

**Notice of Public Hearing**

LSA Document #08-538

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Under [IC 4-22-2-24](#), notice is hereby given that on September 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency, Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W072, Indianapolis, Indiana, the Indiana Plumbing Commission will hold a public hearing concerning revising the fee schedule for examination or reexamination to facilitate the outsourcing of the administration of examinations for journeyman plumbers and plumbing contractors, establishing that the fees for administration and scoring of the examinations be paid directly to the examination services, establishing the requirements for reinstatement of a delinquent or lapsed license, revising the requirements for admission to the journeyman plumber and plumbing contractor examination, and revising the journeyman plumber, plumbing contractor examination requirements and the apprentice plumber requirements to facilitate the outsourcing of the administration of the examinations for journeyman plumbers and plumbing contractors.

The Indiana Plumbing Commission has the authority to promulgate rules in accordance with [IC 25-28.5-1-8](#) and [IC 25-28.5-1-38](#) that the Commission considers necessary in the performance of its duty to have an outside entity administer the journeyman plumber and plumbing contractor licensing examinations. The proposed rule amends the Commission's rules to facilitate the outsourcing the plumbing licensing examinations. In the proposed rule, the Commission will no longer administer the practical examination; instead the practical examination will be administered and graded by the apprenticeship schools and be a requirement of graduating from the apprenticeship program. In addition, the agency is currently seeking a professional examination service provider to develop, maintain, and administer computer-based licensing examinations for the journeyman plumbers and plumbing contractors. To enter into a contract, the Commission must revise its fee schedule to reflect procedures for applicants to purchase the examinations directly from the provider. While the Commission is not imposing a fee, any increase in fees for the cost of administering the examination will be imposed by the examination vendor and be paid to the examination service directly or as an increase in tuition to the schools because the schools will be administering the practical examination. Based on the current number of examinees, the possible revenue that would be generated by businesses, namely the apprenticeship schools or the professional examination service provider, would be as follows:

- 2,808 examinees x \$100 per examinee for the cost of administration = \$280,800

The proposed rule allows for a more streamlined and fair process for applicants. Having a uniform examination that is multiple-choice should alleviate appeals for failing the examinations. Furthermore, having an outside vendor administer the exam will be fairer to the examinees, save the agency resources, and pave the way for reciprocal registration in the future. The proposed rule also revises the delinquent or lapsed license requirements to bring it into conformity with [IC 25-1-8-6](#). In addition, the Commission is amending its examination admission requirements to give applicants more credit for previous experience, education, and training in meeting the examination requirements. This proposed rule will impose costs on the regulated entities.

Copies of these rules are now on file at the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W072 and Legislative Services Agency, One North Capitol, Suite 325, Indianapolis, Indiana and are open for public inspection.

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Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

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