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Connections

NDSEB 2026 CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES

Spring is finally here and with license renewals finishing up at the end of April the last thing on electrician's minds is probably continuing education. I just want to put out a reminder to everyone not to wait until the last minute to get your class in. Anyone who has had to scramble to find a class, get it completed, and then wait for the provider to get it reported to our office would likely advise against letting it happen to you. I want to promote our upcoming NDSEB classes that will be starting at the end of May in Bismarck and Fargo, with two classes each month to follow across the state through January 2027. Our classes this year will be on the 2026 NEC Analysis of Changes in anticipation of the adoption of our updated ND Laws & Rules and the 2026 NEC later this year. Check our website www.ndseb.com in the coming weeks to see when the class dates and locations are posted. Registration opens in late April or early May and then you can get signed up for the location that works best for you. The classes in May through September typically are less attended than the ones from October to January. Consider attending one of the earlier classes for the smaller class size and more comfortable setting. Also your continuing education is completed and you'll have no issues at renewal time. Whatever provider you prefer for completing your continuing education requirement, I encourage you to get it completed early so you have it ready when renewal time comes around. Saves you from scrambling for a class or ending up with late fees because you couldn't renew on time. Happy spring everyone!

A Message From the Executive Director:



Hello, everyone!

I hope everyone is doing well! The NDSEB wants to welcome our newest employee Charles Schantz. Charles is the

inspector for newly created district 13 which is basically Dunn County. Charles has been an electrician for years and we want to welcome him aboard! Having Charles on board, now moves Justin Smestad to the Williston area (Williams County) changing district 15 to district 7. Go to our website for the latest district inspection map.

Our office has been working on hiring an elevator mechanic inspector for the State Electrical Board. As you all know, during the last legislative session the passage of Senate Bill 2336 was for the electrical board to start inspecting the operation of passenger conveyance equipment which includes passenger elevators, dumb waiters, escalators, freight elevators and other equipment of this nature.

This will be an additional line of responsibilities for the NDSEB. The new

inspection process will be implemented over the next few years. Agriculture areas such as grain elevators, one-two family dwellings, wind towers and industrial locations would be exempt. NDSEB will be seeking an elevator mechanic inspector who will oversee that newly created division of the ND State Electrical Board and there will be more to come on this subject as the process progresses.

Scott Halle is working diligently creating the NDSEB CEU classes for this next year so go to our website to sign up!

Like I said in the last newsletter, the board expended some funds for the inspectors to form a North Dakota Electrical Inspection Section (EIS) which is organized by NFPA. The ND-EIS is a non-profit organization, similar to the ND-IAEI organization. The ND-EIS will, in the future, hold training sessions for your CEU hours and other events as it gets off the ground. We'll keep you informed as we move forward with this new organization.

The administrative rules process is moving along nicely. The board approved the proposals at its March meeting and they have been sent to the

Attorney General's office for review. We're hoping for a July 1st implementatoin of the ND State Wiring Standards if all goes as planned which also includes adoption of the 2026 National Electrical Code.

The education committee has been working on reviewing and auditing the apprenticeship providers programs. Bismarck State College has submitted their 2-year electrical AAS degree program which is in review by the committee. The board did give the provisional one-year approval and BSC's program will be reviewed again this year.

Website: www.ndseb.com
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I hope you are looking forward to a great summer! ☺

I wish you enough,
James Schmidt

JON HOFFMAN, NDSEB BOARD MEMBER



Originally from Bottineau, ND. Jon served our country as a Meteorologist in the US Army for 3 years. He has been an Electric Operations Supervisor/Manager for Xcel Energy for 5 years with responsibility in the Dakotas and Southwestern Minnesota. After completion of the BSC Lineman Program, Jon served 5 years in the Southeastern United States as a storm response Lineman. He has been a lineman for 29 years which for 19 of them he lived in Gillette Wyoming. Being a Lineman has let him live in 5 different states, but he considers ND home. He served 3 years on the BSC Lineworker Advisory Board and is currently serving on the Midwest Line College Advisory Board in Des Moines, Iowa. Jon also served on The United Way of Cambell County Board for 12 years.

What are your hobbies? Snowshoeing and hiking, when I'm not spending time with my 2 grandchildren

What would be your dream vacation? Norway (I'm 97% Norwegian)

The best thing about North Dakota is...? All the amazing State Parks

What is the favorite part of your job? Escalated Operations/Damage Response

The best movie of all time is...? Forrest Gump

What do you like on your pizza? Canadian Bacon and Pineapple



NEWS & NOTES FROM NDSEB

EXAM APPLICATION GUIDELINES: Our office receives numerous exam applications that are incomplete. Below are guidelines to prevent your application from being returned or denied which will only delay your ability to take your exam.

- Read all instructions and complete all fields on the application.
- Sign and date page 2 of the application.
- If you have been convicted of a felony, provide detailed information such as when, where and what happened, what felony were you charged with, if time was served and if you are on or have completed probation.
- Application must be submitted with appropriate application fee; \$25 for Journeyman, \$50 for Master. Fee may be a check or money order if submitted by mail or by credit card over the phone after our office's receipt of application by email.

Journeyman Qualifications:

- Minimum of 8,000 hours of electrical construction experience under the supervision of a contracting master/master of record in a jurisdiction that regulates similar licensing and inspection rules as the state of North Dakota.
- Hours of experience must be verified on our Employment Verification and completed by the contracting master/master of record for your current and previous employer(s) who signs in the presence of a notary.
- Proof of completion of board approved education; training completion certificate or transcript (not a diploma) from electrical school.
 - 2,000 hours credit may be granted for a graduate of a board approved electrical school.
- Hours of experience may not be obtained in less than three (3) years registered as an apprentice.
- Any hours of experience obtained while not registered or renewed as an apprentice will be lost/deducted.

Master Qualifications:

- Minimum of one year and 2,000 hours of experience working as a licensed journeyman under the supervision of a contracting master/master of record.
- Hours of experience as a journeyman must be verified on our Employment Verification from the issue date of your journeyman license and completed by the contracting master/master of record for your current or previous employer(s) who signs in the presence of a notary.

Re-Exam for Journeyman or Master:

- Once waiting period provided in previous exam results has been met, submit completed and signed re-exam application with appropriate fee.
- Verification of hours and proof of completion of board approved education is not required for a re-exam.

Further information may be found on our website, www.ndseb.com, Licensing, or by contacting our office at 701-328-9522.

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE:

Every month we send out a memo if we haven't received an updated copy of your certificate of liability insurance. The memo is emailed to the email we have for the contracting master/master of record electrician, please make sure to check your emails. A copy of the updated insurance can be mailed into the office or emailed to electric@nd.gov.

The North Dakota State Electrical Board and the North Dakota Secretary of State are two separate agencies. Both of us need to have a copy of your liability insurance every year. We ask that you have your insurance company put the ND State Electrical Board as a certificate holder so we will automatically receive the latest insurance information.

**ND STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD
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