



Special Edition Newsletter: Administrative Rule Changes Highlights

House Bill 1157 created a power limited electrician license (PLE). Board sponsored Senate Bill 2056 passed and administrative rules are being promulgated to further define the scope of that new law. The bill was a house keeping issue to reword 43-09-11 (2)(b)(1) to allow the board to be the entity that approves related training programs in the industry that it regulates. This bill also gives the board authority to expend funds to promote and educate the trade. We will be working with several ND entities to come up with various ways to try to get new individuals into the trade. The legislature also passed Senate Bill 2306 which makes provisions for a military spouse to be licensed in several North Dakota professions including the electrical trade.

The list below is some of the significant NDCC law changes that the NDSEB made. Subsequent proposed administrative rule changes are slated to be effective July 1, 2020.

NDCC 43-09-01 Definitions – new terms added to the definitions.

“Nonelectrical system” means a system as defined by the articles contained in chapter 8 and other articles which contains class II or class III circuits and systems as defined by the national electrical code, as adopted by the board. Although the board may expand this definition, the board may not narrow this definition. The term does not include a circuit or system that is installed within an area of special occupancies, as defined under articles 500 through 517 of the national electrical code; for heat, light or power; for the control of heat, light, power, unless the circuit employs digital communications.

“Power limited electrician” (PLE) means an individual who has the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to plan, layout, and supervise the installation and repair of a power limited system.

“Power limited system” means a system as defined by the articles contained in chapter 8 and other articles which contain class II or class III circuits and systems as defined by the national electrical code, as adopted by the board. Although the board may expand this definition, the term does not include a nonelectrical system.

NDCC 43-09-11 Qualifications - new text added for power limited license.

For licensure as a power limited electrician: hold a valid board-recognized tradesman certification or possess the necessary work experience and training as approved by the board.

NDCC 43-09-16 When license not required - the following additional persons that are not required to be licensed:

Employees, independent contractors, or subcontractors of a company that is a telecommunication carrier as defined under section 57-34-01 or that is a satellite or cable systems provider, while acting in the scope of employment or the terms of the contract. Employees, independent contractors or subcontractors of dealers in household appliances, such as room air conditioners, clothes dryers, dishwashers, freezers, garbage disposals, refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, water heaters, and similar appliances while installing and connecting such appliances to an existing electrical receptacle. An individual who is installing a nonelectrical system. An individual who is installing a power limited system that is installed within a residential dwelling or is installed with a factory connector or cord powered by an existing electrical receptacle.

Changes to Article 24.1-01 General Administration

24.1-03-01-01 Application, examination, and annual license fees- changed or added language.

The application fees are as follows:

a. Master license	\$50.00
b. Journeyman license	\$25.00
c. Class B license	\$40.00
d. Apprentice registration	\$10.00
e. Power limited license	\$50.00
f. Power limited apprentice registration	\$10.00

Effective November 1, 2020, annual renewals shall be submitted electronically through the board's website.

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Effective July 1, 2024 inspection fees shall be as follows: - revised to create a balanced NDSEB budget.

Job Cost:	Inspection Fee:
• Up to \$500.00	\$50.00 (minimum fee)
• \$500.00 to \$20,000.00	\$50.00 for the first \$500.00 plus 2% on balance up to \$20,000.00
• Over \$20,000.00	\$440.00 for the first \$20,000.00 plus 1/10 of 1% on balance over \$20,000.00

24.1-06-01-40 Smoke alarms, heat alarms, fire alarm systems and carbon monoxide alarm requirements for evacuation and life safety – clarifies who can install these alarms.

Alarm systems stated in this section shall be installed in accordance with the locally adopted codes or North Dakota State Building Code and state fire code under the supervision of a master or class B electrician.

To Summarize

House Bill 1157 created a Power Limited Electrician (PLE) – we're currently working on administrative rules for the recent legislative session which will tentatively become effective July 1, 2020.

Power Limited Electrician (PLE)

1. Tradesman certificate may qualify for licensure.
2. 6,000 hours to write exam for PLE in not less than 2 ½ years.
3. 8 hours of CEU's per year required.
4. \$50/annual license or renewal for Power Limited Electrician Contracting, Power Limited Electrician of Record and Non-Contracting Power Limited Electrician.

License required when doing work in NEC Special Occupancies articles 500-517. Ratio is same as electricians - 1 PLE to 3 PLAs. When filing a wiring certificate, all PLE work in Special Occupancies articles 500-517 shall be included in the job cost. Fire alarm systems to be installed under the supervision of a master or class B electrician only.

Electrical contractors must include power limited work in Special Occupancies articles 500-517 as part of their wiring certificate and the NDSEB will inspect that work. The PLE work must be included in the job cost and done by licensed individuals.

The board is significantly reducing wiring certificate fees starting July 1, 2020 for three years and then starting July 1, 2024, implementing a fee structure that is more in line with current electrical job costs.

If you have any questions about these rule changes, please call the NDSEB office at 701-328-9522.

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The license and registration or annual renewal fees are as follows:

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| a. Master license | \$50.00 | Expires April 30 th |
| b. Journeyman license | \$25.00 | Expires March 31 st |
| c. Class B license | \$40.00 | Expires April 30 th |
| d. Apprentice registration | \$10.00 | Expires January 31 st |
| e. Power limited license | \$50.00 | Expires April 30 th |
| f. Power limited apprentice registration | \$10.00 | Expires January 31 st |

Expired licenses and registrations shall require a reinstatement fee equal to the annual fee.

24.1-03-01-03 Journeyman electrician – revised text to allow the board to approve apprentice programs.

A journeyman electrician.... Practical electrical experience gained through a contracting master electrician shall also consist of an apprentice completing a board approved training program.

24.1-03-01-05 Power limited electrician (PLE) – new text to add PLE licensure,

A power limited electrician shall have completed six thousand hours experience, which experience may not be obtained in less than two and one half years, registered as a power limited apprentice electrician under the supervision of a contracting master, master of record, contracting power limited or a power limited of record electrician. Experience must be obtained where power limited electrical construction work is done in a jurisdiction with similar licensing and inspection rules of the state of North Dakota. The board may also approve licenses based on power limited education or a board approved tradesman certification. Classification types of a power limited electrician shall be defined by the board. There are three categories of power limited electricians, which are as follows:

- A **contracting power limited electrician** is an individual responsible to adhere to all laws and rules of the North Dakota wiring standards and has shown proof of liability insurance.
- A **power limited electrician of record** is an individual responsible to adhere to all laws and rules of the North Dakota wiring standards for the partnership, company, corporation, limited liability company, or association and has shown proof of liability insurance that the power limited electrician of record is covered by the organization. The power limited electrician of record is not allowed to work on other property other than property owned or leased by the organization.
- A **non-contracting power limited electrician** is an individual responsible to adhere to all laws and rules of the North Dakota wiring standards. Power limited electrical work shall be done under the supervision of a contracting master, master of record or a contracting power limited electrician or a power limited electrician of record.

24.1-03-01-06 Provisional military spouse licensure – new military licensure created by legislature (see NDCC 43-51-11.1).

24.1-03-01-07 Apprentice electrician – revised text to allow the board to approve apprentice programs.

Apprentice electricians who have successfully completed five hundred seventy-six hours of training classes recognized by the board.

24.1-03-01-08 Power limited apprentice electrician (PLA) – new apprentice registration added.

A power limited apprentice electrician shall meet the following requirements to be eligible for examination:

1. A power limited apprentice shall be registered with the board under the same classification as the power limited electrician whom the apprentice will be working and have completed 6,000 hours of work experience under the direct supervision of a power limited electrician; or
2. A power limited apprentice shall possess a valid board recognized tradesman certification. An applicant who has prior experience outside of the state of North Dakota may take a placement examination to verify the practical experience obtained in order to apply credit toward the verification of hours. If the applicant fails the placement examination, the applicant is ineligible to retake the examination. An appeal may be submitted in writing to the board within 30 days.

A power limited apprentice electrician who has not complied as stated in subdivision 1 or 2 is not eligible to take the power limited electrician license examination. If the individual receives a license from another state based on the verification that the majority of practical experience was obtained in the state of North Dakota, the individual will not be eligible for examination for licensure or a reciprocal license.

24.1-03-01-09. Supervision and responsibilities – requirements the same for a power limited electrician.

Contractors shall maintain records of all individuals who are or will be performing electrical or power limited work for that contractor and shall permit the board to examine and copy all such records as required by this section. It is the responsibility of the master, class B or power limited electrician to ensure all individuals who are or will be performing electrical or power limited work for that contractor either be licensed electricians or registered apprentices with the board. Credit will not be given for hours spent working under a power limited electrician to any applicant for a master, journeyman or class B electrician license.

Maintenance personnel regularly employed by the owner or property manager may maintain or make minor repairs to existing electrical wiring devices and appliances but are precluded from extending or changing the characteristics of existing circuits, feeders, or other electrical apparatus.

24.1-04-01-01 Education requirements for licensure and renewal – revised text to require PLE continuing education.

No master, journeyman, power limited or class B electrician license will be renewed unless proof of eight continuing education hours have been submitted, of which a minimum of fifty percent of the hours shall be based on the 2020 edition, National Electrical Code. The remaining credits shall be subjects related to the electrical industry. Approval of the education curriculum is required by the board.

24.1-04-01-02 Class approvals – revised text to include all electrical education.

Classes, apprenticeship programs and instructors shall have prior approval by the board and shall be made no later than thirty days prior to class instruction. Board approval of continuing education classes and instructors accepted expires when the board adopts an updated edition of the National Electrical Code. Approved apprenticeship programs shall require a review at intervals set by the board.

24.1-04-01-04 Education advisory committee – new text to create a committee to vet education programs.

- The board shall direct the executive director to form an education advisory committee to review educational classes and programs required by the board.
- The committee shall develop minimum requirements in the area of study for the electrical education of individuals registered and licensed by the board.
- The committee shall review the approved classes and programs every five years or as necessary and submit a report to the board for final approval.
- The executive director shall preside over the committee meetings. The committee shall meet as deemed necessary but no less than once per year.
- Committee members' compensation shall be set by the board including mileage and travel as per NDCC 54-06-09.

The education advisory committee members may consist of individuals selected from the following categories:

- The executive director of the board
- The training administrator of the board
- A representative from a North Dakota college approved electrical degree program
- A representative from a North Dakota college approved off campus electrical correspondence/online program
- A North Dakota registered professional electrical engineer
- A North Dakota master electrician who is certified as an instructor through a vocational education department.
- A North Dakota journeyman electrician who is certified as an instructor through a vocational education department.
- A North Dakota power limited electrician who is certified as an instructor through a vocational education department.
- An individual having experience with an apprenticeship training program

24.1-05-01-01 Electrical certificates – revised text to include power limited work.

All electrical installations including power limited system installations defined by the National Electrical Code Special Occupancies articles 500-517 with a value of five hundred dollars or more, shall have an electrical wiring certificate submitted by the master, class B or power limited electrician supervising the installation on a form prescribed by the board. A project with multiple address locations shall require an electrical wiring certificate for each location.

24.1-05-01-02 Fees – revised to include PLE and restricted fee schedule.

The electrical and power limited systems inspection fee shall be based on the total amount of the contract or total cost to the owner including extras. This includes power limited systems in National Electrical Code Chapter 5 Special Occupancies articles 500-517. The contractor shall maintain all job related records for a minimum of four years and shall permit the board to examine and copy all such records as requested.

Effective July 1, 2020 inspection fees shall be as follows: revised fees to reduce reserves.

Job Cost:	Inspection Fee:
• Up to \$500.00	\$50.00 (minimum fee)
• \$500.00 to \$20,000.00	\$50.00 for the first \$500.00 plus 1.25% on balance up to \$20,000.00
• Over \$20,000.00	\$293.75 for the first \$20,000.00 plus 1/10 of 1% on balance over \$20,000.00

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