

CHAPTER 134

(HB 444)

AN ACT relating to electricians.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 227A.060 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The department shall issue a license as an "electrical contractor" to an applicant who meets the following requirements:
 - (a) Has paid to the department the application fee not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) and the appropriate examination fee, which shall not exceed the actual cost of examination;
 - (b) Has achieved a passing score, as set by the department, on all portions of the examination required by the department. The department shall promulgate administrative regulations to specify who shall take the examination if the applicant is a business entity; and
 - (c) Has submitted proof that he or she has complied with workers' compensation and unemployment insurance laws and administrative regulations and has obtained a general liability insurance policy of not less than ~~one million five hundred thousand~~ dollars **(\$1,000,000)**~~(\$500,000)~~.
- (2) The department shall issue a license as a "master electrician" to an applicant who meets the following requirements:
 - (a) Has paid to the department the application fee not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) and the appropriate examination fee not to exceed the actual cost of the examination;
 - (b) Has completed *sixteen thousand (16,000) hours of verifiable experience in the electrical trade since his or her sixteenth birthday, except as follows:*
 1. *Completion of any of the following shall substitute for four thousand (4,000) hours of verifiable experience in the electrical trade:*
 - a. *A training course in electrical work, acceptable to the department; or*
 - b. *Two (2) years of teaching electrical technology or a related field at an accredited college or university; and*
 2. *Completion of an associate's degree or diploma program in electrical technology or a related field at a college within the Kentucky Community and Technical College System or at an accredited college or university shall substitute for six thousand (6,000) hours of verifiable experience in the electrical trade*~~a. Six (6) years of verifiable experience in the electrical trade since his or her sixteenth birthday; and~~
 - b. ~~A training course in electrical work, acceptable to the department, or an additional two (2) years of verifiable experience in the electrical trade; or~~
 2. ~~a. Five (5) years of verifiable experience in the electrical trade since his or her sixteenth birthday; and~~
 - b. ~~An associate's degree or diploma program in electrical technology at a college within the Kentucky Community and Technical College System after 1998; and~~
 - (c) Has achieved a passing score, as set by the department, on all portions of the examination required by the department.
- (3) The department shall issue a license as an "electrician" to an applicant who meets the following requirements:
 - (a) Has paid to the department the application fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) and the appropriate examination fee not to exceed the actual cost of the examination administered by the department;
 - (b) Has completed *eight thousand (8,000) hours*~~:~~

1. ~~Two (2) years~~ of verifiable experience in the electrical trade since his or her sixteenth birthday. ***Completion of any one (1) of the following shall substitute for four thousand (4,000) hours of verifiable experience in the electrical trade: {and}***
 1. ~~{2. a.}~~ A training course in electrical work, acceptable to the department;
 2. ~~{b.}~~ Two (2) years of a minimum four (4) year training course in electrical work, acceptable to the department, ***with completion of and shall complete*** the remaining years of that training course within four (4) years of obtaining the electrician license, or the electrician license shall be revoked; ~~{or}~~
 3. ***An associate's degree or diploma program in electrical technology or a related field at a college within the Kentucky Community and Technical College System or at an accredited college or university; or***
 4. ***Two (2) years of teaching electrical technology or a related field at an accredited college or university*** ~~{c. An additional two (2) years of verifiable experience in the electrical trade}; and~~
- (c) Has achieved a passing score, as set by the department, on all portions of the examination required and administered by the department.
- (4) (a) ***All or part of the experience requirements for licensing under subsection (2) or (3) of this section may be met through applicable supervised military occupational specialty experience while serving in the United States Armed Forces, including but not limited to electrical engineering, electrical power production, electrical repair or maintenance, utilities, electronic systems repair or maintenance, or aircraft electrician experience.***
- (b) ***The department shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A that establish an application form for the use of military experience to apply toward licensure experience under subsection (2) or (3) of this section. As part of the application process, the applicant shall be required to provide:***
 1. ***A copy of the applicant's DD-214 form showing the applicant's military occupational specialty; or***
 2. ***A signed statement by the applicant's commanding officer, on a form provided by the department, attesting to the fact that the applicant meets the experience requirements of this section.***
- (5) (a) The department shall issue a nonrenewable provisional license as an "electrician" to an applicant who ~~{:~~
 1. ~~Is a Kentucky resident; and~~
 2. ~~has completed at least six (6) years of verifiable experience and has worked two thousand eighty (2,080) hours a year for those six (6) years in the electrical trade since the applicant's sixteenth birthday.~~
- (b) A nonrenewable provisional license issued to an applicant under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be valid for a period not to exceed one (1) year from the date of issuance.
- (c) The department shall issue a license as an electrician to a provisional license holder who has, prior to the expiration of the one (1) year term of the provisional license:
 1. Achieved a passing score on all portions of the examination required and administered by the department under subsection (3)(c) of this section;
 2. Paid to the department the application fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) ***per year***; and
 3. Paid to the department the examination fee not to exceed the actual cost of the examination.
- (d) If a provisional license holder does not achieve a passing score on all portions of the examination required and administered under subsection (3)(c) of this section prior to the expiration of the one (1) year term of the provisional license, the provisional license shall expire and the provisional license holder shall be ineligible for any additional provisional licenses. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent a former provisional license holder from acquiring an electrician's license under subsection (3) of this section.

➔ Section 2. KRS 227A.100 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Each licensee licensed under the provisions of KRS 227A.010 to 227A.140 shall ~~biennially~~^{annually}, on or before the last day of the licensee's birth month **in the second year**, pay to the department a renewal fee as established in administrative regulations promulgated by the department. **Any license issued or renewed on or after the effective date of this Act shall be a biennial license, and for the biennial payment, the renewal fee shall be doubled to cover both years.**
- (2) A sixty (60) day grace period shall be allowed after the ~~expiration~~^{anniversary} date of the license, during which time a licensee may continue to practice and may renew his or her license upon payment of the renewal fee plus a late renewal fee as promulgated by administrative regulation of the department.
- (3) A license not renewed before the end of the sixty (60) day grace period shall terminate based on the failure of the licensee to renew in a timely manner. Upon termination, the licensee is no longer eligible to practice in the Commonwealth.
- (4) After the sixty (60) day grace period, a former licensee with a terminated license may have the license reinstated upon payment of the renewal fee plus a reinstatement fee as promulgated by administrative regulation of the department. An applicant for reinstatement after termination of the license shall not be required to submit to any examination as a condition for reinstatement, if the reinstatement application is made within three (3) years from the date of termination.
- (5) A suspended license is subject to expiration and termination and shall be renewed as provided in this section. Renewal shall not entitle the licensee to engage in the practice until the suspension has ended or is otherwise removed by the department and the right to practice is restored by the department.
- (6) A revoked license is subject to expiration or termination but may not be renewed. If it is reinstated, the former licensee shall pay the reinstatement fee as promulgated by administrative regulations under subsection (4) of this section and the renewal fee as promulgated by administrative regulations under subsection (1) of this section.
- (7) The department shall require an applicant for renewal or reinstatement of a license to show evidence of completing at least six (6) hours of continuing education **per year** provided by the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Associated Builders and Contractors, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Associated General Contractors, the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, the Independent Electrical Contractors Association, the Kentucky Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction, or other provider of instruction approved by the department. The department shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the content of the programs and the qualifications of the providers.
- (8) The department shall require, where applicable, that an applicant for renewal or reinstatement of a license submit proof that the applicant has complied with workers' compensation and unemployment insurance laws and regulations and has obtained a general liability insurance policy of not less than ~~one million five hundred thousand~~ dollars **(\$1,000,000)**~~(\$500,000)~~.
- (9) The department may, through the promulgation of administrative regulations:
 - (a) Establish an inactive license for licensees who are not actively engaging in the electrical business but wish to maintain their license;
 - (b) Reduce license and renewal fees for inactive licensees;~~and~~
 - (c) Waive the requirements established in subsection (8) of this section for inactive licensees; **and**
 - (d) Establish a system to issue electronic licenses instead of physical licenses.**
- (10) **This section shall not apply to provisional licenses issued under Section 1 of this Act.**

Signed by Governor April 9, 2024.