

ARTICLE 1705
International Plumbing Code

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CROSS REFERENCES

Adoption by reference - see 3rd Class Charter Law §608(a) (53 P.S. §41608(a)); 3rd Class §2403(67) (53 P.S. §37403(67))
Licensing of plumbers - see 3rd Class §2603 (53 P.S. §37603)
Water quality criteria - see 25 Pa. Code Ch. 93

1705.01 DEFINITIONS.

- (a) “Administrative authority” means the Director of the Department of Economic Development or designee.
- (b) “Code” means this article and the International Plumbing Code as amended, together with any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder by the Code Official.
- (c) “Apprentice plumber” means a person who is engaged in learning the plumbing trade by working with and assisting a journeyman or master plumber in the installation, maintenance and repair of plumbing and drainage; or who is covered by an apprenticeship agreement with a local joint apprenticeship committee.
- (d) “Journeyman plumber” means any person other than a master or apprentice plumber who has demonstrated to the Examining Board their practical knowledge of the installation of plumbing and who has been licensed by the Board to install plumbing under the direction of a master plumber.
- (e) “Master plumber” means any person who has demonstrated their skill in planning, supervising and installing plumbing and who, having satisfied the Examining Board to his knowledge of the rules and regulations governing the same, and to his business integrity, has been granted a license as a master plumber. Such individuals shall have worked as a journeyman plumber for a period of not less than two years before being eligible for master certification. (Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

1705.02 ADOPTION AND FILE COPIES.

There is hereby adopted by the City for the purposes of regulating and controlling the design, construction, quality of materials, erection, installation, alteration, repair, location, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of plumbing systems, including permits and penalties, that certain code known as the International Plumbing Code, 1997 edition as published by the International Code Council, Inc., except such portions that are hereinafter deleted, modified or amended. Not less than three copies of which have been and are now filed in the offices of the City Clerk, and the same is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein. From the date on which this section takes effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling in the construction of all buildings and other subjects therein contained within the corporate limits of the City.

(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

1705.03 AMENDMENTS; ADDITIONS; DELETIONS.

Chapter 1 Administration

- (1) That Section 101.1 Title is amended to read as follows:
These regulations shall be known as the Plumbing Code of the City of York hereinafter referred to as "this Code".
- (2) Section 101.2 Scope is amended to read as follows:
The provisions of this Code shall apply to the erection, installation, alteration, repairs, relocation, replacement, addition to use or maintenance of plumbing systems within the jurisdiction.
Exception #1: No provisions of this Code will be construed to repeal any of the provisions and requirements of the York City Municipal Sewer Authority or its assigns. Provisions and requirements of the aforesaid sewer authority shall apply to all systems and equipment under its authority.
Exception #2: Provisions and requirements of Article 931 shall apply in all cases of disagreement with this Code and in all cases the more stringent requirements shall apply.
The provisions in the Appendices B, C, D, E, F, and G are hereby adopted and included as an integral part of this Code.
The provisions of any other appendices not so adopted shall not apply.
- (3) Section 106.5.2 Fee Schedule is amended by deleting the existing text and adding the following section to read:
A permit fee for all plumbing work shall be paid in accordance with the fee schedule as is set forth from time to time by resolution of the Council of the City of York, Pennsylvania.
- (4) Section 106.5.3 Fee Refunds is amended by deleting the existing text and adding the following to read:
In the case of a revocation of a permit or abandonment or discontinuance of a plumbing project, the portion of the work actually completed shall be computed and any excess fee for the incomplete work shall be returned to the permit holder upon written request. All plan examination and permit processing fees and all penalties that have been imposed on the permit holder under the requirements of this Code shall first be collected.
(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

- (5) Section 108.4 Violation penalties is hereby amended by deleting the existing text and adding the following section to read:
Any person who shall violate a provision of this Code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, construct, alter or repair a building or structure in violation of an approved plan or directive of the Code Official, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this Code, shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the first two continual and uncorrected violations and not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the third and any subsequent continual and uncorrected violation and the costs of prosecution, and in default of the payment thereof, shall be imprisoned for not more than ninety days. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.
- (6) Section 108.5 Stop work orders is hereby amended by deleting the existing text and adding the following section to read:
Any person who shall continue any work in or about a structure after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that the person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and the costs of prosecution.
- (7) Section 109.0 Means of Appeal is hereby amended by deleting all existing text and adding the following section to read:
Section 109.0 Means of Appeal. Any person shall have the right to appeal a decision by the Code Official to the Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals as is otherwise provided for by ordinances of the City of York, Pennsylvania.

Chapter 3 General Regulations

- (1) Section 305.6.1 Sewer depth is amended to read as follows:
Building sewers that connect to private sewage disposal systems shall be a minimum of thirty-six inches below the finished grade at the point of septic tank connection. Building sewers shall have a minimum of thirty-six inches below grade.

Chapter 7 Sanitary Drainage

- (1) Section 701.2 Sewer required is amended to read as follows:
Every building in which plumbing fixtures are installed and every premises having drainage piping shall be connected to a public sewer.

Chapter 9 Vents

- (1) Section 904.1 Roof extension. All open vent pipes that extend through a roof shall be terminated at least eighteen inches above the roof, except that where a roof is to be used for any purpose other than weather protection, the vent extensions shall be run at least seven feet above the roof.
- (2) Section 917.1 Air admittance valves is deleted in its entirety.

Chapter 14 Referenced Standards

- (1) That the "building code" shall be the BOCA National Building Code, 1999 edition, or such other edition, as is adopted by the City of York, Pennsylvania.

- (2) That the “gas code” shall be the NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code, 1996 edition, or such other edition, as is otherwise adopted by the City of York, Pennsylvania.
- (3) That the “mechanical code” shall be the International Mechanical Code, 1996 edition, or such other edition, as is otherwise adopted by the City of York, Pennsylvania.
(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

1705.04 BOARD OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS.

(a) Establishment, Composition, Tenure and Compensation. There is hereby established with the Department of Economic Development a Plumbing Examination Board, hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, to consist of not less than four members, as follows: a representative of the Department of Economic Development, a professional engineer, a master plumber, a journeyman plumber and a lay member of the general public. Each technical member of the Board shall have at least five years experience in his/her respective field. Board members shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council to serve for a period of three consecutive years. Each Board member, except one who is a regular employee of the Department of Economic Development, shall be compensated as provided for by resolution of Council.

(b) Meetings. The Board shall meet at such times as may be necessary for proper performance of its duties, but at least once during any six-month period and at the call of the administrative authority.

(c) Duties and Responsibilities. The Board is authorized and directed to administer and supervise the enforcement of the licensing portions of this article; to provide for such procedures as it may deem necessary to disclose violations; to receive and provide for the investigation of complaints; and to provide for the institution and prosecution of civil or criminal actions or both. To the extent that violation of the licensing provisions of this article creates an imminent danger to health, welfare or safety, it may be enforced by injunction in any court having jurisdiction to grant injunctive relief.
(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

1705.05 LICENSES.

(a) Plumber’s License. No person shall engage in the practice of plumbing either on his own behalf or the behalf of another as a master, journeyman or apprentice plumber without first obtaining a license from the administrative authority. All fees for obtaining or taking examinations for or transferring such licenses shall be in accordance with the fee schedule as set forth from time to time by resolution of the Council.
(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

(b) Application for License. Any person desiring to secure such license shall make application therefor on forms to be prepared and provided by the Board and before a license is issued, the Board shall determine that the applicant is competent and qualified to practice plumbing on the level of the license for which he is making application and that, to the extent required by the Board, the applicant is familiar with the provisions of this Code. Any conviction for violating this Code or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder shall be taken into consideration in determining whether or not the applicant is competent and qualified.
(Ord. 37-1970 Sec. 4.)

(c) Terms of Licenses, Transferability, Fees and Penalty. Every license issued by the administrative authority shall be for a period ending on December 31 next following and shall not be transferable. The fee for such annual license or renewal thereof shall be in accordance with the fee schedule as set forth from time to time by resolution of the Council and such fee shall be paid to the administrative authority before any such license or renewal thereof is issued. If a renewal of a license is not applied for on or before January 31, the license shall be revoked and a new test shall be required for reinstatement.
(Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

(d) Offenses. The practice of plumbing on each separate job by an unlicensed person shall constitute a separate offense.

(e) Plumbing Business. Every person engaged in the business of plumbing shall employ only licensed plumbers in the practice thereof, except that apprentices, helpers and laborers may be employed where all of their work is supervised by one or more licensed plumbers.

(f) Reciprocity. The Board may grant a license, without examination, upon payment of the stated fees, to a holder of a substantially equivalent license from another jurisdiction upon satisfying itself that the standards and qualifications required by the other jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to those required by it.

(g) Use of Licensee's Name by Another. No person who has obtained a plumber's license shall allow his name to be used by another person either for the purpose of obtaining permits, or for doing business or work under the license. Every person shall notify the Board of the address of his place of business, if any, and the name under which such business is carried on and shall give immediate notice to the Board of any change in either.

(h) Suspension or Revocation. The Board is empowered to suspend or revoke any license issued pursuant to this article after a hearing upon written notice containing grounds therefor, which notice shall be served personally upon the licensee or his agent at least five days prior to such hearing. At such a hearing the licensee shall be given an opportunity to present testimony, oral or written, and shall have the right of cross examination. All testimony shall be given under oath. The Board shall have power to administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses. The decision of the Board shall be based upon the evidence produced at the hearing and made part of the record thereof. A person whose license has been revoked shall not be permitted to apply for a new license within one year from the date of revocation. However, the person whose license has been revoked may appeal to the courts and if the decision of the Board is reversed, the license shall be reinstated. A person whose license has been revoked and who is applying for a new license shall be re-examined and pay such fees as are prescribed in subsection (c) hereof.

(i) Re-examination. Any person who fails to pass an examination prescribed by the Board may apply for re-examination after the expiration of thirty days upon payment of a new fee.

(j) Temporary Permit. The Board may issue a temporary license pending examination, provided the applicant holds a similar license from another jurisdiction or other reasons exist therefor which, in the discretion of the Board, merit the issuance of such a permit. Such permit shall not be valid for more than sixty days.
(Ord. 37-1970 §4.)

1705.06 RETIRED PLUMBERS.

(a) Any plumber heretofore licensed by the City who wishes to retire from the active practice of his occupation, but who wishes to be identified with the plumbing trade, may apply to the Plumbing Inspector for a certificate or card designating him as a retired or inactive plumber, upon paying an annual fee to the Plumbing Inspector. All fees for a certificate or card as a retired plumber or an inactive license shall be established by resolution of Council. Such certificate or card shall be signed by the Plumbing Inspector and attested by the Director of Community Development.

(b) Such certificate or card shall not give the holder thereof any authority to engage in or do any acts of the plumbing.

(Ord. 82-1969 Sec. 1,2; Ord. 19-97. Passed 12-2-97; Ord. 1-2000. Passed 1-18-00.)

1705.99 PENALTY.

Any person who shall violate the licensing provisions of this article shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the first two continual and uncorrected violations and not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the third and any subsequent continual and uncorrected violation and the costs of prosecution, and in default of the payment thereof, shall be imprisoned for not more than ninety days. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

(Ord. 1-2009. Passed 1-6-09.)