

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

2022 Legislative Session,
Legislative Day No. 4

Introduced By: County Council

BILL NO. 2022-5

AN ACT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND ACTING PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF TITLE 6, ELECTRICIANS, BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, REPEALING AND REENACTING SECTION 82-8, RECORDS AND REPORTS OF BOARD, AND SECTION 82-12, APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION, AND SECTION 82-13, COUNTY RESIDENTS PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN ESTABLISHED ELECTRICAL BUSINESS, AND SECTION 82-14, QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION APPLICANTS, AND SECTION 82-16, EXAMINATIONS, AND SECTION 82-17, FEES AND BOND, AND SECTION 82-18, REVOCATIONS OR SUSPENSIONS OF REGISTRATION; HEARING, AND SECTION 82-19, RECIPROCITY OF CHAPTER 82, ELECTRICAL STANDARDS OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY CODE PROVIDING FOR APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION FOR MASTER ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIANS, OR APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS, AND PROVIDING THAT AN ELECTRICIAN GENERAL CLASS OF ELECTRICIANS IS ESTABLISHED IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION OF QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN GENERALS IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND PROVIDING THAT ANY APPLICANT THAT APPLIES FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS CHAPTER THAT HAS BEEN LICENSED BY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS AS AN APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN OR AS A JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIAN OR AS A MASTER ELECTRICIAN ARE QUALIFIED FOR REGISTRATION AS IN SUCH GRADE UNDER CHAPTER 82, AND PROVIDING FOR FEES FOR REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS, AND PROVIDING FOR INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRANTS, AND PROVIDING FOR REVOCATIONS OR SUSPENSIONS AND HEARINGS, AND PROVIDING FOR RECIPROCITY, AND PROVIDING GENERALLY FOR THE REGULATION AND REGISTRATION OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIANS, OR APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS AND THE LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICIAN GENERALS.

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted on the official bulletin board of County, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613.

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Ordered publication for once a week for two (2) successive weeks, and public hearing scheduled on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, Room 110, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland at 6:02 p.m.



By order:

Jay L. Newcomb
President of the County Council
of Dorchester County, Maryland

Mar.22
DorCo.ElecCodePub/mlh
5-6-22

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 2022-5

AN ACT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND ACTING PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF TITLE 6, ELECTRICIANS, BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, REPEALING AND REENACTING SECTION 82-8, RECORDS AND REPORTS OF BOARD, AND SECTION 82-12, APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION, AND SECTION 82-13, COUNTY RESIDENTS PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN ESTABLISHED ELECTRICAL BUSINESS, AND SECTION 82-14, QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION APPLICANTS, AND SECTION 82-16, EXAMINATIONS, AND SECTION 82-17, FEES AND BOND, AND SECTION 82-18, REVOCATIONS OR SUSPENSIONS OF REGISTRATION; HEARING, AND SECTION 82-19, RECIPROCITY OF CHAPTER 82, ELECTRICAL STANDARDS OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY CODE PROVIDING FOR APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION FOR MASTER ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIANS, OR APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS, AND PROVIDING THAT AN ELECTRICIAN GENERAL CLASS OF ELECTRICIANS IS ESTABLISHED IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION OF QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN GENERALS IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND PROVIDING THAT ANY APPLICANT THAT APPLIES FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS CHAPTER THAT HAS BEEN LICENSED BY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS AS AN APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN OR AS A JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIAN OR AS A MASTER ELECTRICIAN ARE QUALIFIED FOR REGISTRATION AS IN SUCH GRADE UNDER CHAPTER 82, AND PROVIDING FOR FEES FOR REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS, AND PROVIDING FOR INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRANTS, AND PROVIDING FOR REVOCATIONS OR SUSPENSIONS AND HEARINGS, AND PROVIDING FOR RECIPROCITY, AND PROVIDING GENERALLY FOR THE REGULATION AND REGISTRATION OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYPerson ELECTRICIANS, OR APPRENTICE ELECTRICIANS AND THE LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICIAN GENERALS.

SECTION ONE: Acting under the authority of Title 6, Electricians, Business Occupations and Professions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (the "Act"), be it ENACTED and ORDAINED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland that Section 82-8, Records and reports of Board, and Section 82-12, Applications for registration, and Section 82-13, County residents presently engaged in established electrical business, and Section 82-14, Qualifications required for registration applicants, and Section 82-16, Examinations, and Section

82-17, Fees and bond, and Section 82-18, Revocations or suspensions of registration; hearing, and Section 82-19, Reciprocity of Chapter 82, Electrical Standards, of the Dorchester County Code are REPEALED and REENACTED to read as follows:

CHAPTER 82

ELECTRICAL STANDARDS

§ 82-8. Records and reports of Board.

(A) The Board shall keep a record of its proceedings and a register of all applications for registration, which register shall show as a minimum, but not be limited to:

- (1) The name, age and residence of each applicant.
- (2) The date of the application
- (3) The place of business of such applicant.
- (4) The qualifications of the applicant.
- (5) Whether the applicant was rejected.
- (6) Whether a certificate of registration was granted.
- (7) The date of the action of the Board.
- (8) Such other information as may be deemed necessary by the Board.

(B) The records of the Board shall be prima facie evidence to proceedings of the Board set forth therein. A transcript thereof, duly certified by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board, under seal, shall be admissible in evidence with the same force and effect as if the original were produced.

§ 82-12. Applications for registration.

Applications for registration may be obtained from the Board. An applicant must state that he is applying for one of the following registrations:

(A) "Apprentice electrician" means an electrician who is licensed by the State Board of Elections (the "State Board") to assist in providing electrical services while:

- (1) under the direction or control of a licensed master electrician; and
- (2) in training to become a journeyman electrician.

(B) "Journeyman electrician" means an electrician who is licensed by the State Board to provide or assist in providing electrical services while:

- (1) under the direction or control of a licensed master electrician; and
- (2) in training to become a master electrician.

(C) "Master electrician" means an individual who has the experience, knowledge, and skill to provide electrical services in all aspects of the electrical trade, in a manner that complies with applicable plans, specifications, codes, or law and who is a licensed master electrician by the State Board.

§ 82-13. Electrician general class of electricians established. License required.

Expires June 30, 2023

(A) **Definitions.** In this section the following words have the meanings indicated:

(1) Electrician general means any person engaged only in house wiring limited to a dwelling containing no more than four (4) family units, and commercial wiring limited to circuits of not more than 60 amperes, three-phase in an existing commercial structure.

(2) Qualified electrician general means any person that has held a valid and active electrician general local registration as of May 1, 2022.

(B) **Establishment of the electrician general class of electrician.** Acting under Title 6, Subtitle 1, §6-103(b) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article, the electrician general class of electrician is hereby established.

(C) **Scope.** In order to perform electrical work within the electrician general classification, as defined in this section, a person must be a qualified electrician general as defined in this section.

(D) **Grandfathering.** All qualified electrician general individuals are grandfathered and granted an electrician general license.

(E) **Other requirements.** All qualified electrician general electricians shall:

- (1) Register with the Board in accordance with §82-10 of this chapter.
- (2) Be subject to all other provisions of this chapter.

(F) **Expiration.** All electrician general licenses shall expire on June 30, 2023 and shall have no future force or effect.

§ 82-14. Qualifications required for registration applicants.

Any applicant that applies for registration under this chapter that has been licensed by the State Board as an apprentice electrician or as a journeyman electrician or as a master electrician are qualified for registration as in such grade under this chapter.

§ 82-16. Fees.

(A) The County Council of Dorchester County shall establish a schedule of fees for all registrations or permits required by this chapter. Fees for registrations and permits under this chapter may be altered or amended from time to time without a public hearing only by the County Council of Dorchester County upon the recommendations of the Board of Electrical Examiners.

(B) Renew of registrations may be effected at any time during the month of June by payment of the annual fee, which shall be equal to the original cost for such class of certification of registration. The failure on the part of any registrant to renew his certificate annually in the month of June, as required by this section, shall not deprive such person of the right of renewal, but the fee to be paid for the renewal of a certificate after the month of June shall be increased \$2.00 for each day or fraction of a day that payment of the renewal fee is delayed, up to 90 days, at which time the registration will be canceled at the discretion of the Board.

§ 82-17. Property and general liability insurance.

(A) **Scope.** The provisions of this section do not apply to a registrant on inactive status.

(B) **Insurance required.** All persons holding an active Certificate of Registration in Dorchester County under the provisions of this chapter shall:

(1) Maintain general liability insurance in the amount of at least \$300,000.00.

(2) Maintain property damage insurance in the amount of at least \$100,000.00.

(3) Submit proof of the required insurance to the Board.

(C) **Renewal.** Each applicant requesting renewal of a Certificate of Registration in Dorchester County pursuant to the requirements of this chapter shall submit proof of the required insurance with their application for renewal. Unless the applicant meets the insurance requirements of this section, the Board shall not renew the Certificate of Registration.

(D) **Notice of cancellation.** If the insurance required under this section is canceled, the insured shall notify the Board within ten (10) days after the date of cancellation and at the discretion of the Board, the electrician's Certificate of Registration shall be revoked.

§ 82-18. Revocations or suspensions of registration; hearing.

(A) The Board may revoke or suspend the certificate of registration of any registrant who is found guilty of:

(1) The practice of any fraud or deceit in obtaining a certificate of registration.

(2) Any gross negligence, incompetency or misconduct in supply material or performing services as an electrical contractor.

(3) Permitting or causing defective electrical work, if done deliberately or if not corrected within fifteen (15) days, or longer if necessary at the discretion of the Board, following notice thereof by the Board.

(B) Any person may prefer charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence or misconduct against any registrant. Such charges shall be in writing and shall be sworn to by the person making them and shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board.

(C) All charges, unless dismissed by the Board as unfounded or trivial, shall be heard by the Board within three (3) months after the date on which they shall have been filed with the Board.

(D) The time and place for the hearing shall be fixed by the Board, and a copy of the charges, together with a notice of the time and place of hearing, shall be personally served or mailed to the last known address of the registrant, at least thirty (30) days before the date fixed for the hearing. At any hearing the accused registrant shall have the right to appear personally and by counsel, to cross-examine witnesses appearing against him and to produce evidence and witnesses in his own defense. If, after such hearing, three (3) or more members of the Board vote in favor of finding the accused guilty, the Board may suspend or revoke the certificate of registration of such registrant.

(E) The certificate of registration of any registrant under this chapter shall be revoked or suspended should the State Board revoke or suspend the State license of any master electrician, journeyman electrician or apprentice electrician and, if in case of a suspension by the State Board, all of the terms and conditions of the State Board suspension shall be fully complied with and satisfied before the certificate of registration issued under this chapter is reinstated.

(F) The certificate of registration of any registrant shall be revoked should the registrant fail to comply with the insurance provisions of this chapter.

(G) The certificate of registration of any registrant shall be revoked should the registrant fail to pay to Dorchester County any fees or sums due under this chapter after fifteen (15) days prior written notice to the registrant by the Board.

§ 82-19. Reciprocity.

The Board shall, upon application therefor and the payment of the regular fee and without examination, issue a certificate of registration to:

(A) any apprentice electrician, journeyman electrician, master electrician or to any individual that has been licensed as such by the State Board; and

(B) any individual that holds a reciprocal license issued by the State Board under §6-502 or §6-503 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.

(C) any individual that qualifies for a reciprocal registration between local jurisdictions under §6-504 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.

SECTION TWO: Be it further ENACTED and ORDAINED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland that General Code Publishers is directed to codify the amendments to Chapter 82 of the Dorchester County Code.

SECTION THREE: Be it further ENACTED, pursuant to Section 308 of the Charter of Dorchester County, Maryland, that promptly after enactment of this Act, the County Manager shall cause a fair summary of this Act to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in Dorchester County, Maryland.

SECTION FOUR: Be it further ENACTED that Section 82-13 of Chapter 82 shall be given retroactive application to June 30, 2022.


SECTION FIVE: Be it further ENACTED and ORDAINED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland, that this Bill shall be known as Bill No. 2022-5 of Dorchester County, Maryland and shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final passage.

PASSED this 21st day of June, 2022.

ATTEST:

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER
COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
Donna F. Lane
Acting County Manager

By: 
Jay L. Newcomb
President

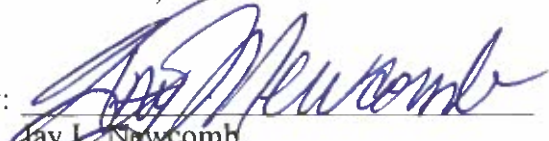
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APPROVED this 21st day of June, 2022.

ATTEST:

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER
COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
Donna F. Lane
Acting County Manager

By: 
Jay L. Newcomb
President

Nichols - absent
Nagel - aye
Newcomb - aye
Pfeffer - aye
Travers - aye

Mar.22
DorCo.ElecCodeBill/mlh
Rev. 5-6-22