PLUMBING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS



Customer Assistance Bulletin #14

When is a license not required?

STATE OF TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE TITLE 8, CHAPTER 1301, SUBCHAPTER B. EXEMPTIONS

Sec. 1301.051, PLUMBING BY PROPERTY OWNER IN HOMESTEAD.

A property owner is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform plumbing in the property owner's homestead.

Sec. 1301.052. WORK INSIDE OR OUTSIDE MUNICIPALITIES.

A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform plumbing, other than plumbing performed in conjunction with new construction, on a property that is:

- (1) located in a subdivision or on a tract of land that is not required to be platted under Section 232.0015, Local Government Code; or
- (2) not connected to a public water system and is located outside a municipality, or
- (3) located outside a municipality and connected to a public water system that does not require a license to perform plumbing; or
- (4) inside a municipality with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, unless an ordinance of the municipality requires the person to be licensed.
 - (A) has fewer than 5,000 inhabitants; and
 - (B) by municipal ordinance has authorized a person who is not licensed under this chapter to perform plumbing.

Sec. 1301.053. WORK INCIDENTAL TO OTHER PROFESSIONS.

- (a) A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform:
 - (1) plumbing incidental to and in connection with the business in which the person is employed or engaged if the person:
 - (A) is regularly employed as or acting as a maintenance person or maintenance engineer; and
 - (B) does not engage in plumbing for the public;
 - (2) construction, installation, or maintenance on the premises or equipment of a railroad if the person is an employee of the railroad who does not engage in plumbing for the public;
 - (3) plumbing if the person is engaged by a public service company to:
 - (A) lay, maintain, or operate its service mains or lines to the point of measurement; and
 - (B) install, change, adjust, repair, remove, or renovate appurtenances, equipment, or appliances;
 - (4) appliance installation and service work that involves connecting appliances to existing openings with a code-approved appliance connector if the person performs the work as an appliance dealer or an employee of an appliance dealer; or
 - (5) water treatment installations, exchanges, services, or repairs.
- (b) Work described by this section is subject to inspection and approval as provided by applicable state law or municipal ordinance.

Sec. 1301.054. IRRIGATORS AND WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLERS.

A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform plumbing if the person holds a:

- (1) certificate of registration as an irrigator issued under Chapter 1903; or
- (2) license as a water well pump installer issued under Chapter 1902. 4

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SUBCHAPTER B. EXEMPTIONS CONTINUED

Sec. 1301.055. LP GAS INSTALLERS.

A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform LPG system installation if the person performs the LPG system installation as an LP gas installer licensed under Subchapter D, Chapter 113, Natural Resources Code.

Sec. 1301.056. LAWN IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

A person licensed by the board is not required to be licensed by another board or agency to install or work on a lawn irrigation system.

Sec. 1301.057. SELF-HELP PROJECT.

- (a) A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to perform plumbing, limited to the provision of a residential potable water supply or residential sanitary sewer connection, for a project that:
 - (1) is in a county a part of which is within 50 miles of an international border; and
 - (2) is performed by an organization that:
 - (A) is certified by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission to provide self-help project assistance; and
 - (B) provides the board with the following information before the 30th day before the date the project begins:
 - (i) the exact location of the project;
 - (ii) the intended duration of the project; and
 - (iii) other information the board requires.
- (b) The board may require under Subsection (a)(2)(B)(iii) that the organization provide a post-construction report signed by a plumbing inspector stating that the plumbing is safe.
- (c) The board may provide training to an organization that provides self-help project assistance under this section.

Sec. 1301.058. TESTING OF MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM PIPING.

A person is not required to be licensed under this chapter to verify medical gas and vacuum piping integrity and content.