

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT[641]**

**Adopted and Filed**

**Rulemaking related to plumbing and mechanical systems licensure fees**

The Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing hereby rescinds Chapter 28, “Plumbing and Mechanical Systems Board—Licensure Fees,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new chapter with the same title.

*Legal Authority for Rulemaking*

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 105.4 and 105.9.

*State or Federal Law Implemented*

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 105.

*Purpose and Summary*

This rulemaking repromulgates Chapter 28 and implements Iowa Code chapter 105 in accordance with the goals of Executive Order 10 (January 10, 2023). The rulemaking establishes the fee schedule for all the various licenses, examinations, and other miscellaneous fees related to licensing. The rulemaking outlines when the licensing fees are prorated and establishes when the fees can be waived. This rulemaking is required by Iowa Code section 105.9 and is important to the industry because it ensures that the costs of obtaining and maintaining licensure are transparent.

*Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking*

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 10, 2024, as **ARC 7318C**. Public hearings were held on January 30 and 31, 2024, at 9:20 a.m. at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

*Adoption of Rulemaking*

This rulemaking was adopted by the Plumbing and Mechanical Systems Board on April 16, 2024.

*Fiscal Impact*

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa in an amount requiring a fiscal impact statement pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.4(4).

*Jobs Impact*

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

*Waivers*

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 481—Chapter 6.

*Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee*

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s

meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

*Effective Date*

This rulemaking will become effective on June 19, 2024.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 641—Chapter 28 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 28  
PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL SYSTEMS BOARD—LICENSURE FEES

**641—28.1(105) Fees.** All fees are nonrefundable.

**28.1(1)** Fees for three-year initial licenses are as follows:

- a. An apprentice license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(1) is \$50.
- b. A journey license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(2) is \$180.
- c. A master license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(3) is \$240.
- d. A medical gas pipe certificate as defined in rule 641—29.3(105) is \$75.
- e. An inactive license as defined in 641—subrules 29.2(5) and 29.2(6) is \$50.
- f. A contractor license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(4) is \$250.
- g. A special restricted license as defined in 641—subrules 29.2(8), 29.2(9), and 29.2(10) is \$50.
- h. Fees for all initial licenses issued for a period of less than three years will be prorated using a one-sixth deduction for each six-month period.

**28.1(2)** Fees for three-year reciprocal licenses or three-year licenses obtained by verification in accordance with 641—Chapter 35 are as follows:

- a. An apprentice license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(1) is \$50.
- b. A journey license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(2) is \$180.
- c. A master license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(3) is \$240.
- d. Fees for all reciprocal licenses or three-year licenses obtained by verification in accordance with 641—Chapter 35 issued for a period of less than three years will be prorated using a one-sixth deduction for each six-month period.

**28.1(3)** Fees for renewal of licenses are as follows:

- a. An apprentice license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(1) is \$50.
- b. A journey license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(2) is \$180.
- c. A master license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(3) is \$240.
- d. A medical gas pipe certificate as defined in rule 641—29.3(105) is \$75.
- e. An inactive license as defined in 641—subrules 29.2(5) and 29.2(6) is \$50. However, no fee is necessary for an inactive specialty license as defined in 641—subrule 23.8(3) so long as the person possessing the inactive specialty license remains actively licensed as an apprentice.
- f. A contractor license as defined in 641—subrule 29.2(4) is \$250.
- g. A special restricted license as defined in 641—subrules 29.2(8), 29.2(9), and 29.2(10) is \$50. However, no fee is necessary for an inactive specialty license as defined in 641—subrule 23.8(3) so long as the person possessing the inactive specialty license remains actively licensed as an apprentice.

**28.1(4)** The examination application fee is \$35.

**28.1(5)** A late fee for failure to renew before expiration is determined as follows:

- a. A licensee who does not timely renew but renews a license on or before the following July 31 may reinstate and renew the license upon payment of the appropriate renewal fee and without payment of a late fee.
- b. A licensee who does not timely renew but renews a license between the following August 1 and August 31 may reinstate and renew the license without examination upon payment of a \$60 late fee and the appropriate renewal of license fee.

*c.* A licensee who does not timely renew but renews a license after the following August 31 and on or before the following June 30 may reinstate and renew the license without examination upon payment of a \$100 late fee and the appropriate renewal of license fee.

**28.1(6)** Reserved.

**28.1(7)** The fee for written verification of licensee status is \$20.

**28.1(8)** The returned check fee is \$25.

**28.1(9)** The disciplinary hearing fee is a maximum of \$75.

**28.1(10)** The paper application fee is \$25 plus the appropriate license fee.

**28.1(11)** Combined license.

*a.* For purposes of this subrule, “combined license” means more than one active master, contractor, or journeyman license in one or multiple disciplines held by the same individual.

*b.* A license fee for a combined license is the sum total of each of the separate license fees as set forth in subrules 28.1(1) through 28.1(3) reduced by 30 percent.

*c.* Only individual licenses purchased in a single transaction are eligible for the combined licensee fee reduction.

**28.1(12)** The fee for combining an HVAC-refrigeration or hydronics license to a mechanical license is \$50. This fee does not apply at the time of reissue.

**28.1(13)** The fee for submitting a petition for eligibility determination as defined in 641—subrule 29.13(2) is \$25.

**641—28.2(105) Annual review of fee schedule.** Within 60 days following the end of each fiscal year, the board will submit a report to the general assembly in accordance with Iowa Code section 105.9(5) “*a.*”

**641—28.3(105) Waiver of fees.** Fee waivers are available under the following circumstances:

**28.3(1)** The board will waive any fee charged to an applicant for a license if the applicant’s household income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines and the applicant is applying for the license for the first time in this state.

**28.3(2)** For an applicant who has been honorably or generally discharged from federal active duty or national guard duty, the board will waive an initial application fee and one renewal fee if those fees would otherwise be charged within five years of the discharge.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 105.9.

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