

The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners provides the following general descriptions of certain changes to the Plumbing License Law. The list does not represent the full text of the House or Senate bills which affected the changes. To view the full text and all changes made, click the bill number link or go to [Texas Legislature Online](#)

**New Training and Examination Requirements Passed During the 81<sup>st</sup> Reg. Legislative Session**

Change	Effective Date	Bill Number	Comments
<p><b>Tradesman Plumber-Limited Examination</b> Plumber's Apprentice must complete 24 hours classroom training prior to qualifying for examination, unless the individual is enrolled in good standing with a Plumber's Apprenticeship program approved by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.</p>	<p>Upon implementation  (See <b>Note 1</b> on page 2)</p>	<p><a href="#">HB 1758</a></p>	<p>The Training Committee met on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the type of training needed to meet this requirement. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Board on October 12, 2009.</p>
<p><b>Journeyman Plumber Examination</b> Plumber's Apprentice must complete 48 hrs classroom training prior to qualifying for examination, unless the individual is enrolled in good standing with a Plumber's Apprenticeship program approved by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.</p>	<p>Upon implementation  (See <b>Note 1</b> on page 2)</p>	<p><a href="#">HB 1758</a></p>	<p>The Training Committee met on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the type of training needed to meet this requirement. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Board on October 12, 2009.</p>
<p><b>Journeyman and Tradesman Examination</b> Plumber's Apprentice may request to substitute approved classroom training for some of the hours of work experience required for examination.</p>	<p>Upon implementation</p>	<p><a href="#">HB 1758</a></p>	<p>The Training Committee met on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. This item is under consideration.</p>
<p><b>Journeyman and Tradesman Examination</b> Plumber's Apprentice who receives an associate of applied science degree from an approved plumbing technology program qualifies to take the Journeyman or Tradesman Examination</p>	<p>Upon implementation</p>	<p><a href="#">HB 1758</a></p>	<p>The Training Committee met on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. This item is pending more information.</p>

<p><b>Master Plumber Examination</b> Before qualifying for the Master examination, individuals must hold a Journeyman Plumber license for four years, or one year if the individual has completed a training program approved by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and the TSBPE Board.</p>	<p>January 1, 2010  (See <b>Note 1</b> on page 2)</p>	<p><a href="#">SB 1354</a></p>	
<p><b>Drain Cleaner, Drain Cleaner-Restricted, Residential Utility Installer</b> At least six hours of Board approved training required each year for registration renewal.</p>	<p>Applicants who submit renewal applications on or after January 1, 2010, must complete 6 hours of CPE</p>	<p><a href="#">SB 1354</a></p>	<p>TSBPE Board met on July 13, 2009 and approved the current 6 hour CPE programs to meet this requirement. <a href="#">CPE Providers</a></p>
<p><b>Multipurpose Residential Fire Protection Sprinkler Specialist</b> A new endorsement which authorizes Journeyman and Master Plumbers who hold the endorsement to install multipurpose residential fire sprinklers. Requires completion of a training course approved by the Board and passage of an examination administered by the Board.</p>	<p>Rules to be adopted by February 1, 2010  Examinations begin by March 1, 2010</p>	<p><a href="#">SB 1410</a></p>	<p>The Examination Committee met on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and began work on implementation of this legislation and will be reporting to the Board on October 12, 2009.</p>

**Note 1** Applications for Tradesman Plumber-Limited, Journeyman Plumber and Master Plumber examinations received prior to the effective date, from fully qualified individuals who meet all current requirements, will be accepted under current requirements.

**Additional Revisions to the Plumbing License Law, 81<sup>st</sup> Regular Legislative Session**

Change	Effective Date	Bill Number	Comments
<p><b>Municipalities and other political subdivisions which require plumbing permits</b> must accept permit applications, permit fees and issue permits by telephone, fax or email.</p>	<p>September 1, 2009</p>	<p><a href="#">SB 1354</a></p>	
<p><b>Municipalities and other political subdivisions which require persons to register</b> before performing plumbing work may not require a person to pay a plumbing registration fee or administrative fee. The plumbing contractor must register electronically or in person.</p>	<p>September 1, 2009</p>	<p><a href="#">SB 1354</a></p>	

<p><b>Municipalities and other political subdivisions which require drawings of proposed plumbing work</b> must specify how the drawings must be submitted.</p>	September 1, 2009	<a href="#">SB 1354</a>	
<p><b>Municipalities and other political subdivisions which require plumbing permits</b> must verify through the Board's Internet website, or by contacting the board by telephone, that the plumbing contractor has a certificate of insurance on file with the Board.</p>	September 1, 2009	<a href="#">SB 1354</a>	May be verified at <a href="http://www.tsbpe.state.tx.us/license_registration.asp">http://www.tsbpe.state.tx.us/license_registration.asp</a> by entering the name or license number of the Responsible Master Plumber for the plumbing company.
<p><b>Plumbing inspections in a municipality that overlaps another political subdivision</b> If the boundaries of a municipality and another political subdivision overlap, only the affected municipality may perform a plumbing inspection and collect a permit fee.</p>	September 1, 2009	<a href="#">SB 1354</a>	
<p><b>Municipalities may not require residential fire sprinklers in one or two family dwellings</b> After January 1, 2009, a municipality may not enact an ordinance, bylaw, order, building code, or rule requiring the installation of a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler system or any other fire sprinkler protection system in a new or existing one- or two-family dwelling.</p>	September 1, 2009	<a href="#">SB 1410</a>	Such ordinances, etc. enacted prior to January 1, 2009, remain valid.
<p><b>Non-applicability of law governing cancellation of certain transactions</b> Chapter 601, Business &amp; Commerce Code, does not apply to a good or service provided by a license holder under the Plumbing License Law, if the transaction involving the good or service is initiated by the consumer. Chapter 601, Business &amp; Commerce Code, does apply to a transaction that involves a breach of express warranty or a negligent installation in violation of a building code applicable to the good or service sold to the consumer.</p>	Immediately	<a href="#">HB 3129</a>	<a href="#">Chapter 601, Business and Commerce Code</a>