

Question of the Month

When the NEC requires an equipment ground fault protection system for a service, when must it be tested?

See the correct answer on page 2

01 Electrical Contractors – Are You an Apprenticeship Training Agent Yet?

Since the passage of [Substitute Senate Bill 6126](#) in 2018, there have been a number of new apprenticeship programs established for (01) apprentices, bringing the number available to 13. Others are in the works.

Requirements brought on by this legislation affect every contractor with trainees that are training to become 01 general journey level electricians. Nothing changes for specialty contractors or trainees who work for them.

Before July 1, 2023:

1. Contractors must become registered apprenticeship training agents to employ trainees doing the work of 01 journey level electricians.
2. Trainees doing this kind of work must be registered apprentices in the same apprenticeship as their training agent (employer).

Trainees will not qualify for 01 examinations after July 1, 2023 without completing apprenticeship requirements.

Contractors: Find information about becoming a training agent at:

<https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/apprenticeship/offer-a-registered-apprenticeship>.

Trainees: Learn about becoming an apprentice at:

<https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/apprenticeship/become-an-apprentice>.

Recognized 01 General Journey Level Apprenticeship Programs and counties where they operate:

1. [Area 1 Inside Electrical JATC](#) – Clark, Klickitat, Skamania, Cowlitz, and Pacific. (Program regulated by Oregon)
2. [Electrical Management Group of Washington](#) – Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Pacific, Lewis Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, and Walla Walla Counties..
3. [Construction Industry Training Council of Washington - Construction Electrician](#) – All counties in Washington.
4. [Frontier Apprenticeship & Training](#) (Frontier Electric of Washington employees only) –_Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania.
5. [IBEW 48 NECA-IBEW Electrical JATC](#) – Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Skamania, Wahkiakum. (Program regulated by Oregon)
6. [Inland Empire Electrical Training Trust](#) – Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Whitman.
7. [LU 112 - NECA Electrical Apprenticeship Committee](#) – Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Walla Walla, Yakima, Kittitas.
8. [Northwest Washington Electrical Industry Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee](#) – Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Island, Okanogan, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom.
9. [Performance Electrical Apprenticeship Committee](#) (Boone Electric Construction BOONEEC952BM employees only) - Pierce, King, Thurston, Lewis, Snohomish, Spokane, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Lincoln, Whitman
10. [Puget Sound Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee](#) – Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Clallam,

Safety Tip of the Month

Standing water, ice, or snow may conceal hidden hazards. Avoid slips, trips and falls by wearing proper footwear and proceeding with caution at all times.

Trust your instincts and training. If your path is unsafe, find a safe route to get there or do not go!

11. [Southwest Washington Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee](#) – Pacific, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Mason, Pierce, Thurston.
12. [Titan Electrical Apprenticeship & Training](#) (Titan Electrical LLC TITANEL877RD employees only) - Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Yakima, Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Adams, Lincoln, Snohomish, King, Pierce
13. [Tradesmen Apprenticeship & Comprehensive Training](#) (Tradesmen Electric employees only) – Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania.

Temporary Allowances for Trainees Ending on March 31, 2022

In the November 2021 edition of this newsletter, we announced an end date for temporary allowances for trainees. After March 31, 2022:

- Education providers must cease virtual delivery of [basic classroom instruction](#) classes for trainees. All instruction after March 31, 2022 must be in person.
- Trainees expiring before April 1, 2022 may continue to work legally for 90 days from the date their certificate expires. Such trainees must complete 48 hours of basic classroom instruction and renew no later than 90 days after their expiration date.
- Trainees expiring on or after April 1, 2022 must complete 48 hours of basic classroom instruction and renew before their expiration date.

Legislative Update

The legislature is in session and lawmakers are considering several bills that affect electricians and contractors.

- HB [1831](#) – Requires an additional certification for electricians to work on electric vehicle chargers. This certification is in addition to certifications already required to do such work. If you would like to comment on this bill, the legislature provides this link: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/bill/1831>.
- SB [5599](#) – This bill does not affect anyone who is training to become a specialty electrician. It is a housekeeping bill that amends July 1, 2023 apprenticeship completion requirements enacted by SSB [6126](#) for those qualifying for 01 journey level exams and the contractors that employ them.

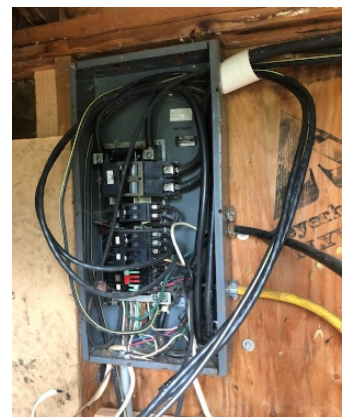
Amendments ensure that no trainees have to start over and complete 8000 hours while in a 01 apprenticeship. This allows apprenticeships to consider advanced placement based on hours already on record for trainees. Other amendments ensure that military and out of state applicants have a clear path to qualifying for 01 journey level exams. If you would like to comment on this bill, the legislature provides this link: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/bill/5599>.

You may also share your opinions by contacting your legislator through the legislative website at: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/hotline.aspx>.

Ugly Picture of the Month: *If viewing this document online, click on the picture to open a larger image. A lot is going on in this service panel and inspector found in a shed. How many safety violations do you see?*

Answer to Question of the Month

Before placing into service. The purpose is to verify proper installation and operation of the system as determined by the manufacturer's published instructions. This test or a subsequent test must include all service voltage feeders unless the installer can demonstrate, in a manner acceptable to the department, that there are no grounded conductor connections to the feeder(s). Check out WAC [296-46B-230\(11\)](#) to learn more.



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<https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/electrical/electrical-currents-newsletter/>

Electrical Section Internet Address: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/> - Select Licensing & Permits, then Electrical

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