

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT[661]

Notice of Intended Action

**Proposing rulemaking related to electrical education
and providing an opportunity for public comment**

The Electrical Examining Board hereby proposes to rescind Chapter 505, “Electrician and Electrical Contractor Licensing Program—Education,” Iowa Administrative Code, and to adopt a new chapter with the same name.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 103.6, 103.10, 103.12, 103.12A and 103.18.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 103.

Purpose and Summary

This rulemaking proposes repromulgation of Chapter 505. It implements Iowa Code chapter 103 in accordance with the goals and directives of Executive Order 10 (January 10, 2023). This rulemaking sets forth continuing education and program approval requirements for electricians and educational institutions. It includes an approval process for postsecondary electrical education programs; minimum requirements for contact hours, including lecture and laboratory hours; and minimum qualifications for instructors. The rulemaking also includes the required number of hours of continuing education that licensees are required to obtain, a process for continuing education course approval, and requirements for continuing education course approvals. The intended benefit of continuing education is to ensure that electricians and educational institutions maintain up-to-date practice standards and, as a result, provide high-quality services to Iowa licensees.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking does not have a 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 of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 481—Chapter 6.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rulemaking. Written comments in response to this rulemaking must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 14, 2024. Comments should be directed to:

Ashleigh Hackel
Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Email: ashleigh.hackel@dia.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

Public hearings at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

February 13, 2024
10:20 to 10:40 a.m.

6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
Video call link: meet.google.com/zuu-vunu-dcc
Or dial: 774.338.0928
PIN: 195 434 437#
More phone numbers:
[tel.meet/zuu-vunu-dcc?pin=9691567757424](tel:meet/zuu-vunu-dcc?pin=9691567757424)

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Persons who wish to make oral comments at a public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rulemaking.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs.

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).

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Rescind 661—Chapter 505 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 505
ELECTRICIAN AND ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
LICENSING PROGRAM—EDUCATION

DIVISION I
POSTSECONDARY ELECTRICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

661—505.1 to 505.100 Reserved.

661—505.101(103) Program approval.

505.101(1) Pursuant to Iowa Code sections 103.12 and 103.12A, an educational institution that plans to offer a postsecondary electrical education program to prepare students to be licensed by the board needs to first obtain approval from the board for the program before students participate in

the program. Separate approval is needed for a journeyman electrician program and for a residential electrician program.

505.101(2) The educational institution seeking approval is to apply to the board office on a form specified by the board. The application is to include a certification that the educational institution is currently accredited by a recognized regional or national educational accrediting organization.

505.101(3) Applications seeking initial approval of a journeyman electrician program or a residential electrician program are to be submitted to the board at least 60 days prior to student participation in the program.

505.101(4) The board may set times for periodic review of approved programs and can develop policies that address the following:

- a.* Requirements for the submission of applications.
- b.* Standards required for program approval.
- c.* Standards for withdrawal of approval or discontinuation of an approved program.
- d.* Standards for educational content and class attendance, qualifications for instructors, documentation and reporting needed to establish compliance with program requirements, and specification of degrees or diplomas awarded.

505.101(5) Information regarding approved postsecondary electrical education programs may be obtained by contacting the board office. A list of approved postsecondary electrical education programs and other information about postsecondary electrical education programs will be posted on the board's website.

661—505.102(103) Standards for postsecondary electrical education programs. The board will develop policies establishing the following minimum standards for an approved postsecondary electrical education program:

505.102(1) All necessary subject matter areas as published by the board and available on request from the board office and from the board website. Instruction is to include at least four hours of instruction on the Iowa electrical statute, Iowa Code chapter 103, with a minimum of one hour on Iowa electrical licensing requirements.

505.102(2) Minimum number of contact hours and necessary program attendance policies. Each approved program is to include 30 to 40 percent of contact hours that involve lecture, with all remaining hours consisting of laboratory or shop hours. A student cannot take the licensing examination until all contact hours and the specified number of hours of on-the-job training are completed.

a. A postsecondary electrical education program for a journeyman electrician license is to include at least 2,000 hours of instruction, with the student completing at least 6,000 hours of on-the-job training before the student will be eligible to take the journeyman electrician examination.

b. A postsecondary electrical education program for a residential electrician license is to include at least 1,000 hours of instruction, with the student completing at least 4,000 hours of on-the-job training before the student will be eligible to take the residential electrician examination.

505.102(3) Minimum qualifications for instructors which include:

- a.* Current licensing as an electrician, as set out in the board's policy; and
- b.* Compliance with standards set by the Iowa department of education for an instructor at a community college.

DIVISION II
CONTINUING EDUCATION

661—505.103 to 505.200 Reserved.

661—505.201(103) Continuing education requirements. Each holder of a three-year license is to complete 18 hours of continuing education approved by the board between the time of issuance of the license and prior to issuance of a renewal license.

EXCEPTION: A holder of a license in a category which may be issued for a three-year period whose license is issued for less than a three-year period only needs to complete six hours of continuing education prior to renewal of the license for each year or portion of a year for which the license has been issued.

661—505.202(103) Course approval.

505.202(1) Any person or institution that plans to offer continuing education courses to meet the requirements of rule 661—505.201(103) is to apply for approval to the board office on a form specified by the board.

505.202(2) Approval by the board should be obtained prior to a course's being offered to a licensee in order to meet the requirements of rule 661—505.201(103).

505.202(3) Applications for initial approval of a continuing education course are to be submitted to the board not less than 45 days prior to student participation in the course.

505.202(4) Approval of a continuing education course is normally for the duration of the three-year licensing period during which approval is received, although approval may be withdrawn for cause prior to the expiration of the licensing period.

505.202(5) Applications for renewal of approval of continuing education courses are to be submitted to the board at least 45 days prior to the expiration of the three-year licensing period. For purposes of this subrule, "renewal" may include the updating of course material in a course previously approved for delivery by the same instructor.

505.202(6) Information regarding approved continuing education courses may be obtained by contacting the board office. A list of approved continuing education courses will be posted on the board website.

661—505.203(103) Requirements for continuing education programs. A continuing education program can be approved by the board only if the following requirements are met:

505.203(1) The instructor or institution applying for approval of a continuing education course provides at least three letters from educational institutions or government agencies attesting to the instructor's knowledge of and qualifications to teach the subject matter of the course for which approval is sought.

505.203(2) Each instructor is responsible for:

- a.* Obtaining and verifying course approval prior to delivery of the course.
- b.* Facilitating auditing of the course by any board member or member of the staff of the board.
- c.* Issuing a certificate of completion to each student who completes the course.
- d.* Submitting a class roster, indicating which students completed the course, to the board office

within 30 days of completion of the course.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 103.