



Washington State **HVACR** Association, Incorporated



July 20, 2007

Secretary Ron Fuller  
Dept. of Labor and Industries  
P.O. Box 44400  
Olympia, WA 98504-4400

Secretary Fuller:

Thank you for your e-mail requesting additional information on the draft proposed HVAC/R electrician specialty we provided to you on July 5<sup>th</sup>. You have referenced a letter from Mr. Pete Crow with the Washington State Association of United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitting Industry of the U.S. and Canada dated July 11, 2007 as raising the questions you were requesting a response to.

**Number of hours of experience required:** This proposed new HVAC/R electrical specialty, that does not include first-time installation of line-voltage conductors, would be a 4000 hour specialty. This 4000-hour requirement is consistent with many other equivalent specialties like 07 – industrial maintenance that can work on any voltage, any amperage, any phase and do all of the electrical equipment and wiring replacement in a building, including HVAC/R systems and equipment, and low voltage, an 03 specialty electrician that is not limited on voltage, amperage or phase and can install, maintain and service all electrical equipment and conductors, including low voltage and telecommunications for domestic water systems and public water systems.

**Classroom Training Hours Requirement:** As required by statute and consistent with all of the other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, this new HVAC/R electrical specialty will require sixteen hours of approved classroom electrical continuing education courses covering this chapter, the national electrical code, or electrical theory within the first two years of training.

**Continuing Education Requirements:** As required by statute and consistent with all of the other existing electrical specialties, this new HVAC/R electrical specialty will require eight hours of approved classroom electrical continuing education courses each year.

**Supervision of Trainee Requirements:** As required by statute and consistent with all of the other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, supervision must be 75%. Except, for this specific specialty any trainee working on any line voltage circuit rated for 600 volts or more where 100% supervision is required.

**Supervision Ratios:** As required by statute and consistent with all of the other existing 4000 hour electrical specialties, the ratio of trainees to certified electrician must be not greater than 2:1.

**Grandfathering Provisions:** The WSHVACRA is currently considering a number of grandfathering options and will be eager to discuss grandfathering with the Committee and other stakeholders on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Hours of Credit For Other Electrical Specialties:** Consistent with all other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, this proposed new electrical specialty shall credit 4000 hours toward other electrical certifications.

**Verified Electrical Hours Requirement:** Consistent with the statute and all of the other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, the trainee and the trainee's employer(s) must certify the hours the trainee has accumulated working as a trainee.

**Electrical Administrator Requirements:** Consistent with the statute and all of the other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, an administrator for this new proposed HVAC/R electrical specialty would also be established under the same terms as provided for in the statute that require an individual who seeks to be an administrator to pass a test and pay the required fees to become an specialty administrator for this new proposed HVAC/R electrical specialty.

**Electrical Contractor Requirements:** Consistent with the statute and all of the other existing 4000-hour electrical specialties, the contractor employing the proposed new HVAC/R specialty electricians would have to be a licensed electrical contractor, have a properly certified administrator, post the required bond or deposit, and meet the other applicable requirements of RCW 19.28 and WAC 296-46B.

Sincerely,

Karen Peacey  
President  
Washington State HVACR Association