

Draft Rule Language - Version 2
Chapter 296-46B WAC
Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment & Competency Exams
April 28, 2026

Difference between draft rule version 1 and draft version 2:

WAC 296-46B-935 Administrator certificate. General.

- Subsection (2) - Special Accommodation reference removed
- Subsection (3) - Removed language for obtaining a unique candidate identification number.
- Subsection (4) (b)- Reverting back to original language requiring social security number for testing.

WAC 296-46B-942 Training certificate required. General

- Subsection (16) (f)- amended reference to WAC 296-46B-960.

WAC 296-46B-960, Administrator and electrician certificate of competency examinations. General.

- Subsection (1) (c) - Removed language that establishes requirement for administrators to obtain a unique candidate identification number from the department prior to arranging for an examination. Amended time from two years to one year to complete examination.
- Subsection (1) (e) Amended time from two years to one year to complete examination.
- Subsection (3) (b) - Reverting back to the one-year examination time frame. Removed language that establishes requirement for administrators to obtain a unique candidate identification number.
- Subsection (3) (c), (7), and (8) - Amended time from two years to one year to complete examination.
- Subsection (4) - Removed language for special accommodations for exams.

WAC 296-46B-935 Administrator certificate. General.

(1) The department will deny application, renewal, change of assignment, reinstatement, or issuance of an administrator or master

electrician certificate if an individual owes money as a result of an outstanding final judgment(s) under chapter 19.28 RCW.

(2) ~~((For special accommodation see WAC 296-46B-960.~~

Commented [ME1]: Removed reference to WAC 296-46B-960. Special Accommodation requirements removed from rule and managed in policy.

~~(3))~~ An applicant will not be issued a specialty administrator certificate that is a subspecialty of a certificate the applicant currently holds (i.e., the applicant is not eligible to take the domestic ~~((well))~~ pump (03A) administrator examination if the applicant currently possesses a pump and irrigation (03) administrator certificate).

Qualifying for examination.

~~((4))~~ (3) There are no qualification requirements for taking an administrator certificate examination, no department approval is required. ~~((Applicants))~~ To arrange for examination, individuals should contact the testing agency designated by the department directly.

Commented [ME2]: Further explanation of what preceding "no qualification requirements" means.

Commented [ME3]: Clarifies purpose of contacting a testing agency. Using the term "individuals" instead of "applicants" eliminates any inference that administrators have to apply for the department approval before arranging for an administrator examination.

Original - Administrator certificates.

~~((5))~~ (4) The scope of work for ~~((electrical))~~ administrators is described in WAC 296-46B-920. Except for exempt telecommunications work under RCW 19.28.511, administrators are not exempt from requirements under RCW 19.28.161 when they are performing work in the

Commented [ME4]: Adding specifics as to which testing agency. RCWs 19.28.051, 19.28.201, and 19.28.440 allow department use of a testing agency

Commented [ME5]: Striking term "electrical". This subsection applies to all administrators, not limited to electrical administrators.

electrical construction trade unless exempt from certification requirements under RCW 19.28.261. The department will issue an

original administrator certificate to a general administrator, or specialty administrator who:

Commented [ME6]: No new requirements or limitations. Added information to prevent misconception. The term "scope of work" in the preceding sentence infers that administrators can physically perform that work. Administrators are only certified to perform duties outlined in RCW 19.28.061 or RCW 19.28.430.

(a) Successfully completes the appropriate administrator examination; and

(b) Submits the appropriate examination passing report from the testing agency designated by the department with the applicant's: Date of birth, full legal name, mailing address, and Social Security

Commented [ME7]: No new requirements or limitations. Identifying testing agency. RCWs 19.28.051, 19.28.201, and 19.28.440 allow department use of a testing agency

number; and

(c) Pays all appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

Commented [ME8]: No new requirements or limitations. Corrects omission of a requirement to provide a full legal name at the time they apply for certification. Present version of the rule assumes passing score reports from testing agencies provide the legal name of the candidate.

For an examination report to be considered, all the above must be submitted within ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days after the completion of the examination. After ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days, the applicant will be required to successfully retake the complete examination. An individual's original administrator certificate will expire on their birth date at least one year, and not more than three years, from the date of original issue.

Commented [ME9]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

Commented [ME10]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

Combination - Specialty administrator certificate.

~~((6))~~ (5) The department may issue a combination specialty administrator certificate to an individual who qualifies for more than

one specialty administrators' certificate. The combination specialty administrators' certificate will plainly indicate the specialty administrator's certificate(s) the holder has qualified for. Telecommunications cannot be issued a combination because the renewal requirements are different from those required for electrical administrators.

Renewal - Administrator certificate.

~~((7))~~ (6) An individual must apply for renewal of their administrator certificate on or before the expiration date of the certificate. The individual may not apply for renewal more than ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days prior to the expiration date. Renewed electrical administrator certificates are valid for three years ~~((7 with the exception of))~~. Renewed telecommunications ~~((administrators, who will be renewed))~~ administrator certificates are valid for two years. An assigned administrator will be automatically unassigned by the department if they fail to renew their administrator certificate on or before their certificate expiration date. Further effects and actions related to unassignment are described in subsection (10) (c) through (f) of this section.

~~((8))~~ (7) An individual may renew their administrator certificate within ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days after the expiration date of the

Commented [ME11]: No new requirements or limitations. According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

Commented [ME12]: No new requirements or limitations. No change to intervals, restated in plain talk.

Commented [ME13]: No new requirements or limitations. Provides specifics as to what happens and when an administrator fails to renew their certificate as required by this subsection: " An individual must apply for renewal of their administrator certificate on or before the expiration date of the certificate.

An expired or inactive administrator does not possess a valid certificate. And individual must have a valid certificate to be designated as an assigned administrator under RCW 19.28.061 and 19.28.430

Similar reference to unassignment in (10) (b) of the section. Automatic unassignment happens when an administrator certificate becomes invalid due to expiration or inactive status.

Commented [ME14]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

certificate without reexamination if the individual applies for renewal and pays the late renewal fee listed in WAC 296-46B-909. If the certificate is not renewed on or before the expiration date, the individual shall pay twice the usual fee.

Commented [ME15]: No new requirements or limitations. For clarity, the word "after" applies to the expiration date of the certificate.

Commented [ME16]: No new requirements or limitations. For clarity, the word "pay" is part of the application for renewal process.

Commented [ME17]: No new requirements or limitations. For clarity on fee required.

Commented [ME18]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

~~((9))~~ (8) All renewals received more than ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days after the expiration date of the certificate will be denied. The administrator will be required to pass the appropriate administrator examination before being recertified.

~~((10))~~ (9) All applicants for certificate renewal must:

- (a) Submit a complete renewal application;
- (b) Pay all appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909; and
- (c) Complete the continuing education requirements described in WAC 296-46B-970. Continuing education classes are only valid when all the requirements of WAC 296-46B-970 are completed.

Telecommunications administrators are not required to provide continuing education information.

Continuing education for pump and irrigation (03) and domestic pump (03A) administrators may be comprised of ~~((fifty))~~ 50 percent electrical and ~~((fifty))~~ 50 percent plumbing instruction.

Commented [ME19]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

Commented [ME20]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

~~((11))~~ (10) (a) An individual who has not completed the required hours of continuing education can renew an electrical administrator's

Commented [ME21]: Adding term "electrical". This subsection applies to electrical administrators.

certificate if ~~((the individual applies for renewal on or before the certificate expires))~~ their application for renewal is received by the department no later than 90 days after the expiration date of their certificate and pays the appropriate renewal fee listed in WAC 296-46B-909. However, the certificate will be placed in an inactive status. If the certificate is not renewed on or before the expiration date, the individual shall pay twice the usual fee. To maintain inactive status, the certificate must be renewed no later than 90 days after the expiration date of the certificate.

Commented [ME22]: No new requirements or limitations. Amending for clarity as to what "if the individual applies for renewal" really means.

An unexpired inactive certificate will be returned to active status upon validation, by the department, of the required continuing education requirements.

Commented [ME23]: Not a new requirement, amending to add information to avoid any misunderstanding about the duration of inactive status.

(b) When the certificate is placed in inactive status, an assigned electrical administrator will be automatically unassigned from the electrical contractor.

Commented [ME24]: Relocated from (c) of the subsection. "To maintain inactive status, the certificate must be renewed no later than allowed under (8) of this section." is a reworded version of "If the certificate renewal date occurs during the inactive period, the certificate must be renewed on or before the renewal date to allow the return to current status." in (c) of this subsection.

(c) The department must notify the electrical contractor ~~((will be notified))~~ of the unassignment ~~((and has ninety days to replace the administrator. An assignment fee will then be required per WAC 296-46B-909.))~~

Commented [ME25]: Adding term "electrical". This subsection applies to electrical administrators.

Commented [ME26]: No new requirements or limitations. Style correction. Active voice rather than passive.

~~The inactive certificate will be returned to current status upon validation, by the department, of the required continuing education~~

Commented [ME27]: Relocated and reiterated in subsections (d) and (e) of this subsection.

~~requirements. If the certificate renewal date occurs during the inactive period, the certificate must be renewed on or before the renewal date to allow the return to current status).~~

Commented [ME28]: Relocated to (a) of this subsection and reworded as follows: "To maintain inactive status, the certificate must be renewed no later than allowed under (8) of this section."

~~((12))~~ (d) Upon the unassignment of a designated administrator, the contractor's license is automatically suspended if they do not have an administrator or master electrician designated by assignment within 90 days, or within 180 days as allowed under RCW 19.28.061(1) and 19.28.430(1), as applicable.

Commented [ME29]: Not a new requirement or limitation. Subsection is informational, explains process.

(e) Restoring assignment designation requires a completed assignment request prescribed by the department and payment of an assignment of administrator or master electrician fee required under WAC 296-46B-909.

(f) To reinstate a contractor license suspended under (d) of this subsection, contractors must designate an administrator or master electrician as described in (e) of this subsection, apply for reinstatement as prescribed by the department, and pay a reinstatement fee required under WAC 296-46B-909.

Commented [ME30]: Not a new requirement or limitation. Subsection is informational, explains process.

(11) An individual may renew a suspended administrator's certificate by submitting a complete renewal application including obtaining and submitting the continuing education required for renewal. However, the certificate will remain in a suspended status

for the duration of the suspension period. Before the suspended administrator's certificate can be activated, the holder must pass the appropriate administrator examination in accordance with RCW 19.28.061 (2) (a).

~~((13))~~ (12) An individual may not renew a revoked administrator's certificate.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251. WSR 20-11-053 and 20-14-083, § 296-46B-935, filed 5/19/20 and 6/30/20, effective 10/29/20. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.010 and 19.28.031. WSR 17-12-021, § 296-46B-935, filed 5/30/17, effective 7/1/17. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW. WSR 14-11-075, § 296-46B-935, filed 5/20/14, effective 7/1/14; WSR 13-03-128, § 296-46B-935, filed 1/22/13, effective 3/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.281, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551. WSR 09-20-032, § 296-46B-935, filed 9/29/09, effective 10/31/09; WSR 08-24-048, § 296-46B-935, filed 11/25/08, effective 12/31/08; WSR 06-24-041, § 296-46B-935, filed 11/30/06, effective 12/31/06; WSR 05-10-024, § 296-46B-935, filed 4/26/05, effective 6/30/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006,

19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2003 c 399, 2003 c 211, 2003 c 78, and 2003 c 242. WSR 04-12-049, § 296-46B-935, filed 5/28/04, effective 6/30/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2002 c 249, chapters 34.05 and 19.28 RCW. WSR 03-09-111, § 296-46B-935, filed 4/22/03, effective 4/22/03.]

NEW SECTION

WAC 296-46B-941 Electric vehicle equipment installation—

Certification. (1) Effective January 1, 2026, in addition to department certifications required under RCW 19.28.161 and issued under RCW 19.28.211, installation and maintenance of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) on all public works as defined in RCW 39.04.010 must be performed by:

Commented [ME31]: This is a new section. No record of anything previously codefied under 296-46B-941

Commented [ME32]: The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME33]: Relates effective date established by Section 3 of SSB 5528.

(a) Persons certified by the electric vehicle infrastructure

Commented [ME34]: Relates certification requirement established in Section 1 of SSB 5528.

training program (EVITP™) or a similar nationally recognized program;

or

(b) Apprentices meeting the criteria of RCW 19.28.161 (2) (a) (i)

Commented [ME35]: Relates exception provision for apprentices in Section 2 of SSB 5528

when the supervising journey level electrician is certified pursuant to (a) of this subsection.

(2) The certification required by subsection (1) of this section

Commented [ME36]: Relates exclusion in Section 1 of SSB 5528 = certification pursuant to SSB 5528. Certification required for electric vehicle supply equipment work not applicable if there are not programs available to all journey level electricians

is only in effect so long as EVITP™ or a similarly recognized program are open to all journey level electricians.

(3) The certification required by subsection (1) of this section

Commented [ME37]: Relates exclusion found in Section 3 of SSB 5528

does not apply to the installation of EVSE that is under contract before January 1, 2026.

(4) Failing to be certified by the EVITP™ or a department approved similar nationally recognized program when required by this section is a violation of this chapter. Violators are subject to civil penalties pursuant to WAC 296-46B-915(14).

Commented [ME38]: Existing subsection (14) of WAC 296-46B-915 Civil Penalty Schedule establishes penalties for violating any of the provisions of chapter 19.28 RCW or chapter 296-46B WAC which are not otherwise identified in the schedule. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

(5) Employing a person to install or maintain EVSE who is not certified by the EVITP™ or a department approved similar nationally recognized program when required by this section is a violation of this chapter. Violators are subject to civil penalties pursuant to WAC 296-46B-915(14).

Commented [ME39]: Existing subsection (14) of WAC 296-46B-915 Civil Penalty Schedule establishes penalties for violating any of the provisions of chapter 19.28 RCW or chapter 296-46B WAC which are not otherwise identified in the schedule. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

(6) Failure of the designated master electrician or administrator to ensure that all persons installing EVSE are certified by the EVITP™ or a department approved similar nationally recognized program when required by this section is a violation of this chapter. Violators are subject to civil penalties pursuant to WAC 296-46B-915 (12) (d) .

(7) A similar nationally recognized program must be approved by the department, and all of the following requirements apply. Programs must:

(a) Apply to the department. Application for initial approval or renewal must be made using a form prescribed by the department. Program approval begins on the date of department approval and is not applicable before that date. Department approval expires every three years.

(b) Pay initial program review and renewal fees to the department equal to fees in WAC 296-46B-909(6) at the time of initial application and program renewal.

(c) Consist of curriculum that is substantially similar to the electric vehicle infrastructure training program curriculum. Program curriculum must be developed in collaboration with industry partners and stakeholders representing parties similar to those collaborating with the EVITP™.

Commented [ME40]: Existing subsection (12) (d) of WAC 296-46B-915 Civil Penalty Schedule establishes penalties for "Failing to ensure that inspections are obtained and that all electrical labels, permits, and certificates required to perform electrical work are used.". The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME41]: Establishes requirements for similar nationally recognized programs. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME42]: Establishes requirement for approval and expiration of approval for similar nationally recognized programs. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME43]: We cannot gift state services for initial review and renewal. Establishes fees for approval and renewal similar nationally recognized programs. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME44]: Necessary to verify third party certification for enforcement of certification requirements of SSB 5522 by state and city inspectors. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

(d) Provide upon program completion, verifiable certification

that certifies the holder to install and maintain all EVSE. Nothing in this subsection restricts a manufacturer's ability to require additional training beyond what is required by this section.

(8) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Certified by the EVITP™ or a similar nationally recognized program" means having proof of valid unexpired certification issued by the EVITP™ or a similar nationally recognized program.

(b) "Electric vehicle infrastructure training program" means Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP™).

(c) "Similar nationally recognized program" means a program approved by the department.

(d) "Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)" means equipment for plug-in charging, including the ungrounded, grounded, and equipment grounding conductors, and the electric vehicle connectors, attachment plugs, personal protection system, and all other fittings, devices, power outlets, or apparatus installed specifically for the purpose of transferring energy between the premises wiring system and the electric vehicle.

[]

Commented [ME45]: Necessary to verify third party certification for enforcement of certification requirements of SSB 5522 by state and city inspectors. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

Commented [ME46]: Definitions provided to implement to SSB 5528. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement SSB 5528 according to Section 4 of SSB 5528

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 25-23-069, filed 11/18/25, effective 12/19/25)

WAC 296-46B-942 Training certificate required. General.

(1) To work in the electrical construction trade as an electrical trainee, an individual must possess, wear, and visibly display a current valid electrical training certificate, learning the trade in the proper ratio, per RCW 19.28.161, under the supervision of a certified master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in their specialty, or specialty electrician working in their specialty.

The trainee must meet all the requirements of WAC 296-46B-940 related to visibly displaying a current certificate and having a valid photo identification on his/her person.

Unless working in a specialty, apprentices and individuals learning the electrical construction trade must have in their possession proof of apprenticeship or journey level training program registration. They must show their apprenticeship or training program registration documents to an authorized representative of the department at the representative's request.

(2) An active training certificate is required for all individuals throughout the individual's enrollment and matriculation in an approved construction electrician training school program described in RCW 19.28.191. A training certificate is required to work in the electrical construction trade if an individual does not:

(a) Possess a current journey level certificate of competency issued by the department;

(b) Possess a current specialty electrician certificate of competency issued by the department while working in that specialty's scope of work; or

(c) Is not working in exempt status as allowed by chapter 19.28 RCW.

(3) Trainees who have had their training certificates revoked or suspended (during the duration of the revocation or suspension) will not be issued a training certificate.

Original training certificates.

(4) The department will issue an original training certificate when the trainee applicant submits a complete training certificate application including:

(a) Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number; and

(b) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

All applicants for an electrical training certificate must be at least 16 years of age. The original training certificate will be valid for two years. If an individual has previously held an electrical training certificate, then that individual is not eligible for a subsequent original training certificate.

Specialty specific - Zero percent and 75 percent supervision modified training certificates.

(5) For specialties as allowed in Table 945-1 (i.e., specialties with 720 minimum hours of work experience required to be eligible for examination):

(a) The department will approve the trainee to take the appropriate specialty competency examination necessary to qualify for a zero percent supervision modified training certificate. To qualify, the trainee applicant must submit a complete zero percent supervision modified training certificate application including:

(i) Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number;

(ii) Affidavit of experience fulfilling the minimum work experience hours required to qualify for the specialty examination described in Table 945-1; and

(iii) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

Upon successful completion of the appropriate examination, the trainee will be issued a nonrenewable zero percent supervision modified training certificate for the appropriate specialty. The zero percent supervision modified training certificate will be restricted in duration to the time allowed in Table 945-1, note 2.

(b) Prior to the expiration of the zero percent supervision modified training certificate, the individual must submit a complete application for a 75 percent supervision modified training certificate for the appropriate specialty including:

(i) Seventy-five percent supervision training certificate application including: Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number; and

(ii) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

(c) A trainee may possess multiple (i.e., in different specialties) modified supervision training certificates for specialties where reduced supervision is allowed in Table 945-1. Combination training certificates will not be issued.

Renewal of training certificates.

(6) An individual must apply for renewal of their training certificate on or before the expiration date of the certificate. The

individual may not apply for renewal more than 90 days prior to the expiration date. Renewed certificates are valid for two years.

(7) An individual may renew their training certificate after the expiration date if the individual pays the late renewal fee listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

(8) All applicants for training certificate renewal must:

(a) Submit a complete renewal application;

(b) Pay all appropriate fees; and

(c) Complete the approved basic trainee classes required by WAC 296-46B-970. Basic trainee classes are only valid when all the requirements of WAC 296-46B-970 are completed.

(d) (i) Deadline for affidavits of experience for hours worked by an individual while not registered in a department-approved apprenticeship program:

(A) Affidavits of experience for the prior two years must be received by the department within 180 days after every electrical training certificate expiration date.

(B) Affidavits must be complete, signed, and notarized.

(C) Hours claimed from affidavits of experience received after the 180 day deadline described in (d) (i) (A) of this subsection, shall not count towards hours required to qualify for electrician

certification examinations or unsupervised electrical training certificates unless otherwise allowed by the chief electrical inspector due to unforeseeable circumstances.

Employers are required to provide the necessary documentation and signed affidavit of experience to the trainee within 20 days after the trainee requests the affidavit. See WAC 296-46B-942(12). See WAC 296-46B-985(4) for the penalty for providing a false or inaccurate affidavit of experience. If the individual is enrolled in a department approved apprenticeship program, the program may submit the required affidavit(s) of experience upon the individual's completion of the required experience hours without cost to the individual. The affidavit of experience must accurately attest to:

(ii) The electrical installation work performed for each employer the individual worked for in the electrical trade during the previous period;

(iii) The correct electrical category the individual worked in; and

(iv) The actual number of hours worked in each category under the proper supervision of a Washington certified, master journey level electrician, journey level electrician or appropriate master specialty electrician or specialty electrician under that specific training

certificate. If a trainee possesses multiple training certificates, an affidavit must be submitted for each training certificate for the hours worked under that specific training certificate.

If the individual is enrolled in a department approved apprenticeship program, the program may submit the required affidavit(s) of experience upon the individual's completion of the required experience hours without cost to the individual.

(9) An individual may not renew a training certificate until the required hours of basic classroom education have been completed.

(10) An individual may renew a suspended training certificate by submitting a complete renewal application including obtaining and submitting the basic trainee class education required for renewal. However, the certificate will remain in a suspended status for the duration of the suspension period.

(11) An individual will not be issued a renewed or reinstated training certificate if the individual owes the department money as a result of an outstanding final judgment under chapter 19.28 RCW.

(12) The individual should ask each employer and/or apprenticeship training director for an accurately completed, signed, and notarized affidavit of experience for the previous certification period. The employer(s) or apprenticeship training director(s) must

provide the previous period's affidavit of experience to the individual within 20 days of the request. If an individual is enrolled in an approved electrical construction trade apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW, the individual and their apprenticeship training director and/or each employer must give the department an accurately completed, signed, and notarized affidavit of experience accurately attesting to:

- (a) The electrical installation work the individual performed in the electrical trade during the previous certification period;
- (b) The correct electrical category the individual worked in; and
- (c) The actual number of hours worked in each category under the proper supervision of a Washington certified master journey level electrician, journey level electrician or appropriate master specialty or specialty electrician for each employer. For apprentices enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program, the training director or their designated authorized signer are the only authorized signatures the department will accept on affidavits of experience.

(13) The employer(s) and/or apprenticeship training director(s) or their designated authorized signer must sign and have notarized the affidavit of experience attesting to the accuracy of all information contained in the affidavit.

(14) The trainee, supervising electrician, contractor, and assigned administrator or master electrician are responsible for ensuring compliance with subsection (13) of this section. See WAC 296-46B-985 and 296-46B-990 (3)(c) and (f) for information about failing to submit or submitting false/fraudulent documents. Falsifying documents may be considered perjury and might result in criminal prosecution, civil penalty, or certificate revocation or suspension.

Trainees without supervision present on the job site.

(15) When the supervising electrician is found to not be present on the job site, the trainee may be given a form by the inspector that must be fully completed and returned or postmarked within 24 hours to the inspector. The supervising electrician must sign the statement for the trainee if appropriate supervision was provided. If the supervising electrician fails or refuses to assist the trainee in completing the form, the trainee must return the form with a signed and dated statement stating the supervising electrician's name and saying that the supervising electrician refused to assist.

Trainees seeking a journey level electrician certificate - Working with no supervision.

(16) Trainee seeking a general (01) journey level electrician certificate of competency. After review by the department, a trainee

may be issued a six-month, nonrenewable unsupervised electrical training certificate that will allow the individual to work without supervision if the trainee:

(a) Has submitted a complete application for an unsupervised electrical training certificate;

(b) Has worked over 7,000 hours properly supervised not to include more than 4,000 of specialty experience;

(c) Has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program or an electrical construction trade program in a school approved by the board of community and technical colleges;

(d) Has paid all appropriate training certificate fees listed in WAC 296-46B-909;

(e) Is currently working for and continues to work for a licensed electrical contractor that employs at least one certified journey level or specialty electrician in the appropriate specialty; and

(f) Has not previously failed a journey level electrician certificate of competency examination (see WAC 296-46B-960(~~(11)~~)) (9) .

Commented [ME47]: Amending section reference

Trainees seeking certain specialty electrician certificates - Working with reduced or no supervision.

(17) After review by the department, a trainee may be issued a nonrenewable zero percent supervision training certificate that will allow the individual to work without supervision if the trainee meets the requirements in subsection (5) of this section.

(18) Electrical trainees may work unsupervised when installing HVAC/R thermostat cable when the HVAC/R system consists of a single thermostat in one- and two-family dwelling units where line voltage power has not been connected to the dwelling's electrical system. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031, and 19.28.251. WSR 25-23-069, s 296-46B-942, filed 11/18/25, effective 12/19/25; WSR 24-05-085, § 296-46B-942, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24; WSR 19-15-117, § 296-46B-942, filed 7/23/19, effective 8/23/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.010 and 19.28.031. WSR 17-12-021, § 296-46B-942, filed 5/30/17, effective 7/1/17. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW. WSR 14-11-075, § 296-46B-942, filed 5/20/14, effective 7/1/14; WSR 13-03-128, § 296-46B-942, filed 1/22/13, effective 3/1/13.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-05-085, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24)

WAC 296-46B-960 Administrator and electrician certificate of competency examinations. General.

(1) (a) The minimum passing score on any examination or examination section is 70 percent. ~~((If examination is requested to be administered by the department, an application is required and the examination must be successfully completed within one year of application or the individual must submit a new application for exam including all appropriate fees.))~~ (b) For approval for all electrician examinations, individuals must submit an application as prescribed by the department and pay all appropriate fees listed under WAC 296-46B-909. The department shall notify applicants of approval or denial of their application. After approval, the department shall provide the candidate with a unique candidate identification number and instructions for arranging for examination. If the individual does not successfully complete the examination within one year of the date of department approval, they must submit a new application for examination approval to the department and pay all appropriate fees listed under WAC 296-46B-909.

Commented [ME48]: Relocated to (1) (e) of this section.

Commented [ME49]: Amending language to clarify current requirements and process.

(c) For all administrator examinations, there are no qualification requirements and no department approval is required. When a candidate fails to successfully complete an administrator

examination within one year of the date of their first attempt, the candidate must begin a new one-year examination period. Candidates must attempt all sections each time they begin a new one-year examination period. Scores from previous examination periods are not applicable to new examination periods.

Commented [ME50]: Establishes requirement for administrators exams current requirements and process.

(d) For examinations administered by a department designated testing agency, examination fees are set by the testing agency. Candidates must contact the testing agency directly to arrange for payment.

Commented [ME51]: Explanation of process. No new requirements

(e) When the department has a contract with a testing agency to administer examinations, department-administered examinations are not available unless allowed at the department's discretion. For department-administered examinations, an application for a department-administered examination is required. Applications must be made as prescribed by the department. Applicants must pay all appropriate examination fees listed under WAC 296-46B-909. If the individual does not successfully complete the examination within one year of the date of department approval, they must submit a new application for examination approval to the department and pay all appropriate fees listed under WAC 296-46B-909.

Commented [ME52]: Explanation of process. No new requirements.

(2) All examinations are open book.

(a) Candidates may use:

(i) Any original copyrighted material;

(ii) A silent, nonprinting, nonprogrammable calculator that is not designed for preprogrammed electrical calculations;

(iii) Copies of chapter 19.28 RCW and this chapter; or

(iv) A ~~((foreign))~~ language translation dictionary ~~((that does not contain definitions))~~.

Commented [ME53]: Amending language to clarify the dictionary that is allowed.

(b) Candidates may not use:

(i) Copies of copyrighted material;

(ii) Copies of internet publications, except for RCWs or WACs;

(iii) Personal notes; or

(iv) A personal computing device of any type other than the calculator in (a)(ii) of this subsection.

(3) (a) Administrator, master electrician, and electrician examinations may consist of multiple sections.

(b) For all administrator examinations, all sections must be successfully completed within a one-year examination period ~~((after))~~ beginning ~~((the examination))~~ on the date of first attempt and ending one year later. Within their one-year examination period, candidates do not have to retake any sections successfully completed within the one-year examination period. If all sections are not successfully

Commented [ME54]: Amending when exam periods for administrator candidates begin.

Commented [ME55]: Explanation of process. No new requirements.

completed within the one-year examination period, the candidate must begin a new one-year examination period. Candidates must attempt all sections each time they begin a new one-year examination period. Scores from previous examination periods are not applicable to new examination periods.

Commented [ME56]: Explanation of process. No new requirements other than reactivation and duration of exam period.

(c) For all master electrician and electrician examinations, all sections must be successfully completed within a one-year examination period beginning with the date of the examination approval. Within the one-year examination period, the candidate does not have to retake any sections successfully completed within the one-year examination period. If all sections are not successfully completed within the one-year examination period, the candidate must reapply for examination approval and begin a new one-year examination period ((and retake all sections)). Candidates must attempt all sections each time they begin a new one-year examination period. Scores from previous examination periods are not applicable to new examination periods.

Commented [ME57]: Adding language for grammatical changes and clarity.

~~((Special accommodations for examination.~~

Commented [ME58]: Explanation of process in plain language. No new requirements.

~~(4) An applicant for an examination who, due to a specific physical, mental, sensory impairment, requires special accommodation in examination procedures, may submit a written request to the chief electrical inspector for the specific accommodation needed.~~

~~(a) The applicant must submit an individualized written opinion from a physician or other appropriate specialist:~~

~~(i) Verifying the existence of a specific physical, mental, sensory impairment;~~

~~(ii) Stating whether special accommodation is needed for a specific examination;~~

~~(iii) Stating what special accommodation is necessary; and~~

~~(iv) Stating if extra time for an examination is necessary and if so, how much time is required. The maximum allowance for extra time is double the normal time allowed.~~

~~(b) The written request for special accommodation and individualized written opinion should be submitted to the department only after the applicant has made application and received an examination approval from the department.~~

~~(5) An applicant for an examination who, due to limited English proficiency, requires special accommodation in examination procedures, including requesting extra time for examination, may submit a written request to the chief electrical inspector. The maximum allowance for extra time is double the normal time allowed. The written request should be submitted to the department after the applicant has made~~

application and received an examination approval from the department.))

Commented [ME59]: Repealing references to Special Accommodations to avoid conflict with federal regulations.

Failed examination appeal procedures.

~~((6))~~ (4) Any candidate who takes an examination and does not pass the examination may request a review of the examination.

(a) The department will not modify examination results unless the candidate presents clear and convincing evidence of error in the grading of the examination.

(b) The department will not consider any challenge to examination grading unless the total of the potentially revised score would result in a passing score.

~~((7))~~ (5) The procedure for requesting an informal review of examination results is as follows:

(a) The request must be made in writing to the chief electrical inspector and must be received within 20 days of the date of the examination and must request a rescore of the examination. The written request must include the appropriate fees for examination review described in WAC 296-46B-909.

(b) The following procedures apply to a review of the results of the examination:

(i) The candidate will be allowed one hour to review their examination.

(ii) The candidate must identify the challenged questions of the examination and must state the specific reason(s) why the results should be modified with multiple published reference material supporting the candidate's position.

(iii) Within 15 days of the candidate's review, the department will review the examination and candidate's justification and notify the candidate in writing of the department's decision.

Failing an administrator certificate exam or electrician certificate of competency examination.

~~((+0))~~ (6) Anyone failing an administrator or electrician competency examination may retake the examination by making arrangements with the department-designated testing agency and paying the retesting fee.

Commented [ME60]: No new requirements or limitations. Identifying testing agency. RCWs 19.28.051, 19.28.201, and 19.28.440 allow department use of a testing agency

~~((+9))~~ (7) If the individual makes a failing score within a one-year examination period described in subsection (3) (b) and (c) of this section, the individual must wait ~~((two weeks))~~ 14 days before being eligible to retest unless subsection (8) of this section requires a 90-day waiting period between attempts.

Commented [ME61]: Current rule assumes reader knows when a failing score is made. Amending to clarify to avoid reliance on assumption.

Commented [ME62]: Duration changed from weeks to days. No change to duration.

Commented [ME63]: Adding cross reference to subsection (10) to increase reader understanding of waiting period required.

~~((10))~~ (8) If the individual fails ~~((a part))~~ one or more sections of an electrician, administrator, or master electrician examination three times within a one-year examination period described in subsection (3) (b) and (c) of this section, the individual must wait ~~((three months))~~ 90 days to retake ~~((the failed portion of the examination))~~ any section. The 90-day interval between attempts applies until the individual successfully completes the examination.

Commented [ME64]: Correcting terminology. Examinations are comprised of sections, not parts.

Commented [ME65]: Amending to add "examination" to promote consistent terminology.

Commented [ME66]: Adding reference to "(3) (b) and (c) of this section" for clarity as to what period this subsection is referencing.

Commented [ME67]: According to Part IV. Instructions On Style: Numbers ten or greater, and any decimals or fractions, should be written in Arabic numerals.

Commented [ME68]: Applying plain talk principles. No change to meaning.

~~((11))~~ (9) Anyone failing an electrician competency examination may continue to work in the electrical trade if they have a valid electrical training certificate and work under the direct supervision of a certified journey level or specialty electrician in the proper ratio, ~~((per))~~ required under RCW 19.28.161. In addition, unless working in a specialty, apprentices and individuals learning the electrical construction trade must also have in their possession proof of department approved apprenticeship or training program registration.

Commented [ME69]: Clarification to improve understanding of current rule requiring a waiting period between attempts. The waiting period does not reset at any time until the exam is successfully completed. The open-book examination is not a training tool or a study guide. The waiting period is essential to protect exam confidentiality required under (13) of this section.

Commented [ME70]: Housekeeping. Style correction. Using "under" instead of "per".

Cheating on an examination.

~~((12))~~ (10) Anyone found cheating on an examination, attempting to bribe a proctor or other agent involved in administering an examination, or using inappropriate materials/equipment during an examination will be required to wait at least 11 months before being

Commented [ME71]: Updating rule to reflect requirements of RCW 19.28.161(2) (c) (ii) added by passage of 2018's SSB 6126.

allowed to reexamine. All such reexaminations will be administered by the department in Tumwater, Washington and the candidate will be required to apply and schedule for the examination with the chief electrical inspector. The department may also file a civil penalty action under chapter 19.28 RCW.

Examination confidentiality.

~~((13))~~ (11) All examination questions are confidential. Examination candidates and persons who have taken an examination are not allowed to copy or otherwise make note of or share examination content, in any manner, outside the individual's examination environment. Examination candidates must agree, prior to beginning an examination, to keep all examination content confidential. The department may also file a civil penalty action under chapter 19.28 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251. WSR 24-05-085, § 296-46B-960, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24; WSR 19-15-117, § 296-46B-960, filed 7/23/19, effective 8/23/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW. WSR 14-11-075, § 296-46B-960, filed 5/20/14, effective 7/1/14; WSR 13-03-128, § 296-46B-960, filed 1/22/13, effective 3/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 4/17/2026 01:24 PM [32] NOT FOR FILING RDS-6715.5

19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241,
19.28.251, 19.28.281, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420,
19.28.490, 19.28.551. WSR 09-20-032, § 296-46B-960, filed 9/29/09,
effective 10/31/09; WSR 08-24-048, § 296-46B-960, filed 11/25/08,
effective 12/31/08; WSR 06-24-041, § 296-46B-960, filed 11/30/06,
effective 12/31/06; WSR 06-05-028, § 296-46B-960, filed 2/7/06,
effective 5/1/06; WSR 05-10-024, § 296-46B-960, filed 4/26/05,
effective 6/30/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010,
19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161,
19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251,
19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490,
19.28.551, 2002 c 249, chapters 34.05 and 19.28 RCW. WSR 03-09-111, §
296-46B-960, filed 4/22/03, effective 4/22/03.]