

# TITLE 11. CONSTRUCTION REGULATION - ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS

## Subtitle 1. Definitions; Scope of Title

### 11-101. Definitions.

(a) *In general.*

In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) *Board.*

"Board" means the Board of Electrical Examiners of Queen Anne's County.

(c) *Limited Electrician.*

"Limited Electrician" means a person who limits their electrical work to the installation of the maintenance and control wiring in no more than two (2) of the following categories of electrically operated equipment, system, or devices:

- (a) Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment, low voltage only.
- (b) Refrigeration equipment, low voltage only.
- (c) Display signs, low voltage only, Neon excluded.
- (d) Fire alarm or detection systems, low voltage only.
- (e) Communications, data, sound and television, low voltage only.

(d) *Low voltage.*

"Low voltage" means any voltage lower than 90 volts.

(e) *Master Electrician.*

"Master Electrician" means a person:

- (1) whose services are unlimited in the electrical trade; and
- (2) who has the experience, knowledge, and skill to install, repair, alter, and add to electrical wiring, fixtures, appliances, raceways, conduits, or any part of them that generates, transmits, transforms, or utilizes electrical energy in any form for light, heat, power or communication in a manner that complies with all plans, specifications, codes, laws and regulations applicable, including electrical installation and systems within plants and substations.

*Drafter's Note: Subsection (a) of this section is standard language added to a definitional section.*

*Subsection (b) of this section is new language added to explicitly defined "Board".*

*Subsection (c) of this section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., §5-201. Although "master electrician" was formerly defined for a single subtitle, it is redefined to apply throughout this title for accuracy.*

*The only changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§2-101 and 11-101*

## Subtitle 2. Board of Electrical Examiners

### 11-201. Board of Electrical Examiners.

#### (a) *Established.*

(1) The County Commissioners shall appoint a Board of Electrical Examiners of Queen Anne's County.

(2) The purpose of the Board is to examine the qualifications and capabilities of persons who are engaged, or desire to engage, in business as master or limited electrician.

#### (b) *Membership; qualifications.*

(1) The Board shall consist of three members.

(2) Each member of the Board shall be a competent master electrician of Queen Anne's County.

(3) Members of the Board shall be selected from a list of names recommended to the County Commissioners by the Queen Anne's County Board of Electrical Examiners.

(4) Each member appointed to the Board shall be a resident of the County and over the age of 21 years.

#### (c) *Oath.*

Before taking office, each member of the Board shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

#### (d) *Tenure; vacancies.*

(1) The term of a member of the Board is three years and the terms are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on June 1, 1985.

(2) If a vacancy occurs for any cause during the term of a Board member, the County Commissioners shall fill the vacancy from a list of at least two names recommended by the Queen Anne's County Board of Electrical Examiners.

(e) *Removal.*

The County Commissioners may remove any member of the Board for incompetency or improper conduct if satisfactory evidence is presented to the County Commissioners of such condition.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-101 and, as it related to the Constitutional oath, § 5-102.*

*In subsection (a) of this section, the former phrase 'in which event the provisions of this subtitle shall then become effective' is deleted as obsolete.*

*Subsection (c) of this section is revised to cite the relevant Constitutional provision and to conform to similar provisions in this Code.*

*The only other changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms. See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

11-202. *Officers; by-laws.*

(a) *Officers.*

The Board may elect a Chairman from among its members and such other officers as it deems necessary.

(b) *By-laws.*

The Board may adopt rules and by-laws for the transaction of the business of the Board as it considers expedient and proper.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the second sentence of the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-102.*

*The only changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

11-204. *Regulations.*

(a) *In general.*

(1) The Board shall adopt regulations for:

(i) the examination of master and limited electricians;

and

(ii) the placing, installing, and operation of electrical wiring, appliances, apparatus, or construction in, upon, and about buildings in the County.

(2) The regulations shall provide for the giving of timely notice of meetings to those who have applied for a license.

(b) *Legal effect.*

Regulations adopted under this section shall have the same force and effect as if contained herein.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-104, as it related to regulations of the Board.*

*In subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the former reference to "rules" are deleted in light of the word "regulations".*

*The only other changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

Subtitle 3. Master and Limited Electricians - Licensing Procedures

11-301. Electrician licenses.

(a) *Application - In general.*

(1) An individual who desires to be employed as a master or limited electrician in Queen Anne's County shall apply to the Board for the license examination.

(2) The Board shall provide the individual with the appropriate forms.

(b) *Required experience for Master Electrician's License.*

(1) An applicant for the master electrician's license examination must have been regularly and principally employed or engaged in electrical construction, maintenance, installation, and repair of all types of electrical equipment and apparatus for not less than seven years preceding the date of the application under the direction and supervision of a master electrician.

(2) For three of the seven years the applicant must have been actively in charge of electrical installation work.

(3) The Board may credit up to three years of formal course study or professional training in electrical installation if, in the opinion of the Board, the study or training provided comparable experience and training otherwise attainable under the supervision of a master electrician.

(c) *Application procedure.*

(1) Each application for the license examination shall be in writing on the forms provided by the Board and shall be accompanied by a fee set by the County Commissioners.

(2) An applicant shall file an application with the Board at least 45 days before the examination date.

(3) Following receipt of the application and the fee the Board may investigate the qualifications of the applicant, including the education and experience required by subsection (b) of this section.

(4) The Board shall notify the applicant of eligibility for examination at least 15 days before the examination.

(5) Any applicant who fails to appear for a scheduled examination and still desires to take the examination shall file a new application and pay a new fee. The Board may waive this requirement for good cause.

(d) *Examination.*

(1) The Board shall hold license examinations quarterly on dates designated by the Board.

(2) The license examination shall require knowledge of all applicable codes or other rules, laws, or principles of electrical installations.

(3) The questions shall be obtained from a list of questions submitted by the Maryland Uniform Electrical Licensing Examination Committee, Inc.

(e) *Passing Grade.*

(1) Each applicant shall take and pass the objective written examination to determine their fitness for a master or limited electrician license.

(2) The passing grade for the examination shall be 70%.

(3) The notice of the examination shall specify the passing grade.

(f) *Licensure.*

(1) Within 45 days after the examination, the Board shall inform the applicant, in writing, whether or not the applicant passed the application.

(2) If the applicant passed, the Board shall issue a license, subject to compliance by the applicant with the requirements of § 11-304 of this subtitle.

(3) The license shall be issued only in the personal name of the licensee or to a licensee as a qualified agent assigned to a single person, firm or corporation by which the licensee is principally employed.

(g) *Appeals.*

(1) If the Board rejects an applicant's application for an electrician's license, the applicant may appeal to a Board of Arbitration.

(2) The Board of Arbitration shall consist of three members; one person selected by the applicant; one person selected by the Board; and a third person selected by the two persons named to the Board of Arbitration by the applicant and Board, respectively.

(3) The decision of the majority of the Board of Arbitration shall be final and binding on all parties to the appeal.

(4) The members of the Board of Arbitration shall be paid \$25 each, the total of which shall be deposited with the Board by the applicant.

(5) If the Board of Arbitration affirms the decision of the Board, the money deposited shall be used to pay the Board of Arbitration members.

(6) If the Board's decision is reversed the Board of Arbitration members shall be paid \$25 each by the County, and the deposit shall be returned to the applicant.

(7) The applicant shall still be responsible for the application fee.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Law of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-202(a) through (g) as amended by Ch. 49, Acts of the General Assembly, 1990.*

*In subsection (g)(6) of this section, the reference to payment by "the County" is substituted for the former reference to the "Treasurer of Queen Anne's County" to reflect the abolishment of the Treasurer's position by County Ordinance 92-09.*

*The only other changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See 2-101 and 11-101.*

#### 11-304. Insurance requirements.

(a) *In general.*

A person may not be licensed as a master or limited electrician under this subtitle unless the person carries general liability insurance in an amount of at least \$300,000 and property damage insurance in an amount of at least \$100,000.

(b) *Proof.*

An applicant for the issuance or renewal of a license shall furnish the Board with proof that the insurance has been obtained before the Board shall issue or renew the license.

(c) *Notice of cancellation.*

Within ten days of the cancellation date, a person licensed as an electrician shall forward to the Board any notice of cancellation of the master electrician's general liability insurance.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-202(j).*

*The only changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

Subtitle 4. Licenses

11-402. Display of license.

A person granted a license shall be issued a card and they shall carry it on their person at all times while engaged in any work under said license.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-304.*

*The only changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

Subtitle 5. Miscellaneous Provisions

11-502. Wiring; cut-in certificates.

(a) *Electrical hookups.*

An electric light or power company may not attach its power lines or an electric meter to any consumer's property within the County:

(1) unless:

(i) the building was wired before June 1, 1959; or

(ii) the electrical work has been installed by a master electrician licensed under this title; and

(2) until a temporary or permanent meter cut-in certificate has been issued by an inspection agency or a department designated by the County Commissioners.

(b) *Meter cut-in certificate.*

(1) The designated agency or department shall issue a meter cut-in certificate.

(2) The certificate shall be sent to the power or electric company furnishing the electricity for the consumer's property.

(c) *Special permits.*

Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the Board may issue a special permit for an attachment to a contractor needing electricity during construction, and the electric light or power company may provide service upon presentation of the special permit.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-401.*

*In the introductory language of subsection (a) of this section, the former implementation date, "[a]fter June 1, 1959" is deleted as obsolete.*

*In subsection (a)(1)(ii) of this section, the word "electrical" is added to modify "work" for clarity. Similarly, in subsection (c) of this section, the introductory phrase, "[n]otwithstanding subsection (a) of this section," is added for clarity.*

*The only other changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See 2-101 and 11-101.*

Subtitle 6. Prohibited Acts; Penalties

11-601. Prohibited activities.

Any person who practices or engages, or continues in the work of a master or limited electrician without having complied with all the provisions of this title and any person not licensed as a master or limited electrician, who does or performs any such work except under the direction of a master or limited electrician, and any person having been licensed as a master or limited electrician but fails to renew the license, and does or performs any such work, or who violates any of the provisions of this title, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-501, as it related to prohibited activities.*

*The only changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

11-602. Penalties.

(a) *In general.*

A person convicted under § 11-601 of this subtitle is subject to a fine of not less than \$250 but not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or both.

(b) *Annulment of license.*

Any conviction under this subtitle shall automatically annul a license issued to the person convicted.

*Drafter's Note: This section is derived from the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., § 5-501, as it related to penalties.*

*In subsection (a) of this section, the former phrase, "in the discretion of the court" is deleted as implicit.*

*In subsection (b) of this section, the reference to "automatically annul [a license]" is substituted for the former reference "ipso facto revoke and annul" for brevity.*

*The only other changes are stylistic.*

*Defined terms: See §§ 2-101 and 11-101.*

Drafter's Note to title: Former § 5-602 of the Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, 1983 ed., which was a severability provision, is deleted as unnecessary in light of § 3-107 of this Code. Throughout this title, numerous stylistic changes are made for clarity or for consistency with other titles of this Code. However, no substantive changes are intended.