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Matter ID: O2023-0006382

Meeting Date: 12/13/2023

Sponsor(s): Johnson (Mayor) *

Type: Ordinance

Title: Amendment of Municipal Code Titles 2 and 4 regarding licensing of apprentice plumbers, plumbers, and plumbing contractors

Committee Assignment: Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards

ZON



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

December 13, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the request of the Commissioner of Buildings, I transmit herewith an ordinance amending the Municipal Code regarding the licensing of apprentice plumbers, plumbers and plumbing contractors.

Your favorable consideration of this ordinance will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BJ", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor

ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Article II of Chapter 2-116 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language struck through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

ARTICLE II. BOARD OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS.

2-116-070 Establishment – Membership.

There is hereby established a ~~board of plumbing examiners~~ Board of Plumbing Examiners consisting of three members. The ~~commissioner of the department of buildings~~ Commissioner of Buildings shall be ex officio the ~~chairman of the said board~~ chair of the Board. The other two members shall be licensed plumbers, appointed by the ~~mayor~~ Mayor for a term ending on April 30 of each year, and until their successors are appointed and qualified. In making the appointments to the Board, the Mayor shall consider the recommendations of individuals, firms, or organizations involved in plumbing in the City of Chicago.

2-116-080 Powers and duties.

The ~~board of plumbing examiners~~ Board of Plumbing Examiners shall have the following powers and duties ~~in the licensing and regulation of plumbers and apprentice plumbers under the provisions of this Code to conduct examinations for, and to issue, suspend, or revoke, plumbers' or apprentice plumbers' licenses:~~

- (a) ~~Preparing forms for applications and making rules to govern examinations;~~
- (b) ~~Preparing forms for license certificates and issuing the same in conformity with the provisions of this Code;~~
- (c) ~~Preparing or causing to be prepared subject matter for examinations, as provided in this Code;~~ Code.
- (d) ~~Suggesting rules to govern examinations and hearings for suspension, revocation, or reinstatement of licenses.~~
- (e) ~~Submitting recommendations to the Commissioner of Buildings from time to time for the efficient administration of Chapters 4-332 and 4-336.~~
- (f) ~~[Reserved];~~
- (g) ~~Holding hearings to contest the suspension or revocation of licenses pursuant to Section 2-116-280 of this Code or for reinstatement of licenses pursuant to Section 2-116-290 of this Code;~~
- (h) ~~(d) Grading or causing to be graded all tests and examinations for licenses;~~ licenses and promptly reporting the results to the Commissioner of Buildings.

~~(g) Preparing and giving uniform examinations to applicants for licenses which will test their qualifications in the planning and supervision of plumbing and the physical and mechanical installation, replacement, repair and maintenance of plumbing in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed in Chapter 4-332;~~

~~(h) (e) Prescribing standards for what shall constitute a recognized college, university, or trade school or course of instruction in plumbing and determining the conformance to such standards; standards.~~

~~(f) Performing such other duties from time to time prescribed by the Commissioner of Buildings or Mayor.~~

~~(i) Holding regular meetings at least once each calendar month at any time fixed by rule or resolution of said board; and holding special meetings for any stated purpose on at least 24 hours' notice to each member in person, or by mail, telephone or telegraph. The chairman or two members of such board may call such special meetings. Two members of said board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, and the concurrence of at least two members is necessary for the validity of any proceedings or act of said board;~~

~~(j) Keeping a full and correctly detailed record of the official proceedings of said board; preserving all documents, books and papers relating to examinations for licenses and hearings of complaints or charges; keeping a record of the names, ages, place of business and residences of all applicants for licenses and the disposition made of the applications, the number issued and rejected; keeping an up-to-date record specifying names and addresses of licensed plumbers of this city, including the dates of issuance of all such licenses; keeping a record specifying names, addresses, and dates of licenses suspended, revoked or forfeited, the cause therefor, and licenses renewed;~~

~~(k) Holding examinations to license plumbers at least once every three months.~~

2-116-085 Quorum.

Two members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, and the concurrence of at least two members is necessary for the validity of any proceedings or act of the Board.

2-116-090 Compensation.

The members of the ~~board~~ Board, except for the employees of the City of Chicago, shall receive compensation as provided for in the ~~annual appropriation ordinance~~ Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

2-116-100 Exhibition of licenses for inspections.

~~The department of buildings and/or department of water management~~ Department of Buildings and Department of Water Management shall require all appropriate plumbing licenses to be exhibited for examination by plumbing inspectors or employees of those departments, and those departments shall report to the ~~board of plumbing examiners~~ Board of Plumbing Examiners the names and addresses, if known, and the location of employment of all persons engaged in the plumbing trade who are not properly licensed for the current year or who are not performing their work in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

~~The department of buildings or department of water management~~ Department of Buildings and Department of Water Management, upon request of the ~~board of plumbing examiners~~ Board of Plumbing Examiners, shall also investigate complaints of violations of this Code received by the ~~board~~ Board and submit a report of the investigation with recommendations for disposition of the complaint to the ~~board~~ Board.

2-116-110 Payment of fees. [Reserved.]

~~All fees and charges required to be paid in accordance with Section 2-116-070 to and including 2-116-110 and Chapter 4-332 of this Code shall be paid directly to the city comptroller for the use of the city upon proper notification to the applicant or licensee by the board of plumbing examiners that such fees and charges are due and payable. The city comptroller shall transmit a copy of the receipt for each such fee or charge to said board.~~

2-116-120 Recordkeeping requirements.

~~The chairman of said board~~ Commissioner of Buildings shall be responsible for ~~providing a procedure to maintaining~~ all records of ~~said board~~ the Board.

SECTION 2. Section 4-28-010 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language struck through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

4-28-010 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(Omitted text is not affected by this ordinance)

“Drain layer” means any person who constructs, repairs, adjusts, rods, cleans, lines or videotapes any subsurface structure designed to collect or transport stormwater and/or sanitary wastewater excluding work classified as plumbing in Chapter 4-332. The term does not include any employee of the City of Chicago who performs any such work in the course of ~~his~~ the employee's employment.

(Omitted text is not affected by this ordinance)

SECTION 3. Chapter 4-332 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language struck through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

CHAPTER 4-332 PLUMBERS.

4-332-010 Licensed plumber defined. Purpose.

~~“Licensed plumber” means a person duly certified as such and authorized to engage in the installation of plumbing, through a registered plumbing contractor, and also in planning, engineering, superintending, installation, maintenance and repair with respect to plumbing in all its branches, in accordance with the plumbing regulations and provisions of this Code.~~

It has been established by scientific evidence that improper plumbing can result in the introduction of pathogenic organisms into the potable water supply, result in the escape of toxic gases into the environment, and result in potentially lethal disease and epidemic. It is further found that minimum numbers of plumbing facilities and fixtures are necessary for the comfort and convenience of workers and persons in public places.

Consistent with its duty to safeguard the health of the people of the City of Chicago, the City Council therefore declares that the regulation of plumbing and the plumbing trade is necessary for the protection of the public health, convenience, and welfare. The City Council therefore declares that individuals who plan, inspect, install, alter, extend, repair, and maintain plumbing systems shall be individuals of proven skill. Further, the City Council has enacted the Chicago Plumbing Code as essential for the protection of public health and convenience. In order to ensure plumbing skill and to authoritatively establish what shall be good plumbing practice, this Code provides for the licensing of plumbers, apprentice plumbers, and plumbing contractors. Chapters 4-332 and 4-336 are therefore declared to be essential to the public interest.

4-332-020 Businesses—Licensing requirements. Definitions.

~~No firm, association, partnership or corporation shall engage in plumbing unless the employees of such firm, association, partnership or corporation shall be licensed plumbers or apprentices, and unless at least one member of every firm, association or partnership engaged in plumbing work, and at least one corporate officer of every corporation engaged in plumbing work, as the case may be, shall be a licensed plumber. Every such firm, association, partnership or corporation shall keep on display in its place of business the plumbing license of at least one of its members, partners or officers thereof.~~

As used in this chapter and in Chapter 4-336:

“Agent” means a person designated by a sponsor as responsible for supervision of an apprentice plumber and who is also a licensed plumber.

“Apprentice plumber” means any licensed person who is learning and performing plumbing under the supervision of a sponsor or sponsor’s agent in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or the Illinois Plumbing License Law.

“Approved apprenticeship program” means an apprenticeship program approved by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training and the Department.

“Board” means the Board of Plumbing Examiners created by Article II of Chapter 2-116.

“Building drain” means that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system that receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of a building and conveys it to 5 feet beyond the foundation walls where it is connected to the building sewer.

“Building sewer” means that part of the horizontal piping of a drainage system that extends from the end of the building drain, receives the discharge of the building drain, and conveys it to a public sewer or private sewage disposal system.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Buildings or the Commissioner’s designee.

“Department” means the Department of Buildings.

“Licensed plumber” means any licensed individual authorized to perform plumbing as defined in this chapter, including individuals licensed under this chapter or the Illinois Plumbing License Law, but does not include retired plumbers as defined in this chapter or the Illinois Plumbing License Law.

“Plumbing” means the actual installation, repair, maintenance, alteration, or extension of a plumbing system by any person.

“Plumbing” includes all piping, fixtures, appurtenances, and appliances for a supply of water for all purposes, including without limitation lawn sprinkler systems and backflow prevention devices connected to lawn sprinkler systems, from the source of a private water supply on the premises or from the main in the street, alley, or at the curb to, within, and about any building or buildings where a person or persons live, work, or assemble.

“Plumbing” includes all piping, from discharge of pumping units to and including pressure tanks in water supply systems.

“Plumbing” includes all piping, fixtures, appurtenances, and appliances for a building drain and a sanitary drainage and related ventilation system of any building or buildings where a person or persons live, work, or assemble from the point of connection of such building drain to the building sewer or private sewage disposal system 5 feet beyond the foundation walls.

“Plumbing” includes any work on a subsoil drain pipe or sewer that involves iron pipe or iron fittings.

“Plumbing” does not mean or include the trade of drain-laying, the trade of drilling water wells which constitute the sources of private water supplies, and of making connections between such wells and pumping units in the water supply systems of buildings served by such private water supplies, or the business of installing water softening equipment and of maintaining and servicing the same, or the business of manufacturing or selling plumbing fixtures, appliances, equipment, or hardware, nor does it mean or include minor repairs which do not require changes in the piping to or from plumbing fixtures or involve the removal, replacement, installation, or re-installation of any pipe or plumbing fixtures. Plumbing does not include the installation, repair, maintenance, alteration, or extension of building sewers not involving iron pipe or iron fittings.

“Plumbing contractor” means any person who performs plumbing, as defined in this chapter, for another person. “Plumbing contractor” shall not include licensed plumbers and licensed apprentice plumbers who either are employed by persons engaged in the plumbing business or are employed by another person for the performance of plumbing solely for that other person, including, but not limited to, a hospital, university, or business maintenance staff.

“Plumbing fixtures” means installed receptacles, devices, or appliances that are supplied with water or that receive or discharge liquids or liquid borne wastes, with or without discharge into the drainage system with which they may be directly or indirectly connected.

“Plumbing system” means the water service, water supply, and distribution pipes; plumbing fixtures and traps; soil, waste, and vent pipes; building drains; including their respective connections, devices, and appurtenances.

“Plumbing system” does not include building sewers as defined in this chapter.

“Retired plumber” means any licensed plumber in good standing who voluntarily surrenders the plumber’s license to the entity which issued the license. Retired plumbers cannot perform plumbing as defined in this chapter, cannot sponsor or supervise apprentice plumbers, and cannot inspect plumbing under this Code. A retired plumber cannot fulfill the requirements of Section 4-332-020.

“Supervision” with respect to first and second year licensed apprentice plumbers means that such apprentices must perform all designing and planning of plumbing systems and all plumbing as defined in this chapter under the direct personal supervision of the sponsor or sponsor’s agent who must also be a licensed plumber, except for maintenance and repair work on existing plumbing systems done by second year apprentice plumbers; provided that before performing any maintenance and repair work without such supervision, such apprentice has received the minimum number of hours of annual classroom instruction recommended by the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training for apprentice plumbers in a Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training approved plumber apprenticeship program or its equivalent. “Supervision” with respect to all other apprentice plumbers means that, except for maintenance and repair work on existing plumbing systems, any plumbing done by such apprentices must be inspected daily, after initial rough-in and after completion, by the sponsor or sponsor’s agent who is also a licensed plumber. In addition, all repair and maintenance work done by a licensed apprentice plumber on an existing plumbing system must be approved by the sponsor or sponsor’s agent who is also a licensed plumber.

“Sponsor” is a licensed plumber or an approved apprenticeship program that has accepted an individual as a licensed apprentice plumber for education and training in the field of plumbing and whose name and license number or apprenticeship program number shall appear on the individual’s application for an apprentice plumber’s license.

“Sponsored” means that each licensed apprentice plumber has been accepted by a licensed plumber or an approved apprenticeship program for apprenticeship training.

4-332-030 Employee licensing Licensing requirements – Homeowner and lessee exemptions.

~~(1) All planning, inspection and designing of plumbing systems and all plumbing and the inspection thereof shall be performed only by persons~~ individuals ~~licensed or registered pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or the Illinois Plumbing License Law hereinafter called “licensed plumbers” and “registered plumber’s apprentices”, provided that no “licensed apprentice plumbers.”~~ The inspection of plumbing and plumbing systems shall be done only by the sponsor or sponsor’s agent who shall be a licensed plumber. Nothing herein contained shall prohibit licensed plumbers or licensed apprentice plumbers under supervision from planning, designing, inspecting, installing, repairing, maintaining, altering, or extending building sewers in accordance with this chapter. No person who holds a license or certificate of registration under the Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989, or the Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989, or the Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989 shall be prevented from planning and designing plumbing systems. Each licensed plumber shall, as a condition of each annual license renewal, complete continuing education as provided in Section 4-332-140(c).

~~(2) Nothing herein contained shall prohibit a licensed registered plumbing contractor from employing any person at least 16 years of age in plumbing as a plumber’s apprentice under the supervision of a licensed registered plumbing contractor. No person shall engage in plumbing as a plumber’s apprentice unless he has registered with the board of plumbing examiners as a plumber’s apprentice upon forms prescribed by the board. No licensed~~

~~registered plumbing contractor shall employ any person as a plumber's apprentice who is not so registered.~~

~~(3 2) Nothing herein contained shall prohibit the owner, occupant or lessee occupant of a single-family residence, or the owner of a single-family residence under construction for his or her that owner's occupancy, from planning, installing, altering or repairing the plumbing system of such residence; provided, that (i) such plumbing shall comply with all plumbing laws, rules and regulations applicable thereto and shall be subject to such inspection as may therein be provided; and provided further that any (ii) such owner, owner occupant, or lessee occupant may shall not employ any person other person than a licensed registered plumbing contractor plumber to assist him or her the owner or occupant in such work.~~

For purposes of this subsection, an individual shall be considered an "occupant" if and only if that individual has taken possession of and is living in the premises as that individual's bona fide sole and exclusive residence, or, in the case of an owner of a single family residence under construction for that owner's occupancy, that owner expects to take possession of and live in the premises as that owner's bona fide sole and exclusive residence, and that owner has a current intention to live in such premises as that owner's bona fide sole and exclusive residence for a period of not less than 6 months after the completion of the plumbing work performed pursuant to the authorization of this subsection, or, in the case of an owner of a single family residence under construction for that owner's occupancy, for a period of not less than 6 months after the completion of construction of the residence. Failure to possess and live in the premises as a sole and exclusive residence for a period of 6 months or more shall create a rebuttable presumption of a lack of such intention.

(3) The employees of a firm, association, partnership, or corporation who engage in plumbing shall be licensed plumbers or licensed apprentice plumbers. At least one member of every firm, association, or partnership engaged in plumbing work, and at least one corporate officer of every corporation engaged in plumbing work, as the case may be, shall be a licensed plumber. A retired plumber cannot fulfill the requirements of this subsection (3). Plumbing contractors are also required to be licensed pursuant to Chapter 4-336.

(4) (a) A licensed apprentice plumber shall plan, design, and install plumbing only under the supervision of the sponsor or the sponsor's agent who is also a licensed plumber.

(b) An applicant for licensing as an apprentice plumber shall be at least 16 years of age and apply on the application form provided by the Department. Such application shall verify that the applicant is sponsored by a licensed plumber or an approved apprenticeship program and shall contain the name and license number of the licensed plumber or program sponsor.

(c) No licensed plumber shall sponsor more than 2 licensed apprentice plumbers at the same time. If 2 licensed apprentice plumbers are sponsored by a plumber at the same time, one of the apprentices must have, at a minimum, 2 years' experience as a licensed apprentice. No licensed plumber sponsor or sponsor's agent may supervise 2 licensed apprentices with less than 2 years' experience at the same time. The sponsor or agent shall supervise and be responsible for the plumbing performed by a licensed apprentice.

(d) No agent shall supervise more than 2 licensed apprentices at the same time.

(e) No licensed plumber may, in any capacity, supervise more than 2 licensed apprentice plumbers at the same time.

(f) No approved apprenticeship program may sponsor more licensed apprentices than 2 times the number of licensed plumbers available to supervise those licensed apprentices.

(g) No approved apprenticeship program may sponsor more licensed apprentices with less than 2 years' experience than it has licensed plumbers available to supervise those licensed apprentices.

(h) No individual shall work as an apprentice plumber unless the individual is properly licensed under this chapter. The Department shall issue an apprentice plumber's license to each approved applicant.

(i) No licensed apprentice plumber shall serve more than a 6-year licensed apprenticeship period. If, upon completion of a 6-year licensed apprenticeship period, such licensed apprentice plumber does not apply for the examination for a plumber's license and successfully pass the examination for a plumber's license, that individual's apprentice plumber's license shall not be renewed.

4-332-040 [Reserved.]

4-332-050 Advertising.

Advertising shall be restricted in accordance with Section 4-336-050.

4-332-060 Work by governmental entity.

Neither the City of Chicago nor any governmental entity subject to the jurisdiction of the City of Chicago shall engage in plumbing unless such plumbing is performed by one or more licensed plumbers, or licensed apprentice plumbers under supervision in accordance with this chapter, provided that any such governmental entity may contract for plumbing with any plumbing contractor licensed pursuant to Chapter 4-336.

4-332-070 Board of Plumbing Examiners.

The Board shall be as provided in Article II of Chapter 2-116.

4-332-080 Commissioner.

The Commissioner shall:

(1) Prepare forms for application for examination for a plumber's license.

(2) Prepare and issue licenses as provided in this chapter and Chapter 2-336.

(3) With the Board, prescribe rules and regulations for examination of applicants for plumber's licenses.

(4) With the Board, prepare and give uniform and comprehensive examinations to applicants for a plumber's license which shall test their knowledge and qualifications in the

planning and design of plumbing systems, their knowledge, qualifications, and manual skills in plumbing, and their knowledge of the Chicago Plumbing Code.

(5) Issue a plumber's license and license renewal to every applicant who has passed the examination and who has paid the required license and renewal fee.

(6) [reserved].

(7) Maintain a current record showing (a) the names and addresses of licensed plumbing contractors, licensed plumbers, and licensed apprentice plumbers, (b) the dates of issuance of licenses, (c) the date and substance of the charges set forth in any hearing for denial, suspension, or revocation of any license, (d) the date and substance of the final order issued upon each such hearing, and (e) the date and substance of all petitions for reinstatement of license and final orders on such petitions.

(8) [Reserved].

4-332-090 Examination – Frequency.

The Department shall hold examinations for applicants for plumbers' licenses at least three times per year.

4-332-040 4-332-100 License – Application.

(1) An applicant for a plumber's license shall file ~~his~~ the applicant's written application ~~in the office of the board of plumbing examiners with the Department~~ on the form designated by ~~the board~~ Department at least 15 days before the date set by the Department for the examination.

(2) The ~~board~~ Commissioner shall promptly approve the application for examination if:

(a) The required examination fee has been paid; and

(b) ~~[Reserved;]~~ [Reserved]; and

(c) The applicant has been engaged in plumbing as a ~~plumber's licensed~~ apprentice plumber under supervision in accordance with this chapter or the Illinois Plumbing License Law for at least four years preceding the date of his application and has submitted evidence that the applicant has worked at the plumbing trade in accordance with this chapter for the 4-year licensed apprentice plumber apprenticeship period; or

(d) The applicant has submitted evidence that ~~he~~ the applicant has successfully completed an approved course of instruction in plumbing, ~~sanitary engineering or plumbing engineering in a trade school, college or university~~ supervised directly by a licensed plumber in a college, university, or trade school.

(3) If the application for examination is approved, the ~~board~~ Department shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of such approval and of the place and time of the examination. If the application is disapproved the ~~board~~ Department shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of such disapproval, stating the reasons for disapproval, ~~and refund the examination fee if paid by the applicant.~~

(4) If an applicant neglects, fails or refuses to take an examination for license under this chapter, the application is denied. However, such applicant may submit a new application for examination, accompanied by the required application fee. Application fees for examination for a plumber's license are not refundable.

4-332-050 4-332-110 License – Issuance conditions.

The commissioner of buildings Commissioner shall issue a plumber's license certificates to these applicants each applicant who passes the examination upon payment to the board of and has paid to the Department the required license fee. Such license certificates shall be issued in the name of the board with the seal thereof attached. Each plumber's license shall be issued in the name of the Department with the seal of the City of Chicago attached. Each plumber's license shall be composed of a solid plastic card that includes a photo of the licensed plumber printed directly on the card.

A person once licensed as a plumber under the provisions of this chapter shall not be relicensed except by renewal or restoration of such license as provided in this chapter.

An applicant who is 21 years of age or older seeking a religious exemption to the photo requirement of this Section shall furnish with the application an approved copy of United States Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Form 4029. Regardless of age, an applicant seeking a religious exemption to this photo requirement shall submit fingerprints in a form and manner prescribed by the Department with the application in lieu of a photo.

4-332-120 [Reserved.]

4-332-060 4-332-130 Reexamination waiting period.

An applicant who fails to pass the examination for a plumber's license shall not be permitted to take another examination until after the expiration of one month following the date of such examination.

4-332-070 License Term Renewal 4-332-140 License renewal; continuing education.

(a) All plumber's licenses and apprentice plumber's certificates of registration licenses issued under this chapter shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

An apprentice plumber's license shall also expire the date that the sponsor of such licensed apprentice plumber severs the sponsor's sponsor status with the licensed apprentice plumber. The sponsor shall immediately notify the Department of the severance of the sponsor's relationship with the licensed apprentice plumber. Such apprentice plumber may, on forms provided by the Department, apply for reinstatement of the apprentice license by submitting to the Department a new application and new apprentice plumber's license fee. The application shall verify that the applicant for reinstatement of the apprentice plumber's license is sponsored by a licensed plumber or approved apprenticeship program. Licensed apprentice plumbers shall not accumulate more than 6 years as a licensed apprentice plumber.

(b) Licenses and certificates of registration may be renewed for a period of one year upon payment of the appropriate renewal fee. A plumber's license which has expired for failure

to pay the appropriate license fee shall be reinstated by the ~~board~~ Department, without examination, upon payment of a reinstatement fee and all lapsed renewal fees in addition to the appropriate license fees within five years following the date of expiration.

(~~b c~~) Beginning July 1, 2019, each licensed plumber shall, as a condition of each annual license renewal, certify or provide evidence of completion of four hours of continuing education in plumbing. Continuing education courses shall be supervised directly by another licensed plumber. In addition to any other applicable penalty the Commissioner of Buildings may require a licensed plumber who violates this chapter or the building provisions of this Code to complete a minimum of two hours of additional continuing education in plumbing prior to license renewal.

4-332-080 4-332-150 Restoration after military service.

The ~~board~~ Department shall reinstate a license ~~which that~~ expires while a licensee is in the active military service of the United States upon application to the Department by the former licensee within two years after termination of such military service, payment of the annual license fee, and submission of evidence of such military service. Such license shall be reinstated without examination and without payment of the lapsed renewal fee.

4-332-160 Illinois Department of Public Health.

(a) Any person licensed as a plumber pursuant to this chapter, or licensed as a plumber by the Illinois Department of Public Health under the Illinois Plumbing License Law, may engage in plumbing within the City of Chicago, subject to the additional plumbing contractor licensing requirements in Chapter 4-336.

(b) The Commissioner shall provide the Illinois Department of Public Health with a copy of the records required by Section 4-332-080(7). The Commissioner shall advise the Illinois Department of Public Health of changes in such record at least every six months.

(c) In the event that a plumbing contractor's license is suspended or revoked by the Commissioner pursuant to Chapter 4-336, the Commissioner shall notify the Illinois Department of Public Health.

4-332-090 Out-of-state licenses—Transferability conditions 4-332-170 Licensure by another jurisdiction.

~~Any person who has been licensed by another state as a master plumber, journeyman plumber or the equivalent thereof, may apply for a plumber's license under this chapter. The board shall issue such license, without examination, upon payment of the fee for the license certificate and the annual license fee provided herein if the educational or experience requirements for the issuance of the license by such other state are at least the equivalent of the requirements on this chapter.~~

(a) Upon the payment of the required fee, an applicant who is a plumber, registered or licensed by the State of Illinois, in another state, or in another municipality, may, without examination, be granted a license as a licensed plumber by the Department provided:

(1) that the applicant is at least twenty-one years of age, and

(2) that the Board finds that the requirements for the registration or licensing of plumbers in such other state or municipality, were, at the date of the registration or license,

substantially equal to the requirements then in force for licensing under this Code, and provided that the same privilege of reciprocal recognition is accorded by said state or municipality to licensed plumbers in the City of Chicago.

(b) A plumber licensed or registered as a plumber by another state or municipality whose license requirements are substantially equal to the requirements for a City of Chicago plumber's license, when such state or municipality does not offer reciprocal recognition of City of Chicago plumber's licenses, may apply for and be issued a City of Chicago plumber's license provided that the applicant successfully passes the plumber's examination and pays the required fees.

4-332-100 4-332-200 License – Suspension or revocation – Hearing procedure.

Petitions and hearings to contest the suspension or revocation of a license shall proceed in the manner set forth in Section 2-116-280 of this Code.

4-332-110 4-332-210 License – Suspension or revocation.

The Commissioner of Buildings may suspend or revoke the license, ~~registration or certification~~ of any person licensed, ~~registered or certified~~ under this chapter as provided in Section 14A-3-305 of this Code.

4-332-120 4-332-220 Reinstatement procedure.

Petitions and hearings for the reinstatement of a license shall proceed in the manner set forth in Section 2-116-290 of this Code.

4-332-230 Building permit privileges – Suspension.

The Commissioner may suspend the ability of any person licensed or required to be licensed under this chapter to submit new applications or complete pending applications for a building permit or other permit issued by the Department of Buildings for cause as set forth in Section 14A-3-304 of this Code.

4-332-170 License and registration fees 4-332-300 Fees.

(1) The fee for the examination for a plumber's license shall be ~~\$149.00~~ \$175.00 when the applicant is currently licensed as an apprentice plumber by the City of Chicago or the State of Illinois and \$225.00 for all other applicants.

(2) The fee for an initial plumber's license and each renewal shall be ~~\$30.00~~ \$150.00 for each year the license is valid. In addition to the renewal fee, the fee for ~~reimbursement~~ reinstatement of a ~~lapsed~~ an expired plumber's license as provided in Section 4-332-070 of this chapter shall be ~~\$14.00~~ \$100.00 for each ~~lapsed~~ year or fraction of a year that the license has been expired.

(3) The fee for an initial apprentice plumber's ~~certificate of registration~~ license fee shall be ~~\$15.00~~ for each year the registration is valid. The ~~and each~~ renewal fee for apprentice registration shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$100.00 for each year the registration is valid. In addition to the renewal fee, the fee for reinstatement of a ~~lapsed~~ an expired apprentice ~~registration~~ license shall be ~~\$10.00~~ \$100.00 for each ~~lapsed~~ year or fraction of a year that the license has been expired.

(4) The fee for a duplicate license document shall be \$50.00.

(5) There shall be no fee for registration of an approved apprenticeship program acting as sponsor of apprentice plumbers.

~~4-332-175 Building permit privileges — Suspension.~~

~~The Commissioner of Buildings may suspend the ability of any person licensed, registered, or certified or required to be licensed, registered, or certified under this chapter to submit new applications or complete pending applications for a building permit or other permit issued by the Department of Buildings for cause as set forth in Section 14A-3-304 of this Code.~~

~~4-332-180~~ 4-332-310 Violation – Penalty.

In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person violating this chapter shall be fined in accordance with Section 14A-3-302 for each violation. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

~~4-332-190~~ 4-332-320 Rules.

The Commissioner of Buildings is authorized to adopt rules for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter.

SECTION 4. Chapter 4-336 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language struck through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

CHAPTER 4-336 PLUMBING CONTRACTORS.

~~4-336-010 Registration — Required~~ License required.

~~It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of installing plumbing with necessary appurtenances thereto as heretofore defined without being registered as a plumbing contractor, as defined in Section 4-332-020, or hold themselves out as a plumbing contractor without being licensed in accordance with this chapter in the manner hereinafter set forth.~~

~~4-336-020 License — Application — Issuance conditions~~ Application.

~~Any licensed plumber desiring to engage in the business of plumbing contractor shall apply for registration to the board of plumbing examiners. Upon the filing of such application in proper form and the payment of the registration fee fixed herein, the board of plumbing examiners shall register the applicant as a plumbing contractor and the commissioner of buildings shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration which will authorize the applicant to engage in such business for the year in which it is issued, providing that such applicant has filed with the city clerk an indemnifying bond as hereinafter set forth. The board of plumbing examiners shall keep a suitable record of such registration.~~

(a) An application for a license shall be filed with the Department in writing and on a form prepared and furnished by the Department.

(b) An application for an initial license shall contain the name, address, and telephone number of the person and the Chicago or Illinois plumbing license of (i) the individual, if a sole proprietorship; (ii) a partner, if a partnership; or (iii) an officer, if a corporation. The application shall contain the business name, address, and telephone number, a current copy of the plumbing license, and any other information the Commissioner may require. Beginning July 1, 2025, the required plumbing license must be a City of Chicago plumbing license.

4-336-025 Insurance.

Beginning July 1, 2025:

(a) Each applicant for initial licensure or renewal shall submit a certificate of insurance documenting that the contractor carries general liability insurance with a minimum of \$100,000 per occurrence, a minimum of \$300,000 aggregate for bodily injury, property damage insurance with a minimum of \$50,000 or a minimum of \$300,000 combined single limit, and workers compensation insurance with a minimum \$500,000 employer's liability. No license may be issued in the absence of this certificate. This insurance must be in force at all times for the license to remain valid.

(b) Each policy of insurance required by this section shall be issued by an insurer authorized to insure in Illinois with a credit rating of B+ or higher by A.M. Best Company.

(c) Each policy of insurance required under this section shall include a provision requiring 30 days' advance notice to the Commissioner prior to cancellation or lapse of the policy.

(d) Each policy of insurance required under this section shall name the City of Chicago as additional insured on a primary, noncontributory basis arising directly or indirectly from the licensee's operations.

4-336-030 Contractor's bond.

Prior to the issuance of a ~~certificate of registration as a plumbing contractor license~~, the applicant shall file with the ~~city clerk~~ City of Chicago an indemnifying indemnification bond with good and sufficient sureties in the ~~penal sum amount~~ of \$20,000.00 or a letter of credit in the same amount, such bond or letter of credit being payable to the City of Chicago, for the use of any persons with whom such applicant shall thereafter contract to do plumbing work, to indemnify any such person for damages sustained on account of the failure of such applicant to perform the plumbing work so contracted for, in accordance with the provisions and requirements of ~~the city~~ this Code relating to the ~~installation of plumbing work with necessary appurtenances thereto.~~

4-336-031 Workers' Compensation Act violation.

The Department, upon notification by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance, shall refuse the issuance or renewal of a license to, or suspend or revoke the license of, any person that has been found by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance to have failed:

(a) to secure workers' compensation obligations in the manner required by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act;

(b) to pay in full a fine or penalty imposed by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance due to a failure to secure workers' compensation obligations in the manner required by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act; or

(c) to fulfill all obligations assumed pursuant to any settlement reached with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance due to a failure to secure workers' compensation obligations in the manner required by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act.

A complaint filed with the Department by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Department of Insurance that includes a certification, signed by the Director or Chairman or designee, attesting to a finding of the failure to secure workers' compensation obligations in the manner required by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act or the failure to pay any fines or penalties or to discharge any obligation under a settlement relating to the failure to secure workers' compensation obligations in the manner required by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act is prima facie evidence of the licensee's or applicant's failure to comply with subsections (a) and (b) of Section 4 of the Workers' Compensation Act. Upon receipt of that certification, the Department shall, without a hearing, immediately suspend all licenses held by the licensee or the processing of any application from the applicant. Enforcement of the Department's order shall be stayed for 60 days. The Department shall provide notice of the suspension to the licensee by mailing a copy of the Department's order to the licensee's or applicant's address of record or emailing a copy of the order to the licensee's or applicant's email address of record. The notice shall advise the licensee or applicant that the suspension shall be effective 60 days after the issuance of the order unless the Department receives notice from the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance that the violation has been corrected or otherwise resolved.

Upon receiving notice from the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance that the violation has been corrected or otherwise resolved, the Department shall vacate the order suspending a licensee's license or the processing of an applicant's application.

No license shall be suspended or revoked until after the licensee is afforded any due process protection guaranteed by statute or rule adopted by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or the Illinois Department of Insurance.

4-336-035 Employees.

All employees of a licensed plumbing contractor who engage in plumbing work shall be licensed plumbers or licensed apprentice plumbers in accordance with Chapter 4-332 or Illinois-licensed plumbers or Illinois-licensed apprentice plumbers in accordance with the Illinois Plumbing License Law.

4-336-040 Registration License – Fee – Term.

(a) The fee for initial registration as a plumbing contractor license shall be \$100.00 \$150.00 for the first year and \$60.00 for each additional year the registration is valid.

(b) A registrant licensed plumbing contractor may renew his registration its license upon the payment of a renewal fee of \$60.00 \$150.00 for each year the registration is valid. In addition to the renewal fee, the fee for reinstatement of a lapsed registration shall be \$25.00 \$100.00 for each lapsed year.

(c) The certificate of registration or renewal issued thereafter An initial license or renewal license issued under this chapter shall be valid for a period of not less than one year and not more than four years from the date of issuance.

4-336-045 Notification of changes.

The Department shall be notified in advance of any changes in the business structure, name, or location or of the addition or deletion of the owner or officer who is the licensed plumber listed on the application. Failure to notify the Department of this information is grounds for revocation of the plumbing contractor's license.

4-336-046 Illinois plumber's license.

In the event that the plumber's license on the application for licensure of a plumbing contractor is a plumber's license issued by the State of Illinois, in shall be the responsibility of the applicant to provide a copy of the Illinois plumber's license to the Department at the time of initial licensure and each renewal. In the event that the plumbing contractor's license is suspended or revoked, the Department shall notify the Illinois Department of Public Health.

4-336-050 Identification on advertising and vehicles Advertising.

When advertising plumbing services, the license number shall be included in all forms of written or printed advertising and included with the plumbing identification on vehicles.

(a) Persons who advertise plumbing services shall, at their place of business, display the licensed plumber's license of at least one member of the firm or partnership or officer of the corporation and shall maintain a register listing the names and license numbers of all licensed plumbers and all licensed apprentice plumbers currently employed by them. The number of the license so displayed shall also be included with the plumbing identification on vehicles.

(b) No person who provides plumbing services may advertise those services unless that person includes in the advertisement the license number that is required to be displayed under subsection (a). Nothing contained in this subsection requires the publisher of advertising for plumbing services to investigate or verify the accuracy of the license number provided by the advertiser.

(c) The Commissioner may require by rule additional information concerning licensed plumbers and licensed apprentice plumbers be maintained in the register. The Commissioner and Board of Plumbing Examiners shall have the right to examine the payroll records of such persons to determine compliance with this chapter. The Commissioner and Board of Plumbing Examiners' right to examine payroll records is limited solely to those records and does not extend to any other business records.

4-336-055 Building permit privileges – Suspension.

The Commissioner of Buildings may suspend the ability of any person licensed, ~~registered or certified~~ or required to be licensed, ~~registered or certified~~ under this chapter to submit new applications or complete pending applications for a building permit or other permit issued by the Department of Buildings for cause as set forth in Section 14A-3-304 of this Code.

4-336-058 License ~~or registration~~ – Suspension or revocation.

The Commissioner of Buildings may suspend or revoke the license, ~~registration or certification~~ of any person licensed, ~~registered or certified~~ under this chapter as provided in Section 14A-3-305 of this Code.

4-336-060 Violation – Penalty.

Any person who engages in the business of plumbing contractor without obtaining a ~~certificate of registration~~ license as herein provided for, or who otherwise violates this chapter, shall be fined in accordance with Section 14A-3-302 for each offense. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

4-336-070 Rules.

The Commissioner is authorized to adopt rules for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication, provided that new fee amounts established by this ordinance shall take effect as soon as practicable, but at least ten days, after such effective date, as determined by the Commissioner of Buildings.