

Senate Bill 553

By: Senators Hatchett of the 50th, Walker III of the 20th, Cowsert of the 46th, Brass of the 6th, Payne of the 54th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and  
2 businesses, so as to repeal Chapter 14, relating to electrical contractors, plumbers,  
3 conditioned air contractors, low voltage contractors, and utility contractors, and enact a new  
4 Chapter 14; to provide for the State Construction Industry Licensing Board; to provide for  
5 the Division of Electrical Contractors; to provide for the Division of Master Plumbers; to  
6 provide for the Division of Conditioned Air Contractors; to provide for the Division of Low  
7 Voltage Contractors; to provide for the Division of Utility Contractors; to provide for  
8 membership, powers, and duties of each; to provide for licensure or certification within the  
9 fields of plumbing, electrical, air conditioning, low voltage, and utility contracting; to  
10 provide for application; to provide for requirements for licensure or certification; to provide  
11 for recertification; to provide for continuing education; to provide for prohibitions; to provide  
12 for exceptions; to provide for reciprocity; to provide for licensing or certification of current  
13 or former members of the military; to provide for a misdemeanor; to provide for definitions;  
14 to provide for legislative intent; to provide for conformity with federal law; to amend Code  
15 Section 48-7-38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to deduction for  
16 payments to classified subcontractors, disclosure of tax returns, and maintenance of list of  
17 classified subcontractors, so as to provide for a definition; to provide for related matters; to  
18 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

20 **SECTION 1.**

21 Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and businesses,  
22 is amended by adding a new paragraph to subsection (d) of Code Section 43-1-34, relating  
23 to licenses for transitioning members of the armed forces, to read as follows:

24 "(5) The provisions of this subsection shall be cumulative to those provided in 50 U.S.C.  
25 Section 4025a, and nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted as limiting or imposing  
26 additional obligations on portability pursuant to 50 U.S.C. Section 4025a."

27 **SECTION 2.**

28 Said title is further amended by repealing Chapter 14, relating to electrical contractors,  
29 plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low voltage contractors, and utility contractors, and  
30 enacting a new Chapter 14 to read as follows:

31 "CHAPTER 14

32 43-14-1.

33 This chapter is enacted for the purpose of safeguarding homeowners, other property  
34 owners, tenants, and the general public against faulty, inadequate, inefficient, or unsafe  
35 electrical, plumbing, low voltage wiring, utility contracting, or conditioned air installations.  
36 The practices of electrical contracting, plumbing contracting, low voltage contracting,  
37 utility contracting, and conditioned air contracting are declared to be businesses or  
38 professions affecting the public interest; and this chapter shall be liberally construed so as  
39 to accomplish the purposes stated in this Code section.

40 43-14-2.

41 As used in this chapter, the term:

42 (1) 'Alarm system' means any device or combination of devices used to detect a situation,  
43 causing an alarm in the event of a burglary, fire, robbery, medical emergency, or  
44 equipment failure, or on the occurrence of any other predetermined life safety event.  
45 Such term shall also include any alarm system communication system used or required  
46 to transmit notice of a life safety or intrusion event to a local or remote monitoring  
47 facility.

48 (2) 'Board' means the State Construction Industry Licensing Board.

49 (3) 'Conditioned air contracting' means the installation, repair, or service of conditioned  
50 air systems or conditioned air equipment, which includes, but is not limited to, the service  
51 to or installation of the electrical circuit from the electrical distribution panel to the  
52 conditioned air equipment, provided that the electrical service to the building or site is  
53 a single-phase electrical circuit not exceeding 200 amperes performed by conditioned air  
54 contractors licensed under this chapter.

55 (4) 'Conditioned air contractor' means any person engaged in conditioned air contracting  
56 under express or implied contract or that bids for, offers to perform, purports to have the  
57 capacity to perform, or does perform conditioned air contracting services under express  
58 or implied contract.

59 (5) 'Conditioned Air Contractor Class I' means any individual licensed under this chapter  
60 to conduct business as a Residential and Light Commercial entity for air conditioning and  
61 heat pump systems of 60,000 BTUs of cooling or less, and for gas heating systems of  
62 175,000 BTUs or less. The scope of practice for a Conditioned Air Contractor Class I  
63 shall include, but is not limited to, the business of permitting jobs, bidding on projects,  
64 and performing maintenance, service, and repairs of equipment and components, as well  
65 as installing new equipment and components, including ductwork, refrigerant lines, gas  
66 pipng, controls, and accessories.

67 (6) 'Conditioned Air Contractor Class II' means any individual licensed under this  
68 chapter to conduct business as a residential and commercial entity, without limitations  
69 or restrictions on project size or equipment types, except for the installation of boilers,  
70 which is licensed under the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire.  
71 The scope of practice for a Conditioned Air Contractor Class II shall include, but is not  
72 limited to, the design, bidding, permitting, and the performance of maintenance, service,  
73 and repairs of equipment and components, as well as the installation of new and  
74 replacement systems, including split air conditioning and heat pump systems, package  
75 units, variable refrigerant flow systems, chillers, ventilation systems, and all associated  
76 components.

77 (7) 'Conditioned air equipment' means heating and air conditioning equipment covered  
78 under state codes and the fuel gas piping system on the outlet side of the gas meter.

79 (8) 'Electrical contracting' means the installation, maintenance, alteration, or repair of  
80 any electrical equipment, apparatus, control system, or electrical wiring device which is  
81 attached to or incorporated into any building or structure in this state but shall not include  
82 low voltage contracting.

83 (9) 'Electrical contractor' means any individual licensed under this chapter as Electrical  
84 Contractor Class I or Electrical Contractor Class II by the Division of Electrical  
85 Contractors, engaged in the business of electrical contracting under express or implied  
86 contract or that bids for, offers to perform, purports to have the capacity to perform, or  
87 does perform electrical contracting services under express or implied contract.

88 (10) 'Electrical Contractor Class I' means any individual licensed under this chapter by  
89 the Division of Electrical Contractors to perform work as an electrical contractor on  
90 residential multifamily structures of not more than two levels or single-family dwellings  
91 of up to three levels, provided that structures shall have single-phase electrical  
92 installations which do not exceed 400 amperes at the service drop or the service lateral.

93 (11) 'Electrical Contractor Class II' means any individual licensed under this chapter by  
94 the Division of Electrical Contractors to perform work as an electrical contractor without  
95 restriction, including, but not limited to, the installation of raceway systems, including  
96 pull boxes, junction boxes, conduit bodies, service entrances, metering devices, cabinets,  
97 switchboards, service risers, and fasteners, overcurrent protective devices, disconnecting  
98 means, ground electrodes, main bonding jumpers, ground fault protectors, switches,  
99 disconnects, and controls that supply lighting fixtures, appliances, electrical circuits,  
100 controls for heating and air conditioning equipment, and other utilization and general use  
101 equipment, according to installation requirements set by the state minimum standard  
102 codes, the National Electrical Code, and any successor code.

103 (12) 'Executive director' means the executive director of the State Construction Industry  
104 Licensing Board.

105 (13) 'Full-time experience' means working at least 2,000 hours in a calendar year in a  
106 qualifying capacity, with each 2,000 hours of documented work equating to one year of  
107 experience for purposes of licensure or qualifications requirements.

108 (14) 'General low voltage system' means any electrical system, other than an alarm or  
109 telecommunications system, that involves low voltage wiring and consists of a group or  
110 combination of interconnected components functioning together to perform a specific  
111 purpose using low voltage power or signaling, including devices, wiring, control  
112 equipment, software, and network connections operating as a single, integrated system.

113 (15) 'Journeyman plumber' means any individual licensed under this chapter by the  
114 Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers who engages in the installation,  
115 maintenance, alteration, or repair of piping, fixtures, and appliances, including water  
116 heaters, and all appurtenances thereto, in connection with sanitary drainage systems,  
117 storm drainage systems, venting systems, fuel gas piping systems on the outlet side of  
118 tanks or gas meters, or public or private water supply systems, whether located within or  
119 adjacent to any building, structure, conveyance, or manhole under the direction of a

120 plumbing contractor. A journeyman plumber shall have the ability to install or service  
121 a single phase of the electrical connection between the electrical disconnect and water  
122 heater, plumbing appliance or appurtenance, provided that the work performed adheres  
123 to the state minimum standard plumbing code, and state minimum standard fuel gas code.  
124 (16) 'License' means a valid license or certification issued by a division of the board,  
125 which authorizes the named person to engage in the activity prescribed thereon.  
126 (17) 'Low voltage contracting' means the installation, alteration, service, or repair of a  
127 power limited or signal based system that utilizes low voltage wiring and components to  
128 transmit information, control devices, or monitor conditions. Such term shall not include  
129 electrical power distribution systems.  
130 (18) 'Low voltage contractor' means any person licensed under this chapter by the  
131 Division of Low Voltage Contractors who purports to have the capacity to perform, or  
132 does perform low voltage contracting services under express or implied contract,  
133 including the installation, alteration, servicing, or repair of integrated systems made up  
134 of wiring, devices, software, and networked components that function together as a  
135 complete solution.  
136 (19) 'Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-A' means any individual licensed under this  
137 chapter by the Division of Low Voltage Contractors to perform work restricted to alarm  
138 systems and general low voltage systems.  
139 (20) 'Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-G' means any individual licensed under this  
140 chapter by the Division of Low Voltage Contractors to perform work restricted to general  
141 low voltage systems.  
142 (21) 'Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-T' means any individual licensed under this  
143 chapter by the Division of Low Voltage Contractors to perform work restricted to  
144 telecommunications systems and general low voltage systems.  
145 (22) 'Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-U' means any individual licensed under this  
146 chapter by the Division of Low Voltage Contractors to engage in low voltage contracting

147 without limitation as to specialty or system type, and who is authorized to design, install,  
148 alter, service, repair, and maintain all low voltage systems, including general low voltage  
149 systems, alarm and life-safety systems, and telecommunications systems for voice, data,  
150 and network infrastructure, based on demonstrated competence across multiple low  
151 voltage disciplines.

152 (23) 'Low voltage wiring' means wiring systems and associated control circuits which  
153 include, but are not limited to:

154 (A) Wiring systems of 50 volts or less;

155 (B) Wiring systems having a voltage in excess of 50 volts, provided such systems  
156 consist solely of power limited circuits meeting the definition of a Class II and Class  
157 III wiring system as defined in Article 725 of the National Electrical Code; or

158 (C) Line voltage wiring having a voltage not in excess of 300 volts to ground and  
159 installed from the load-side terminals of a suitable disconnecting means which has been  
160 installed for the specific purpose of supplying the low voltage wiring system involved  
161 or installed from a suitable junction box.

162 (24) 'Master Plumber Class I' means any individual licensed under this chapter by the  
163 Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers, who is authorized to perform  
164 plumbing work on residential single-family dwellings, townhomes, and multifamily  
165 dwellings, including duplexes, hotels, motels, and apartment buildings, not exceeding  
166 three stories in height, and on commercial buildings not exceeding 20,000 square feet in  
167 total building area.

168 (25) 'Master Plumber Class II' means any individual licensed under this chapter by the  
169 Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers, who is authorized to perform  
170 work and contract for all scopes of plumbing work, without limitation, as defined in the  
171 state minimum standard plumbing code and the state minimum standard fuel gas code.  
172 Such work shall include, but is not limited to, plumbing work on commercial buildings

173 of any size; industrial facilities; institutional occupancies; multistory structures of any  
174 occupancy classification; and specialized use facilities.

175 (26) 'Plumbing' means:

176 (A) The practice of installing, maintaining, altering, or repairing piping fixtures,  
177 appliances, and appurtenances in connection with sanitary drainage or storm drainage  
178 facilities, venting systems, medical gas piping systems, natural gas piping systems on  
179 the outlet side of gas meters, or public or private water supply systems within or  
180 adjacent to any building, structure, conveyance, or manhole; and

181 (B) The practice of and materials used in installing, maintaining, extending, or altering  
182 the natural gas, storm-water, sewerage, and water supply systems of any premises to  
183 their connection with any point of public disposal or other acceptable terminal.

184 (27) 'Plumbing contractor' means any person licensed under this chapter as a Master  
185 Plumber Class I or Master Plumber Class II by the Division of Master Plumbers and  
186 Journeyman Plumbers, who is engaged in the business of plumbing contracting, including  
187 bidding for, offering to perform, purporting to have the capacity to perform, or  
188 performing plumbing contracting services under an express or implied contract, and who  
189 is responsible for obtaining required permits, ensuring compliance with applicable codes,  
190 coordinating inspections, performing or correcting work as necessary, and securing final  
191 approval of permitted work. Such term shall not include a licensed journeyman plumber.

192 (28) 'Telecommunications system' means a system of transmission facilities, conductors,  
193 equipment, and associated apparatus used to convey voice, data, video, or other  
194 information by electromagnetic means, whether wired or wireless, consistent with  
195 telecommunications circuits and systems recognized under the state minimum standard  
196 codes, including systems capable of local or remote monitoring, management, or  
197 administration through secured access.

198 (29) 'Utility contracting' means undertaking to construct, erect, alter, or repair or have  
199 constructed, erected, altered, or repaired any utility system.

200 (30) 'Utility contractor' means a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation licensed  
201 under this chapter by the Division of Utility Contractors which is engaged in utility  
202 contracting under express or implied contract or which bids for, offers to perform,  
203 purports to have the capacity to perform, or does perform utility contracting under  
204 express or implied contract.

205 (31) 'Utility foreman' means any individual certified under this chapter by the Division  
206 of Utility Contractors who is employed by a licensed utility contractor to directly  
207 supervise a project performing the construction, erection, alteration, or repair of utility  
208 systems in the field.

209 (32) 'Utility manager' means any individual certified under this chapter by the Division  
210 of Utility Contractors who is employed by a licensed utility contractor to oversee multiple  
211 projects performing the construction, erection, alteration, or repair of utility systems.

212 (33) 'Utility system' means:

213 (A) Any system at least five feet underground, when installed or accessed by trenching,  
214 open cut, cut and cover, or other similar construction methods which install or access  
215 the system from the ground surface, including, but not limited to, gas distribution  
216 systems, electrical distribution systems, communication systems, water supply systems,  
217 and sanitary sewerage and drainage systems; and

218 (B) Reservoirs and filtration plants, water and waste-water treatment plants, leachate  
219 collection and treatment systems associated with landfills, and pump stations, when the  
220 system distributes or collects a service, product, or commodity for which a fee or price  
221 is paid for said service, product, or commodity or for the disposal of said service,  
222 product, or commodity.

223 43-14-3.

224 (a) There is created within the executive branch of state government the State Construction  
225 Industry Licensing Board. The board shall be assigned to the Secretary of State's office for

226 administrative purposes and shall be under the jurisdiction of the division director, in  
227 accordance with Code Section 43-1-2.

228 (b) The board shall be composed of 27 members as follows:

229 (1) Five members known as the Division of Electrical Contractors, one of whom shall  
230 be a professional engineer engaged in electrical practice, another of whom shall have  
231 experience as an inspector with electrical inspection duties of a county or municipality  
232 or a third-party inspector regularly providing inspections to a county or municipality, and  
233 the remaining three of whom shall be licensed electrical contractors in this state;

234 (2) Five members known as the Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers,  
235 one of whom shall have experience as an inspector with plumbing inspection duties of  
236 a county or municipality or a third-party inspector regularly providing inspections to a  
237 county or municipality, three of whom shall be master or contracting plumbers, and one  
238 of whom shall be a journeyman plumber;

239 (3) Five members known as the Division of Conditioned Air Contractors, one of whom  
240 shall be a licensed professional engineer engaged in mechanical practice, one of whom  
241 shall have experience as an inspector with conditioned air inspection duties of a county  
242 or municipality or a third-party inspector regularly providing inspections to a county or  
243 municipality, and three of whom shall be conditioned air contractors with more than five  
244 years of installation and service experience in the trade;

245 (4) Five members known as the Division of Low Voltage Contractors, one of whom shall  
246 be a Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-A, one of whom shall be a Low Voltage  
247 Contractor Class LV-U, one of whom shall be a Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-T, one  
248 of whom shall be a professional electrical engineer, and one of whom shall have  
249 experience as an inspector with electrical inspection duties of a county or municipality  
250 or contracted by a county or municipality to perform electrical inspections;

251 (5) Five members known as the Division of Utility Contractors, three of whom shall be  
252 utility contractors, one of whom shall be a registered professional engineer, and one of

253 whom shall be an insurance company representative engaged primarily in the bonding of  
254 construction projects; and

255 (6) Two members who shall not have any connection with the utility contracting, low  
256 voltage contracting, electrical contracting, plumbing, or conditioned air contracting  
257 businesses whatsoever but who shall have a recognized interest in consumer affairs and  
258 consumer protection concerns.

259 (c) All members shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the  
260 Senate, for four-year terms. Each member shall serve until a successor has been duly  
261 appointed and qualified. Members shall be eligible for reappointment. Vacancies  
262 occurring prior to the expiration of a term, for whatever cause, shall be filled by  
263 appointment of the Governor for the unexpired portion of the term. Any member who  
264 ceases to meet the qualifications required for original appointment during the member's  
265 term shall automatically forfeit membership on the board.

266 (d) Each member of the board shall take an oath of office before the Governor or the  
267 Governor's designee to faithfully perform the duties of such office.

268 (e) The Governor may remove any member for failure to attend meetings, neglect of duty,  
269 incompetence, revocation or suspension of professional trade license, or other dishonorable  
270 conduct.

271 (f) Members of the board shall be reimbursed as provided for in subsection (f) of Code  
272 Section 43-1-2.

273 43-14-4.

274 (a) The board chairperson shall be rotated among the five divisions enumerated in Code  
275 Section 43-14-3. In the instance of a vacancy by the board chairperson, the members of  
276 the board shall select a current member to serve the former board chairperson's unexpired  
277 term. The individual selected to fill the vacancy shall be a member of the same division  
278 as the previous board chairperson.

279 (b) The board shall meet at the call of the board chairperson or upon the recommendation  
280 of a majority of its members.

281 (c) Each division within the board shall also elect from its membership a division  
282 chairperson who shall serve for a term of two years. Any vacancy in the office of division  
283 chairperson shall be filled by one of the members for the unexpired term.

284 (d) Any member elected division chairperson may serve more than one consecutive term  
285 of office.

286 (e) Each division shall carry out its powers and duties provided for in this chapter with the  
287 assistance of the division director and staff of the board.

288 (f) Each division shall meet at the call of its division chairperson.

289 (g) Three members of each division shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of  
290 business of such division.

291 43-14-5.

292 The board shall have the power to:

293 (1) Request from the various state departments and other agencies and authorities of the  
294 state and its political subdivisions and their agencies and authorities such available  
295 information as it may require in its work; and all such agencies and authorities shall  
296 furnish such requested available information to the board within a reasonable time;

297 (2) Provide by regulation for reciprocity with other states in the registration and licensing  
298 of electrical contractors, master plumbers, journeyman plumbers, low voltage contractors,  
299 utility contractors, or conditioned air contractors and in the certification of utility  
300 contracting foremen, provided that such other states have requirements substantially  
301 similar to the requirements in force in this state for registration, licensure, and  
302 certification; provided, further, that a similar privilege is offered to residents of this state;

303 (3) Adopt an official seal for its use and modify such seal as the board deems necessary;

304 (4) Establish rules and regulations, consistent with this chapter, for the protection of the  
305 health, safety, and welfare of the public and for regulating the licensing of electrical  
306 contracting, plumbing contracting, low voltage contracting, utility contracting, and  
307 conditioned air contracting professionals; and

308 (5) Upon notice and hearing authorized and conducted in accordance with Code Section  
309 43-14-17 and any rules and regulations promulgated by the board, either by the board  
310 directly or through a valid delegation of the board's enforcement power to a division  
311 thereof, assess civil penalties in an amount up to \$10,000.00 per violation against any  
312 person found to be in violation of any requirement of this chapter.

313 43-14-6.

314 (a) The Division of Electrical Contractors, with respect to applicants for a license to  
315 engage in or licensees engaging in the business of electrical contracting; the Division of  
316 Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers, with respect to applicants for a license to  
317 engage in or licensees engaging in the business of plumbing as a Master Plumber Class I,  
318 Master Plumber Class II, or journeyman plumber; the Division of Low Voltage  
319 Contractors, with respect to applicants for a license to engage in or licensees engaging in  
320 the business of low voltage contracting; the Division of Utility Contractors, with respect  
321 to applicants for a license to engage in or licensees engaging in the business of utility  
322 contracting and with respect to applicants for a certificate to be a utility manager or utility  
323 foreman or holders of a utility manager or utility foreman certificate; and the Division of  
324 Conditioned Air Contractors, with respect to applicants for a license to engage in or  
325 licensees engaging in the business of conditioned air contracting, shall:

326 (1) Assess and approve examination requirements for each class or type of license or  
327 certificate issued under this chapter, as follows:

328 (A) The Division of Electrical Contractors shall approve separate examinations for  
329 Electrical Contractor Class I and Electrical Contractor Class II;

330 (B) The Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers shall approve separate  
331 examinations for Master Plumber Class I, Master Plumber Class II, and Journeyman  
332 Plumbers;

333 (C) The Division of Conditioned Air Contractors shall approve separate examinations  
334 for Conditioned Air Contractor Class I and Conditioned Air Contractor Class II; and

335 (D) The Division of Low Voltage Contractors shall approve separate examinations for  
336 Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-A, Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-T, Low  
337 Voltage Contractor Class LV-G, and Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-U;

338 (2) Register and license or grant a certificate and issue renewal licenses and renewal  
339 certificates biennially to all persons meeting the qualifications for a license or certificate.

340 The following licenses or certificates shall be issued by the divisions:

341 (A) Electrical Contractor Class I;

342 (B) Electrical Contractor Class II;

343 (C) Master Plumber Class I;

344 (D) Master Plumber Class II;

345 (E) Journeyman Plumber;

346 (F) Conditioned Air Contractor Class I;

347 (G) Conditioned Air Contractor Class II;

348 (H) Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-A;

349 (I) Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-T;

350 (J) Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-G;

351 (K) Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-U;

352 (L) Utility Contractor;

353 (M) Utility Manager (certificate); and

354 (N) Utility Foreman (certificate);

355 (3) Investigate, with the aid of the division director, alleged violations of this chapter or  
356 other laws and rules and regulations of the board relating to the profession;

357 (4) After notice and hearing, have the power to reprimand any person, licensee, or  
358 certificate holder, or to suspend, revoke, or cancel the license or certificate of or refuse  
359 to grant, renew, or restore a license or certificate to any person, licensee, or certificate  
360 holder upon any one of the following grounds:

361 (A) The commission of any false, fraudulent, or deceitful act or the use of any forged,  
362 false, or fraudulent document in connection with the license or certificate requirements  
363 of this chapter or the rules and regulations of the board;

364 (B) Failure at any time to comply with the requirements for a license or certificate  
365 under this chapter or the rules and regulations of the board;

366 (C) Engaging in any fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest conduct in the practice of the  
367 profession regulated under this chapter that is likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the  
368 public, including knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent  
369 representations in the practice of the profession or on any document connected  
370 therewith;

371 (D) Knowingly aiding, abetting, assisting, or permitting any unlicensed or noncertified  
372 person or entity to engage in the practice of the profession regulated under this chapter,  
373 including by lending, leasing, renting, assigning, or otherwise allowing the use of one's  
374 license, or by combining or conspiring with such person or entity to evade the  
375 provisions of this chapter;

376 (E) Knowingly performing any act which in any way assists an unlicensed or  
377 noncertified person to practice such profession;

378 (F) Violating, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting any violation of any  
379 provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation of the board; or

380 (G) The performance of any faulty, inadequate, inefficient, or unsafe electrical  
381 contracting, plumbing, low voltage contracting, utility contracting, or conditioned air  
382 contracting likely to endanger life, health, or property. The performance of any work  
383 that does not comply with the standards set by state codes or by local codes in

384 jurisdictions where such codes are adopted, provided that such local codes are as  
385 stringent as the state codes, or by other codes or regulations which have been adopted  
386 by the board, shall be prima-facie evidence of the faulty, inadequate, inefficient, or  
387 unsafe character of such electrical, plumbing, low voltage contracting, utility  
388 contracting, or conditioned air contracting; provided, however, that the board, in its sole  
389 discretion, for good cause shown and under such conditions as it may prescribe, may  
390 restore a license to any person whose license has been suspended or revoked;

391 (5) Review amendments to or revisions in the state minimum standard codes as prepared  
392 pursuant to Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 8; and the Department of Community  
393 Affairs shall be required to provide to the division director a copy of any amendment to  
394 or revision in the state minimum standard codes at least 45 days prior to the adoption  
395 thereof; and

396 (6) Do all other things necessary and proper to exercise their powers and perform their  
397 duties in accordance with this chapter.

398 (b) The divisions mentioned in subsection (a) of this Code section shall also hear appeals  
399 resulting from the suspension of licenses by an approved municipal or county licensing or  
400 inspection authority pursuant to Code Section 43-14-16.

401 43-14-7.

402 (a) All orders and processes of the board and the divisions of the board shall be signed and  
403 attested by the division director; and any notice or legal process necessary to be served  
404 upon the board or the divisions may be served upon the division director.

405 (b) The division director or his or her designee is vested with the power and authority to  
406 make such investigations in connection with the enforcement of this chapter and the rules  
407 and regulations of the board as the director, the board, the divisions of the board, or any  
408 district attorney may deem necessary or advisable.

409 (c) In accordance with Code Section 43-1-2, the division director shall be authorized to  
410 review each application for the issuance, renewal, or reinstatement of a license under this  
411 chapter, and upon determining that an application satisfies all of the qualifications,  
412 attainments, and other conditions required for the issuance, renewal, or reinstatement of a  
413 particular license under this chapter and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to  
414 this chapter, shall be authorized, on behalf of the board, to issue, renew, or reinstate the  
415 license of the applicant.

416 43-14-8.

417 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Electrical  
418 Contractors.

419 (b)(1) No person shall engage in electrical contracting unless such person has a valid  
420 license issued by the division.

421 (2) A person that is not licensed as an electrical contractor shall be prohibited from  
422 advertising in any manner that such person is in the business or profession of electrical  
423 contracting unless the work is performed by a licensed electrical contractor.

424 (c) The division shall certify all applicants for licensure under this Code section who  
425 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

426 (d) No partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall have the right to engage  
427 in the business of electrical contracting unless there is regularly connected with such  
428 partnership, limited liability company, or corporation a person or persons actively engaged  
429 in the performance of such business on a full-time basis who have valid licenses issued to  
430 them as provided for in this chapter; provided, however, that partners, officers, and  
431 employees of any individual who fulfilled the licensing requirements shall continue to be  
432 authorized to engage in the business of electrical contracting under a license which was  
433 valid at the time of the licensee's death for a period of 90 days from the date of such death.  
434 The division may, at its discretion, grant one additional 90 day grace period for such

435 partners, officers, and employees. It shall be the duty of all partnerships, limited liability  
436 companies, and corporations qualified under this chapter to notify the appropriate division  
437 within seven days of the severance of connection with such partnership, limited liability  
438 company, or corporation of any person or persons upon whom such qualification rested.

439 (e) Any individual seeking to obtain a license as an Electrical Contractor Class I under the  
440 provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with division on a form  
441 prescribed by the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction  
442 Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following requirements:

443 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

444 (2) Meet eligibility requirements according to one of the following criteria:

445 (A) At least three years of full-time experience in the electrical field as would be  
446 covered by the Georgia Electrical Code, the National Electrical Code, or any successor  
447 code, which shall mean working experience gained through the direct installation of  
448 electrical systems and directly related activities of a type covered by the National  
449 Electrical Code or its successor code. To satisfy the experiential requirements for  
450 licensure as an Electrical Contractor Class I under this criteria, an applicant shall  
451 demonstrate successful completion of electrical projects encompassing not fewer than  
452 five of the experience areas described in divisions (i) through (vii) of this subparagraph  
453 and shall additionally demonstrate competency in the experience area described in  
454 division (viii) of this subparagraph:

455 (i) Installation of raceway systems, including pull boxes, junction boxes, conduit  
456 bodies, and the connections in the system and to cabinets, panelboards, switchboards,  
457 and boxes;

458 (ii) Installation of conductors, including flexible cords, cables, splices, taps,  
459 terminations, bonding jumpers, overcurrent protective devices, and metering devices,  
460 in cabinets, panelboards, switchboards, boxes, and conduit, which meet all sizing,  
461 ampacity, and voltage installation requirements;

462 (iii) Installation of service entrances, metering devices, cabinets, switchboards,  
463 service risers and fasteners, overcurrent protective devices, disconnecting means,  
464 ground electrodes, main bonding jumpers, and ground fault protectors, which meet  
465 sizing, rating, clearances, and weatherproofing installation requirements;  
466 (iv) Installation of motors and generators with feeders, branch circuits, overcurrent  
467 protective devices, disconnect means, and controllers, which meet sizing, rating,  
468 usage, and location requirements;  
469 (v) Installation of switches, disconnects, and controls that supply lighting fixtures,  
470 appliances, electrical circuits, controls for heating and air conditioning equipment,  
471 and other utilization and general use equipment;  
472 (vi) Installation of materials and equipment required for use in special occupancies  
473 according to the state minimum standard codes;  
474 (vii) Bonding of interior metal piping systems, installation of properly sized  
475 equipment grounding conductors, grounding of exposed noncurrent carrying metal  
476 parts of electrical equipment, and protection of grounding conductors from physical  
477 damage; and  
478 (viii) Determination of general lighting loads, minimum branch circuits, minimum  
479 ampacity of conductors in feeder and branch circuits, maximum allowable conductor  
480 fill for raceways, net loads, using specified or optional methods, rates or demand  
481 factors, and derating factors given in the state minimum standard codes; and  
482 (B) Completed a two-year academic diploma or certificate program in electrical  
483 contracting offered by an accredited technical college, university, or other institution  
484 recognized by the division, and has completed two years of full-time experience, which  
485 experience shall meet the definition of qualifying experience set forth in  
486 subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and shall consist of work of a type covered by the  
487 state minimum standard codes, or has successfully completed an electrical

488 apprenticeship program accredited or approved by the United States Department of  
489 Labor;

490 (3) Submit a signed affidavit attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential  
491 requirements set forth in this subsection. Such affidavit shall be executed by the  
492 supervising licensed contractor or, in the alternative, by a licensed architect, professional  
493 engineer, or electrical engineer, and shall be made under oath. Where the applicant's  
494 qualifying full-time experience was obtained under the supervision of more than one such  
495 individual, a separate affidavit shall be submitted from each individual for the period of  
496 experience supervised; and

497 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
498 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
499 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
500 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

501 (f) Any individual seeking to obtain a license as an Electrical Contractor Class II under the  
502 provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form  
503 prescribed by the division, shall pay the required fees established by the State Construction  
504 Industry Licensing Board, and shall meet the following requirements:

505 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

506 (2) Meet one of the following criteria:

507 (A) At least four years of full-time experience in the electrical field as would be  
508 covered by the Georgia Electrical Code, the National Electrical Code, or any successor  
509 code of which not less than two years shall have been in the installation, alteration, or  
510 repair of three-phase electrical systems, including the following:

511 (i) Work involving electrical installations exceeding single-phase, 200 amperes, as  
512 governed by the National Electrical Code or its successor code;

- 513 (ii) Installation of raceway systems, including pull boxes, junction boxes, conduit  
514 bodies, and the connections in the system and to cabinets, panelboards, switchboards,  
515 and boxes;
- 516 (iii) Installation of conductors, including flexible cords, cables, splices, taps,  
517 terminations, bonding jumpers, overcurrent protective devices, and metering devices,  
518 in cabinets, panelboards, switchboards, boxes, and conduit, which meet all sizing,  
519 ampacity, and voltage installation requirements;
- 520 (iv) Installation of service entrances, metering devices, cabinets, switchboards,  
521 service risers and fasteners, overcurrent protective devices, disconnecting means,  
522 ground electrodes, main bonding jumpers, and ground fault protectors which meet all  
523 sizing, rating, clearances, and weatherproofing installation requirements;
- 524 (v) Installation of motors and generators with feeders, branch circuits, overcurrent  
525 protective devices, disconnect means, and controllers, which meet all sizing, rating,  
526 usage, and location requirements;
- 527 (vi) Installation of switches, disconnects, and controls that supply lighting fixtures,  
528 appliances, electrical circuits, controls for heating and air conditioning equipment,  
529 and other utilization and general use equipment;
- 530 (vii) Installation of materials and equipment required for use in special occupancies  
531 according to use and code installation requirements, as defined by the National  
532 Electrical Code or its successor code;
- 533 (viii) Bonding of interior metal piping systems, installation of properly sized  
534 equipment grounding conductors, grounding of exposed noncurrent carrying metal  
535 parts of electrical equipment, and protection of grounding conductors from physical  
536 damage; and
- 537 (ix) Determination of general lighting loads, minimum branch circuits, minimum  
538 ampacity of conductors in feeder and branch circuits, maximum allowable conductor

539 fill for raceways, net loads, using specified or optional methods, rates or demand  
540 factors, and derating factors given in the state minimum standard codes;

541 (B) Completed a two-year academic diploma or certificate program in electrical  
542 contracting offered by an accredited technical college, university, or other institution  
543 recognized by the division, and has completed four years of full-time experience, of  
544 which not less than two years shall have been in the installation, alteration, or repair of  
545 three-phase electrical systems which experience shall meet the definition of qualifying  
546 experience set forth in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and shall consist of work of  
547 a type covered by the Georgia Electrical Code, the National Electrical Code, or any  
548 successor code; or

549 (C) Completed an electrical apprenticeship program accredited or approved by the  
550 United States Department of Labor and has completed two years of full-time experience  
551 in the installation, alteration, or repair of three-phase electrical systems which  
552 experience shall meet the definition of qualifying experience set forth in paragraph (2)  
553 of this subsection and shall consist of work of a type covered by the Georgia Electrical  
554 Code, the National Electrical Code, or any successor code;

555 (3) Submit a signed affidavit attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential  
556 requirements set forth in this subsection. Such affidavit shall be executed by the  
557 supervising licensed contractor or, in the alternative, by a licensed architect, professional  
558 engineer, or electrical engineer, and shall be made under oath. Where the applicant's  
559 qualifying full-time experience was obtained under the supervision of more than one such  
560 individual, a separate affidavit shall be submitted from each individual for the period of  
561 experience supervised; and

562 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
563 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
564 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
565 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

566 (g) An application for a license under this Code section shall constitute express consent  
567 and authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a  
568 criminal background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary  
569 of State for licensure agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all information  
570 necessary to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to, classifiable  
571 sets of fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the  
572 performance of such background check.

573 (h) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
574 absence of fraud, be conclusive. All individuals, individuals serving as partners in  
575 partnerships, applicants for limited liability companies, or applicants for corporations  
576 desiring to engage in electrical contracting shall be licensed under this Code section before  
577 engaging in such vocation and business, including at the local level.

578 (i) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
579 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
580 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
581 action authorized by the division.

582 43-14-9.

583 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Low Voltage  
584 Contractors.

585 (b) No person shall engage in alarm system, general low voltage system, or  
586 telecommunications system low voltage contracting unless such person has a valid license  
587 issued by the division.

588 (c) No individual, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall advertise,  
589 offer, bid, contract, or perform, for compensation, Low Voltage General (LV-G), Low  
590 Voltage Telecommunications (LV-T), Low Voltage Alarm (LV-A), or Low Voltage

591 Unrestricted (LV-U) work in this state unless such individual or entity holds a valid low  
592 voltage contractor license issued by the division in the applicable classification.

593 (d) No partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall have the right to engage  
594 in the business of low voltage contracting unless there is regularly connected with such  
595 partnership, limited liability company, or corporation a person or persons, actively engaged  
596 in the performance of such business on a full-time basis and supervising the low voltage  
597 systems installation, repair, alteration, and service work of all employees of such  
598 partnership, limited liability company, or corporation, who have valid licenses issued to  
599 them as provided in this chapter; provided, however, that partners, officers, and employees  
600 of any individual who fulfilled the licensing requirements shall continue to be authorized  
601 to engage in the business of low voltage contracting under a license which was valid at the  
602 time of the licensee's death for a period of 90 days from the date of such death. The  
603 division may, at its discretion, upon application by the low voltage contractor showing  
604 good cause, grant one additional 90 day grace period.

605 (e) The division shall certify all applicants for licensure under this Code section who  
606 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

607 (f) It shall be the duty of all partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations  
608 qualified under this chapter to notify the appropriate division within seven days of the  
609 severance of connection with such partnership, limited liability company, or corporation  
610 of any person or persons upon whom such qualification rested.

611 (g) Partnerships, limited liability companies, or corporations having more than one office  
612 location from which low voltage contracting is performed shall have at least one person  
613 stationed in each branch office of such partnership, limited liability company, or  
614 corporation who is engaged in the performance of low voltage contracting on a full-time  
615 basis; who is supervising the low voltage wiring systems installation, repair, alteration, and  
616 service work of all employees of such branch office locations; and who has a valid license  
617 issued as provided in this Code section.

618 (h) Any individual seeking to obtain a state-wide Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-G  
619 license under the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the  
620 division on a form prescribed by the division, pay the required fees established by the State  
621 Construction Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following requirements:

622 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

623 (2) Have completed at least one year of full-time experience performing low voltage  
624 wiring in telecommunications under the direct supervision of a licensed Low Voltage  
625 Unrestricted Contractor or another state equivalent contractor, which experience shall  
626 have been obtained within six years immediately preceding the date of application, and  
627 which shall include:

628 (A) The installation, alteration, service, or repair of power limited low voltage  
629 electrical systems, including, but not limited to, intercom, public address, and sound  
630 systems, residential and commercial low voltage audio systems, low voltage lighting  
631 systems, including associated controls, transformers, and power supplies, and other  
632 general power limited low voltage wiring systems that do not constitute alarm or  
633 telecommunications systems; or

634 (B) Completion of coursework in electronics or low voltage systems through an  
635 accredited technical college, university, or certificate program shall be credited toward  
636 the experience requirement for low voltage general (LV-G), based on the actual  
637 instructional time completed, up to a maximum of six months;

638 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from the supervising low voltage unrestricted contractor(s),  
639 attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements set forth in this  
640 subsection; and

641 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
642 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
643 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
644 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

645 (i) Any individual seeking to obtain a state-wide Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-T  
646 license under the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the  
647 division on a form prescribed by the division, pay the required fees established by the State  
648 Construction Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following requirements:

649 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

650 (2) Have completed a minimum of three years of full-time experience performing low  
651 voltage wiring under the direct supervision of a licensed Low Voltage Unrestricted  
652 Contractor or another state equivalent contractor, which experience shall have been  
653 obtained within six years immediately preceding the date of application and includes:

654 (A) At least one year of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in general  
655 low voltage systems. Qualifying experience under this subsection shall include the  
656 installation, alteration, service, or repair of power limited low voltage electrical  
657 systems, including, but not limited to:

658 (i) Intercom, public address, and sound systems;

659 (ii) Residential and commercial low voltage audio systems;

660 (iii) Low voltage lighting systems, including associated controls, transformers, and  
661 power supplies; and

662 (iv) Other general power limited low voltage wiring systems that do not constitute  
663 alarm or telecommunications systems; or

664 (B) At least two years of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in  
665 telecommunications. Qualifying experience under this subsection may include work  
666 involving installation, configuration, testing, administration, management, maintenance,  
667 or repair of low voltage telecommunications systems, including, but not limited to, the  
668 following:

669 (i) Telecommunications and communications systems, including voice and data  
670 systems such as plain old telephone service, Voice over Internet Protocol,

671 telecommunications equipment connections, terminations, cross-connects, patching,  
672 and related infrastructure;  
673 (ii) Audio, video, and security systems, including residential and commercial audio  
674 and video systems, video surveillance systems, intercom systems, public address  
675 systems, access control systems, and power over ethernet based systems;  
676 (iii) Networked and wireless systems, including residential and commercial Wi-Fi  
677 systems, local area or home area network based systems, internet protocol networking  
678 equipment such as routers, switches, hubs, and related devices, and distributed  
679 antenna systems for voice and data communications; and  
680 (iv) Fiber optic, commercial wireless, and other communications systems, including  
681 fiber optic system installation, termination, testing, and management; commercial  
682 wireless systems such as cellular and private communications systems, and  
683 proprietary, specialized, or otherwise unregulated communications systems within the  
684 scope of low voltage work; or  
685 (C) Completion of coursework in electronics or low voltage systems through an  
686 accredited technical college, university, or certificate program shall be credited toward  
687 the experience requirement for low voltage general (LV-G), based on the actual  
688 instructional time completed, up to a maximum of six months;  
689 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from the supervising low voltage unrestricted contractor(s),  
690 attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements set forth in this  
691 subsection; and  
692 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
693 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
694 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
695 documentation for noncitizen applicants.  
696 (j) Any individual seeking to obtain a state-wide Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-A  
697 license under the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the

698 division on a form prescribed by the division, shall pay the required fees established by the  
699 State Construction Industry Licensing Board, and shall meet the following requirements:

700 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

701 (2) Have completed a minimum of three years of full-time experience performing low  
702 voltage wiring under the direct supervision of a licensed Low Voltage Unrestricted  
703 Contractor or another state equivalent contractor, which experience shall have been  
704 obtained within six years immediately preceding the date of application and includes:

705 (A) At least one year of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in general  
706 systems. Qualifying experience under this subsection shall include the installation,  
707 alteration, service, or repair of power limited low voltage electrical systems, including,  
708 but not limited to:

709 (i) Intercom, public address, and sound systems;

710 (ii) Residential and commercial low voltage audio systems;

711 (iii) Low voltage lighting systems, including associated controls, transformers, and  
712 power supplies; and

713 (iv) Other general power limited low voltage wiring systems that do not constitute  
714 alarm or telecommunications systems;

715 (B) At least two years of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in alarm  
716 systems. Qualifying experience under this paragraph shall include work involving the  
717 installation, configuration, testing, administration, management, maintenance, or repair  
718 of the following alarm systems and related technologies:

719 (i) Life safety alarm systems, including any alarm system designed, intended, or  
720 configured to transmit life safety related alarm events to a central monitoring station  
721 or other supervising entity;

722 (ii) Alarm system communication pathways, including the utilization of approved and  
723 recognized transmission methods such as analog telephone lines, cellular networks,

724 internet based protocols, Voice over Internet Protocol, or other comparable  
725 communication technologies; and  
726 (iii) Alarm system planning and lifecycle activities, including the planning, design,  
727 engineering, installation, programming, testing, inspection, servicing, repair, and  
728 ongoing maintenance of proprietary or open-source alarm systems; and  
729 (C) Completion of coursework in electronics or low voltage systems through an  
730 accredited technical college, university, or certificate program shall be credited toward  
731 the experience requirement for low voltage general (LV-G), based on the actual  
732 instructional time completed, up to a maximum of six months;  
733 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from the supervising low voltage unrestricted contractor,  
734 attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements set forth in this  
735 subsection; and  
736 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
737 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
738 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
739 documentation for noncitizen applicants.  
740 (k) Any individual seeking to obtain a state-wide Low Voltage Contractor Class LV-U  
741 license under the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the  
742 division on a form prescribed by the division, shall pay the required fees established by the  
743 State Construction Industry Licensing Board, and shall meet the following requirements:  
744 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;  
745 (2) Have completed a minimum of four years of full-time experience performing low  
746 voltage wiring under the direct supervision of a licensed Low Voltage Unrestricted  
747 Contractor or another state equivalent contractor, which experience shall have been  
748 obtained within six years immediately preceding the date of application, and also  
749 includes:

750 (A) At least one year of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in general  
751 systems. Qualifying experience under this subsection shall include the installation,  
752 alteration, service, or repair of power limited low voltage electrical systems, including,  
753 but not limited to:

- 754 (i) Intercom, public address, and sound systems;  
755 (ii) Residential and commercial low voltage audio systems;  
756 (iii) Low voltage lighting systems, including associated controls, transformers, and  
757 power supplies; and  
758 (iv) Other general power limited low voltage wiring systems that do not constitute  
759 alarm or telecommunications systems;

760 (B) At least one year of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in  
761 telecommunications. Qualifying experience under this paragraph shall include work  
762 involving installation, configuration, testing, administration, management, maintenance,  
763 or repair of low voltage telecommunications systems, including, but not limited to, the  
764 following:

- 765 (i) Telecommunications and communications systems, including voice and data  
766 systems such as plain old telephone service, Voice over Internet Protocol,  
767 telecommunications equipment connections, terminations, cross-connects, patching,  
768 and related infrastructure;  
769 (ii) Audio, video, and security systems, including residential and commercial audio  
770 and video systems, video surveillance systems, intercom systems, public address  
771 systems, access control systems, and Power over Ethernet based systems;  
772 (iii) Networked and wireless systems, including residential and commercial Wi-Fi  
773 systems, local area or home area network based systems, Internet Protocol  
774 networking equipment such as routers, switches, hubs, and related devices, and  
775 distributed antenna systems for voice and data communications; and

776 (iv) Fiber optic, commercial wireless, and other communications systems, including  
777 fiber optic system installation, termination, testing, and management; commercial  
778 wireless systems such as cellular and private communications systems; and  
779 proprietary, specialized, or otherwise unregulated communications systems within the  
780 scope of low voltage work;

781 (C) At least two years of full-time experience performing low voltage wiring in alarm  
782 systems. Qualifying experience under this paragraph shall include work involving the  
783 installation, configuration, testing, administration, management, maintenance, or repair  
784 of the following alarm systems and related technologies:

785 (i) Life safety alarm systems, including any alarm system designed, intended, or  
786 configured to transmit life safety related alarm events to a central monitoring station  
787 or other supervising entity;

788 (ii) Alarm system communication pathways, including the utilization of approved and  
789 recognized transmission methods such as analog telephone lines, cellular networks,  
790 internet based protocols, Voice over Internet Protocol, or other comparable  
791 communication technologies; and

792 (iii) Alarm system planning and lifecycle activities, including the planning, design,  
793 engineering, installation, programming, testing, inspection, servicing, repair, and  
794 ongoing maintenance of proprietary or open-source alarm systems; and

795 (D) Completion of coursework in electronics or low voltage systems through an  
796 accredited technical college, university, or certificate program shall be credited toward  
797 the experience requirement for low voltage general (LV-G), based on the actual  
798 instructional time completed, up to a maximum of six months;

799 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from the supervising low voltage unrestricted contractor,  
800 attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements set forth in this  
801 paragraph; and

802 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
803 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
804 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
805 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

806 (l) An application for a license under this Code section shall constitute express consent and  
807 authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a criminal  
808 background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary of State for  
809 licensure agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all information necessary  
810 to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to, classifiable sets of  
811 fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance  
812 of such background check.

813 (m) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
814 absence of fraud, be conclusive. All individuals, individuals serving as partners in  
815 partnerships, applicants for limited liability companies, or applicants for corporations  
816 desiring to engage in the vocation of low voltage contracting shall be licensed under this  
817 Code section before engaging in such vocation.

818 (n) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
819 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
820 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
821 action authorized by the division.

822 43-14-10.

823 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Utility  
824 Contractors.

825 (b)(1) No person shall engage in utility contracting unless such person has a valid license  
826 issued by the division.

827 (2) A person that is not licensed as a utility contractor shall be prohibited from  
828 advertising in any manner that such person is in the business or profession of utility  
829 contracting unless the work is performed by a licensed electrical contractor.

830 (c) The division shall certify all applicants for licensure under this Code section who  
831 satisfy the requirements in this Code section.

832 (d) Any utility contractor holding a valid utility contractor's license under this chapter shall  
833 be authorized to bid for and perform work on any utility system in this state without  
834 obtaining a license under Chapter 41 of this title. It shall be unlawful for the owner of a  
835 utility system or anyone soliciting work to be performed on a utility system to refuse to  
836 allow a utility contractor holding a valid utility contractor's license under this chapter to bid  
837 for or perform work on a utility system on the basis that such contractor does not hold a  
838 license under Chapter 41 of this title.

839 (e) Any company which holds a valid utility contractor's license shall be qualified to  
840 construct, alter, or repair any plumbing system which extends from the property line up to  
841 but not within five feet of any building, structure, or conveyance, regardless of the cost or  
842 depth of any such plumbing system; provided, however, that only persons who hold a valid  
843 license to engage in plumbing under this chapter shall be qualified to construct, alter, or  
844 repair any plumbing system within five feet of any building, structure, or conveyance.

845 (f)(1) No sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation shall have the right to engage  
846 in the business of utility contracting unless:

847 (A) Such business holds a utility contractor license; and

848 (B) There is regularly connected with such business a person or persons who hold a  
849 valid utility manager certificate issued under this chapter, and such utility manager must  
850 be actively engaged in the performance of such business on a full-time basis and must  
851 oversee the utility contracting work of all employees of the business.

852 (2) If a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation has more than one permanent  
853 office, then each permanent office shall be registered with the division and at least one

854 person who holds a valid utility manager certificate issued under this chapter shall be  
855 stationed in each office on a full-time basis and shall oversee the utility contracting work  
856 of all employees of that office.

857 (3) The requirements of this Code section shall not prevent any person holding a valid  
858 license issued by the State Construction Industry Licensing Board, or any division  
859 thereof, pursuant to this chapter, from performing any work defined in the Code section  
860 or sections under which the license held by said person was issued.

861 (g) Any corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship desiring to qualify for and be  
862 issued a utility contractor license under the provisions of this Code section shall file an  
863 application with the division on a form prescribed by the division, pay the application fee  
864 established by the State Construction Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following  
865 requirements:

866 (1) Submit a completed application to the division on the form provided indicating:

867 (A) The names and addresses of proprietor, partners, or officers of such applicant;

868 (B) The place and date such partnership was formed, or such corporation was  
869 incorporated;

870 (C) The address of each permanent office location of the business registered with the  
871 division, defined under this article as a place of business where utility contracting is  
872 undertaken from in terms of bid or proposed acquisition, procurement, utility  
873 construction, is not a temporary structure, has permanent utilities installed, and has been  
874 in service for a period of more than three years;

875 (D) The name and certification number of the qualifying utility manager holding a  
876 current utility manager certificate issued under this chapter who is employed at each  
877 permanent office location of the business from which utility contracting is performed;  
878 and

879 (E) If the applicant operates more than one permanent office location, the name of the  
880 qualifying utility manager holding a current utility manager certificate issued under this

881 chapter who is employed on a full-time basis at each permanent office location of the  
882 business from which utility contracting is performed; and  
883 (2) Submit a written safety policy that meets the minimum standards established by the  
884 board and the United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health  
885 Administration.

886 (h) An application for licensure under this Code section shall constitute express consent  
887 and authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a  
888 criminal background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary  
889 of State for licensure or a permit agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all  
890 information necessary to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to,  
891 classifiable sets of fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated  
892 with the performance of such background check.

893 (i) The decision of the division as to the qualifications of applicants shall, in the absence  
894 of fraud, be conclusive.

895 (j) It shall be the duty of the utility manager certificate holders and the licensed utility  
896 contractor to notify the division, in accordance with board rules, of the severance of  
897 connection between such utility contractor and the utility manager certificate holder or  
898 holders upon whom the qualification of the utility contractor rested.

899 (k) In the event that a licensed utility contractor temporarily does not have employed a  
900 utility manager certificate holder to oversee its utility contracting work, upon notice by  
901 such utility contractor to the division within seven days following the last day of  
902 employment of the utility manager certificate holder, the division shall grant the utility  
903 contractor a 90 day grace period in which to employ a utility manager certificate holder to  
904 oversee its utility contracting work before any action may be taken by the division to  
905 revoke the utility contractor's license. The division may, at its discretion, upon application  
906 by the utility contractor showing good cause, grant one additional 90 day grace period.  
907 Grace periods totaling not more than 180 days may be granted during any two-year period.

908 Failure to have employed a utility manager certificate holder to oversee the utility  
909 contracting work of the utility contractor shall be grounds for the revocation or suspension  
910 of the utility contractor license after a notice of hearing.

911 (l) It shall be unlawful for any person to contract with any other person for the  
912 performance of utility contracting work who is known by such person not to have a current,  
913 valid license as a utility contractor pursuant to this chapter.

914 (m) It shall be unlawful for any person to violate the provisions of Chapter 9 of Title 25  
915 applicable to utility contractors.

916 (n) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
917 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
918 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
919 action authorized by the division.

920 43-14-11.

921 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Utility  
922 Contractors.

923 (b) No person shall be employed as a utility manager unless such person holds a valid  
924 utility manager certificate issued by the division.

925 (c) No utility system shall be constructed, erected, altered, or repaired unless a certified  
926 utility manager or certified utility foreman who holds a current certification is present at  
927 the job site of such construction, erection, alteration, or repair of the utility system.

928 (d) The division shall certify all applicants for certification under this Code section who  
929 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

930 (e) Any individual seeking certification as a utility manager under the provisions of this  
931 chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form prescribed by the  
932 division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction Industry Licensing  
933 Board, and meet the following requirements:

- 934 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;  
935 (2) Submit proof of completion of 12 hours of board approved safety training courses,  
936 which shall include eight hours of Competent Person Training for Excavations and four  
937 hours of Competent Person Training for Confined Spaces;  
938 (3) Have completed a minimum of three years of full-time experience in the field,  
939 performing the construction, erection, alteration, or repair of utility systems. Such  
940 experience shall be obtained as follows:
- 941 (A) At least one year of full-time experience working under the supervision of a utility  
942 manager holding a valid certificate issued under this chapter, which experience shall  
943 qualify the applicant for certification as a utility foreman; and
- 944 (B) At least two additional years of full-time experience obtained while holding a valid  
945 utility foreman certificate issued under this chapter;
- 946 (4) Submit a signed affidavit from each utility manager who is employed by a utility  
947 contractor and who is or was the applicant's current or former employer, attesting to the  
948 applicant's completion of the experiential requirements set forth in this subsection.  
949 Qualifying experience under this subsection shall be obtained through a combination of  
950 roles, including, but not limited to, supervisory, construction management, or utility  
951 operations positions in the field on a utility construction project, as well as:
- 952 (A) Participation in the management of multiple utility construction projects, including  
953 scheduling work activities; coordinating labor, equipment, and materials; supporting  
954 field supervision; tracking productivity; and assisting with resolution of routine onsite  
955 issues during the course of the construction project;
- 956 (B) Involvement in administering scopes of work or construction contracts; managing  
957 risks related to utility conflicts, permitting, inspections, traffic control, and public  
958 safety; and ensuring compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
959 requirements and applicable federal, state, and local regulations;

960 (C) Implementation and enforcement of safety procedures, including excavation,  
961 trenching, and confined space entry requirements; participation in safety programs,  
962 conducting or participating in daily job safety analyses and safety meetings, reporting  
963 incidents, near misses, and hazards; and ensuring proper use of required personal  
964 protective equipment;

965 (D) Supervision or lead responsibility for utility personnel, including training,  
966 assigning duties, evaluating performance, monitoring safe operation of equipment, and  
967 administering discipline in accordance with established policies;

968 (E) Assisting with review of construction plans, utility maps, and job specifications;  
969 identifying underground and overhead utilities; verifying permits, locates, and  
970 clearances; and coordinating activities with project managers, engineers, inspectors, and  
971 utility representatives;

972 (F) Assisting with planning crew assignments, equipment needs, and work schedules;  
973 coordinating material delivery and staging; inspecting materials and equipment for  
974 damage or irregularities; reporting findings; and participating in the proper use and  
975 routine maintenance of heavy equipment;

976 (G) Participating in the installation of water, sewer, gas, electrical, and  
977 telecommunications utility systems installed on a fee-for-service basis, including  
978 bedding, backfill, compaction, and erosion and sediment control measures, in  
979 accordance with project specifications and utility standards;

980 (H) Inspecting work for compliance with plans and specifications under supervision;  
981 assisting with daily logs, production reports, and as-built documentation; and  
982 documenting utility locations and field changes; and

983 (I) Communicating job site conditions, safety concerns, and work progress to a  
984 supervising Utility Foreman or Utility Manager; and

985 (5) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
986 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, and submit an affidavit verifying lawful

987 presence in the United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, together with any  
988 required immigration documentation for noncitizen applicants.

989 (f) Application for a license under this Code section shall constitute express consent and  
990 authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a criminal  
991 background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary of State for  
992 licensure agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all information necessary  
993 to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to, classifiable sets of  
994 fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance  
995 of such background check.

996 (g) An applicant may request an oral administration of the examination.

997 (h) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
998 absence of fraud, be conclusive.

999 (i) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
1000 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
1001 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
1002 action authorized by the division.

1003 43-14-12.

1004 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Utility  
1005 Contractors.

1006 (b) No person shall be employed as a utility foreman unless such person holds a valid  
1007 current utility foreman certificate issued by the division.

1008 (c) The division shall certify all applicants for certification under this Code section who  
1009 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

1010 (d) No utility system shall be constructed, erected, altered, or repaired unless a certified  
1011 utility manager or certified utility foreman who holds a current certification is present at  
1012 the job site of such construction, erection, alteration, or repair of the utility system.

1013 (e) Any individual seeking certification as a utility foreman under the provisions of this  
1014 chapter shall file an application with the division on a form prescribed by the division, pay  
1015 the required fees established by the State Construction Industry Licensing Board, and meet  
1016 the following requirements:

1017 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1018 (2) Have completed at least one year of full-time experience in the field performing the  
1019 construction, erection, alteration, or repair of utility systems under the supervision of a  
1020 licensed Utility Manager;

1021 (3) Submit proof of completion of 12 hours of board approved safety training courses,  
1022 which shall include eight hours of Competent Person Training for Excavations and four  
1023 hours of Competent Person Training for Confined Spaces; and

1024 (4) Provide a signed affidavit by a current or former employer attesting to the completion  
1025 of experiential requirements. Each employer who oversaw the completion of projects  
1026 which satisfied the experiential requirements shall provide their own signed affidavit.

1027 Qualifying experience under this subsection shall be obtained through a combination of  
1028 roles, including, but not limited to, crew member, lead worker, assistant foreman, utility  
1029 operations, construction support, or other field based positions, provided the work was  
1030 performed under the required supervision, and shall include:

1031 (A) Assisting with review of construction plans, utility maps, and job specifications,  
1032 identifying underground and overhead utilities, coordinating activities with project  
1033 managers, engineers, inspectors, and utility representatives, verifying permits, locates,  
1034 and clearances, and assisting with planning crew assignments, equipment needs, and  
1035 work schedules;

1036 (B) Participating in daily job safety analyses and safety meetings, performing work in  
1037 compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards and  
1038 applicable local, state, and federal regulations, including traffic control requirements,  
1039 working in properly protected trenches, participating in confined space entry activities,

- 1040 using required personal protective equipment, and reporting incidents, near misses, and  
1041 hazards;
- 1042 (C) Assisting with supervision of utility crews, monitoring safe operation of  
1043 equipment, supporting productivity tracking and daily work coordination, and assisting  
1044 with resolution of routine onsite issues;
- 1045 (D) Assisting with coordination of material delivery and staging, inspecting materials  
1046 and equipment for damage or irregularities and reporting findings, and participating in  
1047 the proper use and routine maintenance of heavy equipment;
- 1048 (E) Participating in the installation of water, sewer, gas, electrical, and  
1049 telecommunications utility systems installed on a fee-for-service basis, including  
1050 bedding, backfill, compaction, and erosion and sediment control measures, in  
1051 accordance with project specifications and utility standards;
- 1052 (F) Inspecting work for compliance with plans and specifications under supervision,  
1053 assisting with daily logs, production reports, as-built documentation, and documenting  
1054 utility locations and field changes; and
- 1055 (G) Communicating job site conditions, safety concerns, and work progress to a  
1056 supervising Utility Foreman or Utility Manager.
- 1057 (f) An application for a certification under this Code section shall constitute express  
1058 consent and authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform  
1059 a criminal background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary  
1060 of State for certification agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all  
1061 information necessary to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to,  
1062 classifiable sets of fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated  
1063 with the performance of such background check.
- 1064 (g) An applicant may request an oral administration of the examination.
- 1065 (h) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
1066 absence of fraud, be conclusive.

1067 (i) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
1068 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
1069 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
1070 action authorized by the division.

1071 43-14-13.

1072 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Master Plumbers  
1073 and Journeyman.

1074 (b) No person shall engage in plumbing contracting as a Master Plumber Class I or a  
1075 Master Plumber Class II unless such person has a valid license issued by the division.

1076 (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, any person who holds a valid  
1077 license as a Master Plumber Class I or a Master Plumber Class II or any company which  
1078 holds a valid utility contractor license shall be qualified to construct, alter, or repair any  
1079 plumbing system which extends from the property line up to but not within five feet of any  
1080 building, structure, or conveyance, regardless of the cost or depth of any such plumbing  
1081 system; provided, however, that only persons who hold a valid license to engage in  
1082 plumbing under this chapter shall be qualified to construct, alter, or repair any plumbing  
1083 system within five feet of any building, structure, or conveyance.

1084 (d) A person that is not licensed as a Master Plumber Class I or a Master Plumber Class  
1085 II shall be prohibited from advertising in any manner that such person is in the business or  
1086 profession of plumbing contracting.

1087 (e) No partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall have the right to engage  
1088 in the business of plumbing unless there is regularly connected with such partnership,  
1089 limited liability company, or corporation a person actively engaged in the performance of  
1090 such business on a full-time basis who has a valid license as a Master Plumber Class I or  
1091 a Master Plumber Class II; provided, however, that partners, officers, and employees of any  
1092 individual who fulfilled the licensing requirements shall continue to be authorized to

1093 engage in the business of plumbing contracting under a license which was valid at the time  
1094 of the licensee's death for a period of 90 days from the date of such death. The division  
1095 may, at its discretion, upon application by the plumbing contractor showing good cause,  
1096 grant one additional 90 day grace period.

1097 (f) The division shall certify all applicants for licensure under this Code section who  
1098 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

1099 (g) It shall be the duty of all partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations  
1100 qualified under this chapter to notify the appropriate division within seven days of the  
1101 severance of connection with such partnership, limited liability company, or corporation  
1102 of any person or persons upon whom such qualification rested.

1103 (h) Application for a license under this Code section shall constitute express consent and  
1104 authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a criminal  
1105 background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary of State for  
1106 licensure agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all information necessary  
1107 to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to, classifiable sets of  
1108 fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance  
1109 of such background check.

1110 (i) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
1111 absence of fraud, be conclusive.

1112 (j) Any individual seeking to be licensed as a journeyman plumber under the provisions  
1113 of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form prescribed by  
1114 the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction Industry Licensing  
1115 Board, and meet the following requirements:

1116 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1117 (2) Have completed one year of full-time experience performing plumbing work of a  
1118 type covered by the state minimum standard plumbing code, regardless of whether such  
1119 code applied to the work in the area or at the time such work was performed by the

1120 applicant. Qualifying experience under this paragraph shall be obtained under the  
1121 supervision of a licensed Master Plumber Class I or a Master Plumber Class II and shall  
1122 include participation in plumbing work demonstrating practical competency in the  
1123 following areas, as applicable to the scope of licensure requested and consistent with the  
1124 requirements of this paragraph:

1125 (A) Installation, maintenance, alteration, service, or repair of plumbing systems,  
1126 including potable water supply and distribution systems; sanitary, waste, storm  
1127 drainage, and venting systems; plumbing fixtures and equipment; and fuel gas piping  
1128 systems and fuel-gas-fired appliances, including piping downstream of the gas meter  
1129 or storage tank;

1130 (B) Plumbing system layout, pipe sizing, material selection, inspection, testing,  
1131 diagnosing, and troubleshooting of plumbing and fuel gas systems, including the  
1132 application of applicable plumbing codes, standards, and manufacturer installation  
1133 requirements, performed under appropriate supervision;

1134 (C) Application of safe work practices, including job site and trench safety, confined  
1135 space awareness, fall protection, lockout and tagout procedures, and the proper  
1136 selection and use of personal protective equipment;

1137 (D) Performance of supporting plumbing related work directly associated with the  
1138 installation, alteration, service, or repair of plumbing systems, including support of  
1139 plumbing system components, trenching, excavation, and backfilling, material handling  
1140 and staging, demolition and general labor, operation of tools or equipment commonly  
1141 used in plumbing work, assisting licensed plumbers, and installation of pipe and tubing  
1142 supports, including hangers, strut, supports, and bracing; and

1143 (E) Full-time employment as an estimator or project manager for a Class I Restricted  
1144 or Class II Unrestricted Master Plumbing Contractor, where such employment involves  
1145 regular exposure to plumbing systems, plans, specifications, and job site coordination;

1146 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from the licensed Master Plumber Class I or Master  
1147 Plumber Class II who supervised or otherwise oversaw the applicant's work, whether as  
1148 a current or former employer, attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential  
1149 requirements set forth in this subsection. When the applicant's qualifying experience was  
1150 obtained under the supervision of more than one such individual, a separate signed  
1151 affidavit shall be submitted by each individual who supervised or oversaw the applicable  
1152 portion of the applicant's experience; and

1153 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
1154 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
1155 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
1156 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

1157 (k) Any individual seeking to be licensed as a Master Plumber Class I under the provisions  
1158 of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form prescribed by  
1159 the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction Industry Licensing  
1160 Board, and meet the following requirements:

1161 (1) Successfully pass the board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1162 (2) Have completed a minimum of four years of full-time experience in plumbing work  
1163 as would be covered by items of the Georgia State Plumbing Code, at least three years  
1164 of which shall have been performed while licensed as a Journeyman Plumber under this  
1165 chapter. Qualifying experience under this subsection shall include participation in  
1166 plumbing work demonstrating practical competency, as applicable to the scope of  
1167 licensure requested and consistent with the requirements of this paragraph. Such  
1168 experience shall be obtained under the supervision of a licensed master plumber;  
1169 provided, however, that for licensure as a Statewide Master Plumber Class I, qualifying  
1170 experience shall be limited to plumbing work performed within the restricted scope of  
1171 practice applicable to a Master Plumber Class I, as defined in this chapter. Such  
1172 qualifying experience includes, but is not limited to:

- 1173 (A) Installation, maintenance, alteration, service, or repair of plumbing systems,  
1174 including potable water supply and distribution systems, sanitary, waste, storm  
1175 drainage, and venting systems, plumbing fixtures and equipment, and fuel gas piping  
1176 systems and fuel-gas-fired appliances, including piping downstream of the gas meter  
1177 or storage tank;
- 1178 (B) Plumbing system layout, pipe sizing, material selection, inspection, testing,  
1179 diagnosing, and troubleshooting of plumbing and fuel gas systems, including the  
1180 application of applicable plumbing codes, standards, and manufacturer installation  
1181 requirements, performed under appropriate supervision;
- 1182 (C) Application of safe work practices, including job site and trench safety, confined  
1183 space awareness, fall protection, lockout and tagout procedures, and the proper  
1184 selection and use of personal protective equipment;
- 1185 (D) Performance of supporting plumbing related work directly associated with the  
1186 installation, alteration, service, or repair of plumbing systems, including support of  
1187 plumbing system components; trenching, excavation, and backfilling; material handling  
1188 and staging, demolition and general labor, operation of tools or equipment commonly  
1189 used in plumbing work, assisting licensed plumbers, and installation of pipe and tubing  
1190 supports, including hangers, strut, supports, and bracing; and
- 1191 (E) Full-time employment as an estimator or project manager for a Master Plumber  
1192 Class I or Master Plumber Class II, where such employment involves regular exposure  
1193 to plumbing systems, plans, specifications, and job site coordination;
- 1194 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from any licensed Master Plumber Class I or Master  
1195 Plumber Class II who supervised or otherwise oversaw the applicant's work, whether as  
1196 a current or former employer, attesting to the applicant's completion of the primary  
1197 experiential requirements set forth in this subsection. When the applicant's qualifying  
1198 full-time experience was obtained under the supervision of more than one such

1199 individual, a separate signed affidavit shall be submitted by each individual who  
1200 supervised or oversaw the applicable portion of the applicant's experience; and

1201 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
1202 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
1203 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
1204 documentation for noncitizen applicants.

1205 (l) Any individual seeking to be licensed as a Master Plumber Class II under the provisions  
1206 of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form prescribed by  
1207 the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction Industry Licensing  
1208 Board, and meet the following requirements:

1209 (1) Successfully pass the board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1210 (2) Have completed a minimum of five years of full-time experience in plumbing work  
1211 as would be covered by items of the state minimum standard plumbing code, with at least  
1212 four of the five years being licensed as a Journeyman Plumber. Qualifying experience  
1213 under this subsection shall include participation in plumbing work demonstrating  
1214 practical competency in the following areas, as applicable to the scope of licensure  
1215 requested and consistent with the requirements of this paragraph. Such experience shall  
1216 be obtained under the supervision of a licensed master plumber; provided, however, that  
1217 for licensure as a Master Plumber Class II, not less than two years of the required  
1218 experience shall have been obtained performing plumbing work within the unrestricted  
1219 scope of practice applicable to a Master Plumber Class II, as defined in this chapter:

1220 (A) Participation in the installation, maintenance, alteration, service, or repair of  
1221 plumbing systems, including potable water supply and distribution systems, sanitary,  
1222 waste, storm drainage, and venting systems, plumbing fixtures and equipment, and fuel  
1223 gas piping systems and fuel-gas-fired appliances, including piping downstream of the  
1224 gas meter or storage tank;

1225 (B) Involvement in plumbing system layout, pipe sizing, material selection, and  
1226 installation methods, performed under appropriate supervision where required;  
1227 (C) Participation in the inspection, testing, troubleshooting, and correction of plumbing  
1228 and fuel gas systems, including verification of system performance and compliance  
1229 with applicable plumbing codes, standards, and manufacturer installation requirements;  
1230 (D) Implementation and application of safe work practices, including job site and  
1231 trench safety, confined space awareness, fall protection, lockout and tagout procedures,  
1232 and the proper selection and use of personal protective equipment; and  
1233 (E) Supervision or lead responsibility for plumbing personnel, including training,  
1234 assignment of duties, oversight of work quality, and enforcement of safety and code  
1235 compliance requirements;  
1236 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from any licensed Master Plumber Class I or Master  
1237 Plumber Class II who supervised or otherwise oversaw the applicant's work, whether as  
1238 a current or former employer, attesting to the applicant's completion of the primary  
1239 experiential requirements set forth in this subsection. When the applicant's qualifying  
1240 experience was obtained under the supervision of more than one such individual, a  
1241 separate signed affidavit shall be submitted by each individual who supervised or  
1242 oversaw the applicable portion of the applicant's experience; and  
1243 (4) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
1244 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
1245 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
1246 documentation for noncitizen applicants.  
1247 (m) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
1248 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
1249 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
1250 action authorized by the division.

1251 43-14-14.

1252 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'division' means the Division of Conditioned Air  
1253 Contractors.

1254 (b) No person shall engage in conditioned air contracting unless such person has a valid  
1255 license issued by the division.

1256 (c) The division shall certify all applicants for licensure under this Code section who  
1257 satisfy the requirements of this Code section.

1258 (d) A person that is not licensed as a conditioned air contractor shall be prohibited from  
1259 advertising in any manner that such person is in the business or profession of a conditioned  
1260 air contractor unless the work is performed by a licensed conditioned air contractor.

1261 (e) No partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall have the right to engage  
1262 in the business of conditioned air contracting unless there is regularly connected with such  
1263 partnership, limited liability company, or corporation a person or persons actively engaged  
1264 in the performance of such business on a full-time basis who have valid licenses issued to  
1265 them as provided for in this chapter; provided, however, that partners, officers, and  
1266 employees of the individual who fulfilled the licensing requirements shall continue to be  
1267 authorized to engage in the business of conditioned air contracting under a license which  
1268 was valid at the time of the licensee's death for a period of 90 days from the date of such  
1269 death. The division may, at its discretion, upon application by the conditioned air  
1270 contractor showing good cause, grant one additional 90 day grace period.

1271 (f) Partnerships, limited liability companies, or corporations having more than one office  
1272 location from which conditioned air contracting is performed shall have at least one person  
1273 stationed in each branch office of such partnership, limited liability company, or  
1274 corporation who is engaged in the performance of conditioned air contracting on a full-time  
1275 basis who is supervising the installation, repair, alteration, and service work of air  
1276 conditioning and heating systems of all employees of such branch office locations; and who  
1277 has a valid license issued as provided in this Code section.

1278 (g) It shall be the duty of all partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations  
1279 qualified under this chapter to notify the appropriate division within seven days of the  
1280 severance of connection with such partnership, limited liability company, or corporation  
1281 of any person or persons upon whom such qualification rested.

1282 (h) Any individual seeking to be licensed as a Conditioned Air Contractor Class I under  
1283 the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form  
1284 prescribed by the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction  
1285 Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following requirements:

1286 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1287 (2) Have completed a minimum of years of full-time experience performing conditioned  
1288 air work of a type covered by the state minimum standard codes, regardless of whether  
1289 such code applied to the work in the area or at the time such work was performed by the  
1290 applicant;

1291 (A) Qualifying experience under this subsection shall consist of two years of  
1292 residential installation experience as a lead mechanic, one year as a service technician,  
1293 one year of residential supervisory experience; and

1294 (B) An applicant shall receive credit toward the experience requirements of this section  
1295 based on the actual instructional time completed in relevant coursework, meaning  
1296 coursework directly related to the scope of licensure requested, provided that such  
1297 credit shall not exceed two years for completion of a technical school or technical  
1298 college diploma program in air conditioning technology, engineering, or engineering  
1299 technology from an institution accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the  
1300 division, or one year for completion of a vocational-technical school certificate program  
1301 from an institution accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the division;

1302 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from any licensed architect, licensed professional engineer,  
1303 public building official or building inspector, or licensed conditioned air contractor who  
1304 directly supervised or otherwise oversaw the applicant's work, whether as a current or

1305 former employer, attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements  
1306 set forth in this Code section. When the applicant's qualifying experience was obtained  
1307 under the supervision of more than one such individual, a separate signed affidavit shall  
1308 be submitted by each individual who supervised or oversaw the applicable portion of the  
1309 applicant's experience;

1310 (4) Complete the Type II Federal Environmental Protection Agency Section 608  
1311 Technician Certification;

1312 (5) Complete a board approved heat loss and gain and duct design course; and

1313 (6) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
1314 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, and submit an affidavit verifying lawful  
1315 presence in the United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, together with any  
1316 required immigration documentation for noncitizen applicants.

1317 (i) Any individual seeking to be licensed as a Conditioned Air Contractor Class II under  
1318 the provisions of this chapter shall file a completed application with the division on a form  
1319 prescribed by the division, pay the required fees established by the State Construction  
1320 Industry Licensing Board, and meet the following requirements:

1321 (1) Successfully pass a board approved examination with a minimum score of 70;

1322 (2)(A) Have completed a minimum of five years of full-time experience performing  
1323 conditioned air work covered by the state minimum standard codes, regardless of  
1324 whether such code applied to the work in the area or at the time such work was  
1325 performed by the applicant. Qualifying experience under this subsection shall consist  
1326 of two years of commercial supervisory experience, one year as a service technician or  
1327 service supervisor, and two years of installation as a lead mechanic with at least one of  
1328 the years being commercial only, installing conditioned air systems that exceed a net  
1329 175,000 BTU of heating and 60,000 BTU of cooling.

1330 (B) An applicant shall receive credit toward the experience requirements of this Code  
1331 section based on the actual instructional time completed in relevant coursework,

1332 meaning coursework directly related to the scope of licensure requested, provided that  
1333 such credit shall not exceed two years for completion of a technical school or technical  
1334 college diploma program in air conditioning technology, engineering, or engineering  
1335 technology from an institution accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the  
1336 division, or one year for completion of a vocational-technical school certificate program  
1337 from an institution accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the division;  
1338 (3) Submit a signed affidavit from a licensed architect, licensed professional engineer,  
1339 public building official or building inspector, or licensed conditioned air contractor who  
1340 directly supervised or otherwise oversaw the applicant's work, whether as a current or  
1341 former employer, attesting to the applicant's completion of the experiential requirements  
1342 set forth in this subsection. When the applicant's qualifying experience was obtained  
1343 under the supervision of more than one such individual, a separate signed affidavit shall  
1344 be submitted by each individual who supervised or oversaw the applicable portion of the  
1345 applicant's experience;  
1346 (4) Complete the Type II and Type III Federal Environmental Protection Agency Section  
1347 608 Technician Certification;  
1348 (5) Complete a board approved heat loss and gain and duct design course; and  
1349 (6) Submit at least one secure and verifiable document, as defined in Code Section  
1350 50-36-2, establishing the applicant's identity, an affidavit verifying lawful presence in the  
1351 United States pursuant to Code Section 50-36-1, and any required immigration  
1352 documentation for noncitizen applicants.  
1353 (j) Application for a license under this Code section shall constitute express consent and  
1354 authorization for the Secretary of State or his or her representative to perform a criminal  
1355 background check. Each applicant who submits an application to the Secretary of State  
1356 for licensure agrees to provide the Secretary of State with any and all information  
1357 necessary to run a criminal background check, including, but not limited to, classifiable

1358 sets of fingerprints. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the  
1359 performance of such background check.

1360 (k) The decision of the division regarding the qualifications of licensure shall, in the  
1361 absence of fraud, be conclusive. All individuals, individuals serving as partners in  
1362 partnerships, applicants for limited liability companies, or applicants for corporations  
1363 desiring to engage in conditioned air contracting shall be licensed under this Code section  
1364 before engaging in such vocation and business, including at the local level.

1365 (l) Any person or entity violating this Code section shall be subject to discipline and  
1366 penalties as provided in this chapter, including, but not limited to, license denial,  
1367 suspension, revocation, administrative fines, injunction, or any other lawful enforcement  
1368 action authorized by the division.

1369 43-14-15.

1370 Whenever it shall appear to a division of the board or to the executive director or to a  
1371 county or municipal inspection authority that any person is or has been violating this  
1372 chapter or any of the lawful rules, regulations, or orders of the board, the division of the  
1373 board, the local inspection authority, or the appropriate prosecuting attorney may file a  
1374 petition for an injunction in the proper superior court of this state against such person for  
1375 the purpose of enjoining any such violation. It shall not be necessary to allege or prove that  
1376 there is no adequate remedy at law. The right of injunction provided for in this Code  
1377 section shall be in addition to any other legal remedy which the board has and shall be in  
1378 addition to any right of criminal prosecution provided for by law.

1379 43-14-16.

1380 (a) Any municipal or county inspection authority which meets the standards established  
1381 by the board shall be authorized, after notice and hearing, to suspend the license or  
1382 certification, or refuse to restore a license or certification to any person or licensee upon

1383 the grounds set out in paragraph (4) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-14-6; provided,  
1384 however, that such suspension of a license by a local inspection authority shall be  
1385 applicable only within the jurisdiction of such local authority. Any person aggrieved by  
1386 an action of a local authority shall be entitled to an appeal to the appropriate division of the  
1387 board and a hearing.

1388 (b)(1) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to prohibit the governing authority  
1389 of any county or municipality in the state from adopting and enforcing codes at the local  
1390 level; provided, however, that no county or municipality may require any licensed  
1391 conditioned air contractor or licensed plumber who has executed and deposited a bond  
1392 as authorized in paragraph (2) of this subsection to give or furnish or execute any code  
1393 compliance bond or similar bond for the purpose of ensuring that all construction,  
1394 installation, or modifications are made or completed in compliance with the county or  
1395 municipal ordinances or building and construction codes.

1396 (2) In order to protect the public from damages arising from any work by a licensed  
1397 conditioned air contractor or licensed plumber, which work fails to comply with the  
1398 ordinances or building and construction codes adopted by any county or municipal  
1399 corporation, any such licensed conditioned air contractor or licensed plumber may  
1400 execute and deposit with the judge of the probate court in the county of his or her  
1401 principal place of business a bond in the sum of \$10,000.00. Such bond shall be a cash  
1402 bond of \$10,000.00 or executed by a surety authorized and qualified to write surety bonds  
1403 in the State of Georgia and shall be approved by the judge of the probate court. Such  
1404 bond shall be conditioned upon all work done or supervised by such licensee complying  
1405 with the provisions of any ordinances or building and construction codes of any county  
1406 or municipal corporation wherein the work is performed. Action on such bond may be  
1407 brought against the principal and surety thereon in the name of and for the benefit of any  
1408 person who suffers damages as a consequence of said licensee's work not conforming to  
1409 the requirements of any ordinances or building and construction codes; provided,

1410 however, that the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons so damaged shall in no  
1411 event exceed the sum of such bond.

1412 (3) In any case where a bond is required under this subsection, the conditioned air  
1413 contractor or plumber shall file a copy of the bond with the building official in the  
1414 political subdivision wherein the work is being performed.

1415 (4) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to or affect any bonding  
1416 requirements involving contracts for public works as provided in Chapter 10 of Title 13.

1417 (c) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed as prohibiting or preventing a  
1418 municipality or county from fixing, charging, assessing, or collecting any license fee,  
1419 registration fee, tax, or gross receipt tax on any related business or on anyone engaged in  
1420 any related business governed by this chapter.

1421 43-14-17.

1422 (a) If a person is in violation Code Section 43-14-8, 43-14-9, 43-14-10, 43-14-13, or  
1423 43-14-14, it shall not be necessary for an investigator to observe or witness the unlicensed  
1424 person engaged illegally in the process of work or to show work in progress or work  
1425 completed in order to prove the unlawful practice of electrical contracting, low voltage  
1426 contracting, utility contracting, plumbing contracting, or conditioned air contracting, by an  
1427 unlicensed person.

1428 (b) It shall be prima-facie evidence of a violation of this chapter if any person not licensed  
1429 as a conditioned air contractor, plumbing contractor, electrical contractor, utility contractor,  
1430 or low voltage contractor advertises that such person is in the business or profession of a  
1431 conditioned air contractor, plumbing contractor, electrical contractor utility contractor, or  
1432 low voltage contractor or advertises in a manner such that the general public would believe  
1433 that such person is a licensed conditioned air contractor or in the business or profession of  
1434 a conditioned air contractor, is a licensed plumbing contractor in the business or profession  
1435 of a plumbing contractor, or is a licensed electrical contractor in the business or profession

1436 of an electrical contractor, is a licensed utility contractor in the business or profession of  
1437 a utility contractor, or is a licensed low voltage contractor in the business or profession of  
1438 a low voltage contractor. Advertising under this subsection includes, but is not limited to,  
1439 newspaper, internet, social media and digital applications, television, radio, telephone  
1440 directory listings, mailings, business cards, or signage at a place of business or attached to  
1441 a vehicle.

1442 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Code Section 43-1-20.1, after notice and hearing,  
1443 the board may issue a cease and desist order prohibiting any person from violating the  
1444 provisions of this chapter by engaging in the business or profession of a conditioned air  
1445 contractor, plumbing contractor, electrical contractor, or low voltage contractor without a  
1446 license as required under this chapter or by constructing, erecting, altering, or repairing a  
1447 utility system without a properly certified utility manager or properly certified utility  
1448 foreman present at the job site.

1449 (d) With respect to plumbing contracting, conditioned air contracting, low voltage  
1450 contracting, and electrical contracting, the violation of any cease and desist order of the  
1451 board issued under subsection (c) of this Code section shall subject the person violating the  
1452 order to further proceedings before the board, and the board shall be authorized to impose  
1453 a fine not to exceed \$1,500.00 for each violation thereof. Each day that a person practices  
1454 in violation of this Code section and chapter shall constitute a separate violation.

1455 (e) With respect to utility contracting, the violation of any cease and desist order of the  
1456 board issued under subsection (c) of this Code section shall subject the person violating the  
1457 order to further proceedings before the board, and the board shall be authorized to impose  
1458 a fine not to exceed \$5,000.00 for each violation thereof. Each day that a person practices  
1459 in violation of this Code section and chapter or constructs, erects, alters, or repairs a utility  
1460 system without a properly certified utility manager or properly certified utility foreman  
1461 present at such job site shall constitute a separate violation.

1462 (f) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to prohibit the board from seeking  
1463 remedies otherwise available by statute without first seeking a cease and desist order in  
1464 accordance with the provisions of this Code section.

1465 (g) Any person violating this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon  
1466 conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned for not more than  
1467 six months, or both.

1468 43-14-18.

1469 (a) Every person holding a license issued by a division of the board shall display it in a  
1470 conspicuous manner at his or her place of business.

1471 (b) All commercial vehicles used by licensees and certificate holders exclusively in the  
1472 daily operation of their business shall have prominently displayed thereon the company or  
1473 business registration or certificate number issued by the Secretary of State's office. Such  
1474 registration number or certificate number, or website address where such number can be  
1475 found, shall also be prominently displayed on any advertising relating to work which a  
1476 licensee or certificate holder purports to have the capacity to perform. Said registration or  
1477 certificate number shall also be printed on all invoices and proposal forms.

1478 43-14-19.

1479 (a) This chapter shall apply to all installations, alterations, and repairs of plumbing, air  
1480 conditioning and heating, or electrical or low voltage wiring or utility systems within or on  
1481 public or private buildings, structures, or premises except as otherwise provided in this  
1482 Code section.

1483 (b) Any person that holds a license issued under this chapter may engage in the business  
1484 of plumbing contracting, electrical contracting, conditioned air contracting, low voltage  
1485 contracting, or utility contracting but only as prescribed by the license, throughout the state;  
1486 and except as provided in Code Section 43-14-16, no municipality or county may require

1487 such person to comply with any additional licensing requirements imposed by such  
1488 municipality or county.

1489 (c) This chapter shall not apply to:

1490 (1) The installation, alteration, or repair of plumbing, air conditioning and heating, utility  
1491 systems, or electrical services, except low voltage wiring services, up to and including  
1492 the meters where such work is performed by and is an integral part of the system owned  
1493 or operated by a public service corporation, an electrical, water, or gas department of any  
1494 municipality in this state, a railroad company, a pipeline company, or a mining company  
1495 in the exercise of its normal function as such;

1496 (2) Low voltage wiring performed by public utilities, except that the portion of the  
1497 business of public utilities which involves the installation, alteration, repair, or service  
1498 of telecommunications systems for profit shall be covered under this chapter;

1499 (3) The installation, construction, or maintenance of power systems or  
1500 telecommunications systems for the generation or distribution of electric current  
1501 constructed under the National Electrical Safety Code, which regulates the safety  
1502 requirements of utilities; but the interior wiring regulated by the National Electrical  
1503 Safety Code shall not be exempt and must be done by an electrical contractor, except as  
1504 otherwise provided by law;

1505 (4) Any technician employed by a municipal or county franchised community antenna  
1506 television (CATV) system or a municipally owned CATV system in the performance of  
1507 work on the system;

1508 (5) Regular full-time employees of an institution, manufacturer, or business who perform  
1509 plumbing, electrical, low voltage wiring, utility contracting, or conditioned air contracting  
1510 when working on the premises of their employer;

1511 (6) A contractor certified by the Department of Public Health to make the connection to  
1512 any on-site waste-water management system from the stub out exiting the structure to an  
1513 on-site waste-water management system;

- 1514 (7) Any employee or authorized agent of a regulated gas utility or municipally owned  
1515 gas utility while in the course and scope of such employment; or
- 1516 (8) Persons licensed as manufactured or mobile home installers by the state fire marshal  
1517 when:
- 1518 (A) Coupling the electrical connection from the service entrance panel outside the  
1519 manufactured housing to the distribution panel board inside the manufactured housing;
- 1520 (B) Connecting the exterior sewer outlets to the aboveground sewer system; or
- 1521 (C) Connecting the exterior water line to the aboveground water system.
- 1522 (d) This chapter shall not prohibit:
- 1523 (1) An individual from installing, altering, or repairing plumbing fixtures, air  
1524 conditioning and heating, air conditioning and heating fixtures, utility systems, or  
1525 electrical or low voltage wiring services in a residential dwelling owned or occupied by  
1526 such individual; provided, however, that all such work must be done in conformity with  
1527 all other provisions of this chapter, the rules and regulations of the board, and any  
1528 applicable county or municipal resolutions, ordinances, codes, or inspection  
1529 requirements;
- 1530 (2) An individual employed on the maintenance staff of a facility owned by the state or  
1531 by a county, municipality, or other political subdivision from installing, altering, or  
1532 repairing plumbing, plumbing fixtures, air conditioning and heating fixtures, utility  
1533 systems, or electrical or low voltage wiring services when such work is an integral part  
1534 of the maintenance requirements of the facility; provided, however, that all such work  
1535 must be done in conformity with all other provisions of this chapter and the orders, rules,  
1536 and regulations of the board;
- 1537 (3) Any person from installing, altering, or repairing plumbing, plumbing fixtures, air  
1538 conditioning and heating fixtures, utility systems, or electrical or low voltage wiring  
1539 services in a farm or ranch service building or as an integral part of any irrigation system  
1540 on a farm or ranch when such system is not located within 30 feet of any dwelling or any

1541 building devoted to animal husbandry. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
1542 limit the application of any resolution, ordinance, code, or inspection requirements of a  
1543 county or municipality relating to such connections;

1544 (4) Any person from installing, altering, or repairing the plumbing component of a lawn  
1545 sprinkler system from a backflow preventer which was installed by a licensed plumber;  
1546 provided, however, that all such work must be done in conformity with all other  
1547 provisions of this chapter, the rules and regulations of the board, and ordinances of the  
1548 county or municipality; or

1549 (5) Any propane dealer that is properly insured as required by law and that holds a  
1550 liquefied petroleum gas license issued by the Safety Fire Commissioner from installing,  
1551 repairing, or servicing a propane system or the gas piping or components of such system;  
1552 provided, however, that such propane dealers shall be prohibited from performing the  
1553 installation of conditioned air systems or forced air heating systems unless licensed to do  
1554 so under this chapter.

1555 (e) Any person qualified by the Department of Transportation to perform work for the  
1556 department shall not be required to be licensed under:

1557 (1) Code Section 43-14-10 or certified under Code Sections 43-14-11 and 43-14-12 in  
1558 order to perform work for the department; or

1559 (2) Code Section 43-14-10 or certified under Code Sections 43-14-11 and 43-14-12 in  
1560 order to perform work for a county, municipality, authority, or other political subdivision  
1561 when such work is of the same nature as that for which the person is qualified when  
1562 performing department work; provided, however, that such work is not performed on a  
1563 utility system as defined in Code Section 43-14-2 for which the person receives  
1564 compensation.

1565 (f) Any person who contracts with a licensed conditioned air contractor:

1566 (1) As part of a conditioned air contract to install, alter, or repair duct systems, control  
1567 systems, or insulation is not required to hold a license from the Division of Conditioned

1568 Air Contractors. The conditioned air contractor must retain responsibility for completion  
1569 of the contract, including any subcontracted work;

1570 (2) To perform a complete installation, alteration, or repair of a conditioned air system  
1571 must hold a valid license from the Division of Conditioned Air Contractors; or

1572 (3) To perform for or on behalf of a conditioned air contractor the installation, alteration,  
1573 or repair of the electrical, low voltage, or plumbing components of a conditioned air  
1574 system must hold a valid license from the appropriate division of the board.

1575 (g) Any utility contractor holding a valid utility contractor's license under this chapter shall  
1576 be authorized to bid for and perform work on any utility system in this state without  
1577 obtaining a license under Chapter 41 of this title. It shall be unlawful for the owner of a  
1578 utility system or anyone soliciting work to be performed on a utility system to refuse to  
1579 allow a utility contractor holding a valid utility contractor's license under this chapter to bid  
1580 for or perform work on a utility system on the basis that such contractor does not hold a  
1581 license under Chapter 41 of this title.

1582 43-14-20.

1583 (a) All licenses and certificates issued under this chapter shall be valid for a period of two  
1584 years and shall be subject to biennial renewal upon expiration.

1585 (b) All applications for renewal of a license or certificate shall be filed with the division  
1586 director prior to the expiration date, accompanied by the biennial renewal fee prescribed  
1587 by the board and certifying that all current requirements of continuing education as  
1588 determined by the board have been fulfilled.

1589 (c) Any person who fails to renew a license or certificate on or before its expiration date  
1590 may apply for late renewal during a period not to exceed 31 days immediately following  
1591 the expiration of the biennial license. Such application shall be submitted and shall include  
1592 the required renewal information and late renewal fee, as prescribed by the board.

1593 (d) Any license or certificate that is not renewed on or before its expiration date or during  
1594 the late renewal period provided in subsection (c) of this Code section shall lapse and shall  
1595 not be in good standing unless reinstated pursuant to this Code section.

1596 (e) If an application for reinstatement is submitted less than three years after the expiration  
1597 date of the license or certificate, the applicant shall submit a reinstatement application, the  
1598 required reinstatement fee, verification that the licensee or certificate holder has completed  
1599 the required continuing education requirements, and any other information, as prescribed  
1600 by the board.

1601 (f) If an application for reinstatement is submitted more than three years after the  
1602 expiration date of a license or certificate, the applicant shall, in addition to satisfying the  
1603 applicable continuing education requirements, comply with any additional requirements  
1604 prescribed by the board or the appropriate division. Such requirements may include, when  
1605 applicable to the license or certificate sought, reexamination and the submission of an  
1606 affidavit attesting that the applicant meets the applicable experience requirements.

1607 (g) Each division of the board is authorized to require individuals seeking renewal of any  
1608 license or certificate issued under this chapter to complete continuing education courses  
1609 approved by that division.

1610 (h) Each division may approve continuing education courses or programs offered within  
1611 or outside this state for licensees and certificate holders, subject to reasonable,  
1612 nondiscriminatory fees. Such courses or programs shall relate to the licensed activity and  
1613 shall be offered by qualified providers in accordance with rules adopted by the board.  
1614 Courses conducted primarily to promote specific products or services shall not be  
1615 permitted.

1616 (i) Each division may waive the continuing education requirements in cases of hardship,  
1617 disability, or illness or under such other circumstances as the division deems appropriate.

1618 (j) Each division shall make all reasonable efforts to make the continuing education  
1619 offered pursuant to this Code section available online or through home study courses and  
1620 accessible at times outside of the normal work hours of those licensed by such division.

1621 (k) Continuing education hours shall not be carried forward to a subsequent renewal  
1622 period.

1623 (l) Failure to comply with the continuing education or renewal requirements of this Code  
1624 section shall render the license or certificate invalid and subject the licensee or certificate  
1625 holder to disciplinary action, including denial of renewal or revocation of the license. Such  
1626 licensee or certificate holder shall not be authorized to engage in the business or profession  
1627 for which licensed until the license or certificate is renewed or reinstated in accordance  
1628 with applicable procedures.

1629 43-14-21.

1630 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

1631 (1) 'Discharge' means an honorable discharge or a general discharge from active military  
1632 service. Such term shall not mean a discharge under other than honorable conditions, a  
1633 bad conduct discharge, or a dishonorable discharge.

1634 (2) 'Military' means the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component of the  
1635 armed forces of the United States, including the National Guard.

1636 (b) A committee composed of the division director, members of the Governor's Office of  
1637 Workforce Development, and members of the relevant divisions of the licensing board  
1638 representing the profession for which the applicant is seeking a license shall determine the  
1639 military specialties or certifications the training or experience for which substantially meets  
1640 or exceeds the requirements to obtain a license for Electrical Contractor Class I,  
1641 Journeyman Plumber, Conditioned Air Contractor Class I, or Utility Foreman. The  
1642 Governor shall designate a chairperson from among the members of the committee.

1643 (c) Any current or former member of the military may apply to the licensing board for the  
1644 expedited issuance of a license or certification based upon his or her having obtained a  
1645 military specialty or certification, the training or experience for which substantially meets  
1646 or exceeds the requirements to obtain a license or certification identified in subsection (b)  
1647 of this Code section.

1648 (d) In order to qualify under this Code section, an applicant shall make application not  
1649 later than two years after his or her discharge. The licensing board, in its discretion, may  
1650 by rule or regulation extend such two-year period for a license or certification, or class  
1651 thereof, or may extend such two-year period for an individual applicant if certain  
1652 circumstances, including, but not limited to, health, hospitalization, or other related  
1653 emergencies or exigencies, prevented the member of the military from making an  
1654 application.

1655 (e) Such application shall be in such form and shall require such documentation as the  
1656 division director shall determine. If the applicant satisfies the requirements of this Code  
1657 section, the division director shall direct the appropriate division to issue the appropriate  
1658 license, and the division shall immediately issue such license; provided, however, that the  
1659 applicant shall satisfy all financial and insurance requirements for the issuance of such  
1660 license. This Code section shall only apply to the initial issuance of a license. After the  
1661 initial issuance of a license, the licensee shall be subject to any provisions relating to the  
1662 renewal of the license applicable to all licensees.

1663 43-14-22.

1664 The board may establish a process through rules and regulations for licenses issued under  
1665 this chapter to be placed on inactive status and the qualifications necessary for such  
1666 licenses to be returned to active status; provided, however, that engaging in any conduct  
1667 that requires a license under this chapter while holding an inactive license shall be  
1668 considered an unlicensed practice and shall be prohibited.

1669 43-14-23.

1670 Each division of the board may, in its discretion, grant a license or certificate to any person  
 1671 who, at the time of application, is licensed or certified in another state whose requirements  
 1672 for licensure are substantially equal to the requirements for a similar license or certificate  
 1673 issued under this chapter, and to grant such person full privileges to engage in equivalent  
 1674 practice authorized under this chapter without requiring an examination, if applicable,  
 1675 provided that:

1676 (1) The applicant has been principally engaged in the practice authorized by such license  
 1677 or certificate for a period of not less than two years immediately preceding the  
 1678 application;

1679 (2) The applicant submits a proper application, pays a fee in an amount established by  
 1680 the board, and completes any additional safety training courses required by the board; and

1681 (3) The state in which the applicant is licensed or certified affords substantially  
 1682 equivalent licensure or certification privileges to persons licensed or certified under this  
 1683 chapter by the State of Georgia.

1684 43-14-24.

1685 This chapter shall be administered in accordance with Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia  
 1686 Administrative Procedure Act.'

1687 **SECTION 3.**

1688 Code Section 48-7-38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to deduction for  
 1689 payments to classified subcontractors, disclosure of tax returns, and maintenance of list of  
 1690 classified subcontractors, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (a) as follows:

1691 "(2) 'Small business' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 50-5-121  
 1692 means a business which is independently owned and operated and:

1693 (A) Tier one: has ten or fewer employees or \$1 million or less in gross receipts per  
1694 year;

1695 (B) Tier two: has 100 or fewer employees or \$10 million or less in gross receipts per  
1696 year; or

1697 (C) Tier three: has 300 or fewer employees or \$30 million or less in gross receipts per  
1698 year."

1699 **SECTION 4.**

1700 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.