 NEC is scheduled to be released in September 2013.

Legislation brings changes to plumbing industry

New requirements for medical gas system and water conditioning licensing; continuing education required for licensed individuals

Legislation passed in 2010 and 2011 created significant changes for the plumbing industry and in medical gas system installations and service. These changes become effective Nov. 27, 2012. The legislation has the following effect:

New medical gas system licensure and certification requirements

Contractors offering to perform or performing medical gas installations, maintenance or repair must first be licensed plumbing contractors. Individuals working for plumbing contractors performing medical gas installations, maintenance or repair must either:

- be a licensed master or journeyman plumber, AND must also have a current valid certification meeting the requirements of ASSE 6010 and be a qualified brazer in accordance with NFPA 99C. This individual must also be certified by the commissioner of DLI as a medical gas installer, or;
- possess on or before Aug 1, 2010, a valid medical gas certification meeting the requirements of ASSE 6010 and also be a qualified brazer in accordance with NFPA 99C. However, this applies only if the individual maintains a valid certification in accordance with ASSE 6010 and the brazer qualifications in NFPA 99C and is also certified by the commissioner of DLI as a medical gas installer.

Changes in water conditioning licensing requirements to be consistent with other trades:

Persons engaging or working in the business of installing or servicing water conditioning systems must obtain a license as a water conditioning contractor. Each water conditioning contractor must have a designated individual licensed as the water conditioning master or master plumber. This individual is responsible for code compliance.

Application requirements for water conditioning master and journeyman licenses:

- Examination and renewal requirements in Minnesota Plumbing Code, rule parts 4715.5800 through 4515.6000 have been repealed, and are now added as new languages in Chapter 4716.
- Twelve months of qualifying practical experience are required for water conditioning master license.
- Six months of qualifying practical experience are required for water conditioning journeyman.
- More information about practical experience can be found in adopted rule part 4516.0092.

New continuing education (CE) requirements for licensed individuals:

- Sixteen hours of related CE instruction are required for license renewal for master plumbers, journeyman plumbers, and restricted plumbers.
- Four hours of related CE instruction are required for license renewal for water conditioning master and water conditioning journeyman.
- Four hours of related CE instruction required for renewal of medical gas installer certification.
- Hours may not be carried over to the next renewal period or be transferred to another individual.
- Individuals holding multiple licenses or certifications may apply the qualifying hours earned to all.

More information about continuing education requirements for all license renewals in 2014 and 2015 will be available [on DLI's website](#).

➤ For more information about the adopted amendments to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4716, visit www.dli.mn.gov/PDF/docket/4716docket.pdf.

Enforcement actions

St. Paul contractor fined for dishonest practices

Some recent [CCLD enforcement actions](#) include:

- An unlicensed residential building contractor from St. Paul was fined \$32,550 Aug. 27, 2012, for continuing to work without a license after being ordered to cease and desist from unlicensed activity, for failing to complete work for customers and other dishonest practices.
- A Two Harbors electrical contractor was fined \$3,000 July 31, 2012, for failing to file requests for electrical inspection (REI) at or before commencement of work. An additional \$2,000 forgivable penalty was dismissed when the contractor filed all outstanding REIs and paid all outstanding fees.
- In August 2012, two plumbers agreed to the suspension or revocation of their licenses and the imposition of civil penalties if they do not comply with a formal payment agreement to satisfy an outstanding judgment entered against them.



Enforcement actions

View enforcement and license actions taken against licensees.

Summaries of all final CCLD enforcement actions are available at www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Enforcement.asp. Questions about specific enforcement actions should be directed to (651) 284-5069 or DLI.contractor@state.mn.us.

Steam powered

Boiler inspectors help ensure safety at steam thresher reunion

DLI boiler inspectors visited the annual [Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion](#) in Rollag, Minn., where they administered Historical Boiler Operator License examinations and performed operational tests on more than 50 historical boilers to ensure compliance with state law. DLI Commissioner Ken Peterson also attended the annual event.

The operational checks must be performed while the boiler is in operation and include visual inspection for leaks, testing water feeding devices, water gage glasses, try-cocks and safety relief valves.

If the historical boiler does not pass the tests the inspector is required to remove the boiler from service until the safety devices are working properly.

Witnessing the tests also includes verifying that the licensed engineer operating the boiler has the knowledge to perform the test safely, which sometimes requires operator training.



Pictured the annual [Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion](#) are, left to right, Jeff Formo, DLI; Dave Johnson, DLI; Rebecca Hayes, DLI; Commissioner Ken Peterson, DLI; Tom Hall, WMSTR Steam School instructor and Mark Kerkvliet, WMSTR president.