

CHAPTER 125

LICENSING OF PLUMBERS

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125.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the examination and licensing of plumbers in order to protect public safety, health and welfare and to provide for the collection of fees.

125.02 DEFINITIONS. For use within this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. "Apprentice" means any person who, while learning the trade of plumbing, is assisting in the installation or repair of plumbing and is actually with and in the presence of a licensed journeyman plumber.
2. "Journeyman plumber" means any person who installs, alters or repairs plumbing and who has a valid license as a journeyman plumber.
3. "Master plumber" means any person engaged in planning, supervising and contracting for the installation of plumbing and who is licensed as a master plumber.
4. "Plumbing" has the meaning given in the City's Plumbing Code.

125.03 LICENSE REQUIRED. No person shall engage in the business of plumbing unless said person is licensed as a master plumber or has a state issued contractors license. In the case of a partnership, corporation or any other association organized to engage in the business of plumbing, the issuance of a valid master plumber's license to one of the partners, associates, officers or managers shall be sufficient compliance with this section. No person shall engage in the practice of installing, repairing or altering plumbing work unless licensed as either a master or journeyman plumber. Apprentices and helpers employed to assist a licensed plumber in the practice of installing, repairing or altering plumbing work need not be licensed; provided, however, such apprentices and helpers shall perform their work under the direct supervision of a licensed plumber.

125.04 EXAMINATION AND LICENSE FEES. Any person who desires to be licensed as a master plumber or as a journeyman plumber shall make a written, signed application to the Clerk on forms provided by the Clerk. An examination fee for master and journeyman licenses of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) must accompany the application. Examination fees are not returnable. The annual license fee shall be paid to the Clerk in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a master plumber and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a journeyman plumber. Both examination and license fees shall be used for the payment of costs of issuing such licenses and the enforcement of this chapter. Plumbers who currently hold a state license shall be exempt from this requirement.

125.05 PLUMBER'S QUALIFICATIONS. Before issuing the license, the Clerk shall require reasonable proof that the applicant has sufficient knowledge of the City's Plumbing Code and is possessed of skill in plumbing work, as evidenced by a record of experience and training and such standard tests as deemed necessary, sufficient to assure that the health and safety of the residents of the City will be protected by the quality of the installations, alterations and repairs made by said licensee. Evidence of qualifications from another municipality with the same or higher requirements shall be accepted.

125.06 EXPIRATION OF LICENSE. All licenses issued by the Clerk shall expire at the end of the calendar year, but may be renewed upon payment to the Clerk of the annual fee in the amount provided in Section 125.04. All licenses must be renewed prior to the expiration date, provided, however, that expired licenses may be renewed without examination within a reasonable time upon payment of the penalty of five dollars (\$5.00).

125.08 INSURANCE REQUIRED. Each applicant shall also file a certificate of insurance indicating that the applicant is carrying public liability insurance in effect for the duration of the license covering the applicant and all agents and employees of the applicant for the following minimum amounts:

1. Bodily Injury - \$1,000,000 per person; \$1,000,000 per accident.
2. Property Damage - \$250,000 per incident or accident.

Plumbers with a state license shall be exempt from this requirement.

125.09 REVOCATION OF LICENSE. The Clerk may revoke any license if it was obtained through willful disclosure, misstatement or misrepresentation of material fact, or if a material provision of this chapter, Chapter 95 of this Code of Ordinances or a provision of the City's Plumbing Code has been violated. Before a license may be revoked, the licensee shall be given notice in writing, either personally or as required by the applicable Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure,

enumerating the charges against the licensee. The licensee shall be entitled to a fair hearing by the Clerk not sooner than five (5) days or later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice. If revoked, the decision of the Clerk may be appealed to the Council at the next regular meeting. The Council may affirm, amend, remand or reverse the Clerk's decision. A person whose license has been revoked shall not be permitted to apply for another license within one (1) year after the date of the revocation.

125.10 USE OF A LICENSEE'S NAME. No licensee shall allow his or her name to be used by another person, either for the purpose of obtaining permits or for purpose of doing business or work under the license. Every licensee shall notify the Clerk of the address of his or her place of business, if any, and the name under which such business is carried on and shall give immediate notice to the Clerk of any changer in either. No license issued under this chapter shall be transferable.

125.11 INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS. A representative of the Council shall make any investigations or inspections required or requested by the Clerk to carry out the purpose of this chapter.