

ALABAMA PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS EXAMINING BOARD
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

720-X-1-.01 Description Of The Board.

The Board is a seven (7) member Board appointed by the Governor. The referenced statute describes the organization, general course, method of operation and method of public information. The public may make submissions and requests to the Board in writing through the mailing address:

Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board
216 Aquarius Dr., Suite 319
Homewood, Alabama 35209

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed February 6, 1991. **Amended:** Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-1-.02 Minimum Standards for Installation, Service, and Repair.

(1) In the absence of locally adopted codes, or minimum standards for the installation, service, and repair of plumbing, gas, and medical gas, the board, pursuant to its authority under Section 34-37-2

(a), Code of Ala. 1975, adopts the following minimum standards for the installation, service, and repair of plumbing, gas, and medical gas for all certified plumbing, gas, and medical gas contractors: (a) All certified plumbing and gas contractors shall comply with the minimum technical standards required by the 2015 International Residential Code for residential plumbing and gas installations, service, and repairs. The administrative sections in Chapter 1 shall not be applicable. Where there is a conflict between this code and a locally adopted code, this code shall govern.

(b) All certified plumbing contractors shall comply with the minimum standards of the 2015 International Plumbing Code for commercial plumbing installations, service, and repairs.

(c) All certified gas contractors shall comply with the minimum standards of the 2015 International Fuel Gas Code for commercial gas installations, service, and repairs. (d) All certified medical gas contractors shall comply with the minimum standards of the 2015 International Plumbing Code for Nonflammable Medical Gases and the NFPA 99 for flammable medical gases. Requires certification from NITC or other board approved agency or entity.

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2, as amended

History: New Rule: Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018

720-X-1-.03 Compliance.

The board may at any time conduct compliance checks via site visit, office visit, or by any other legal means as necessary to determine compliance with the Plumbers and Gas Fitter Examining Board's laws, and rules, and regulations. The board shall have the authority to inspect records, documents, personnel files, and any other documentation necessary to determine compliance with its laws, rules, and regulations.

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2, as amended

History: New Rule: Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018

720-X-2-.01 Definition Of Plumbing.

(1) With respect to the single-family residential dwelling domestic water supply, the water line from the meter to the building or from the outlet side of a well pump to the building is considered plumbing. With respect to the sewer, the building sewer begins at the connection with the building drain and is considered plumbing until it reaches the property line, an individual disposal system, or a point within an easement or right-of-way.

(2) Non-residential domestic water supply and sewer represented by mechanical drawings signed and sealed by an engineer licensed in the State of Alabama shall be considered plumbing. Non-residential domestic water supply four inches in diameter and greater, and sewer lines six inches in diameter and greater, represented by civil drawings signed and sealed by an engineer licensed in the State of Alabama shall not be considered plumbing.

(3) Sewage grinder pumps and sewage lift stations with discharge lines four inches and greater, and force mains four inches and larger shall not be considered plumbing.

(4) Cutting, boring, and removal of concrete shall not be considered plumbing.

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed February 6, 1991. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

Amended: Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-2-.02 Onsite Wastewater.

(1) On-site wastewater disposal systems which are represented by drawings signed and sealed by an engineer licensed in the State of Alabama shall not be considered plumbing. Any other onsite system installed by any legal entity holding a current license with the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board shall not be considered plumbing to within 3 to 5 feet of the building or residence.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: New Rule: Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-3-.01 Exchange Of Water Heaters.

(1) Water heaters may be exchanged by a certified plumbing contractor or by a certified gas fitting contractor.

Author: Ed Lawrence

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed February 6, 1991.

720-X-3-.02 Exchange Or Installation Of Gas Fixtures And Appliances.

(1) Supply piping from the shut off valve to the fixture or appliance, except for gas fired water heaters, shall not be considered gas pipe fitting. Any supply piping to, and including, the

isolation valve shall be considered gas pipe fitting, and must comply with all codes currently adopted by the Board.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: New Rule: Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 16, 2016.

720-X-4-.01 Forms, Requirements, And Fee Schedule.

The following forms shall be available in the Board office as well as on the Board website:

1. Information Update Form
2. Application for Examination
3. Application for Waiver of Annual Penalties and Fees
4. Apprentice Registration
5. Complaint Form
6. Application for Inactive Status
7. Application for Active Status
8. Proof of Citizenship or Lawful Presence of Non-Citizen Forms
9. Reciprocity Request
10. Registration of Legal Entity (Company Registration Form)
11. Work Experience Affidavit

Requirements	Renewal Fees	Non-Refundable Exam Fees
Apprentice	\$25.00 (Initial w/ Registration) \$25.00 (Annually)	
No Written Exam Required. Complete Registration Form and include a copy of Proof of Citizenship or Lawful Presence of Non-Citizen Form.		
Journeyman Plumber	\$50.00	\$110.00
Requires 2 years current work experience as Apprentice or completed Board Approved Apprentice Training Program, or other experience that, in the opinion of the board, qualifies the applicant to take required exam.		
Journeyman Gas Fitter	\$50.00	\$110.00
Requires 2 years current work experience as Apprentice or completed Board Approved Apprentice Training Program, or other experience that, in the opinion of the board, qualifies the applicant to take required exam.		
Master Plumber	\$150.00	\$160.00
Requires one year current work experience as Journeyman Plumber to take required exam.		
Master Gas Fitter	\$150.00	\$160.00
Requires one year current work experience as Journeyman Gas Fitter to take required exam.		

Medical Gas \$25.00

Requires certification from the National Institute of Testing and Certification or certification from any other agency or entity approved by the Board.

Prorated amounts for first year fees after July 1 of the calendar year, as outlined in r. 720-X-10-.01, will be as follows: \$12 for Apprentice, \$25 for Journeyman Plumber or Gas Fitter, and \$75 for Master Plumber or Gas Fitter. Persons who hold a current license/certification in good standing in another state may request reciprocity on forms provided by the Board in accordance with Ala. Code §34-37-11, and upon payment of all prescribed fees. Requires approved application, a current out-of-state Apprentice, Journeyman, or Master plumber and/or gas fitter license/certification, and payment of the current year's fee for the requested classification.

Author: James Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, §34-37-2.

History: Filed February 27, 1992. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 5, 1999; effective September 9, 1999. **Amended:** Filed September 18, 2002; effective October 23, 2002.

Amended: Filed February 18, 2003; effective March 25, 2003. **Amended:** Filed December 11, 2003; effective January 15, 2004. **Repealed and New Rule:** July 21, 2004; effective August 25, 2004. **Amended:** Filed November 15, 2007; effective December 20, 2007. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 2014; effective July 11, 2014. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

Amended: Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-5-.01 Work Permitted By Journeyman Plumbers.

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of Act No. 2015-496 as amended for a journeyman plumber, certified in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board to perform any plumbing, as provided in Act No. 2015-496 as amended or as may be further defined by the Board in rules passed by the Board, unless said journeyman plumber performs said work for a company that is properly registered with the Board and under the general supervision of a certified master plumber.

Authors: Ed Lawrence; David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed September 16, 1992. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-6-.01 Work Permitted By Journeyman Gas Fitters.

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of Act No. 2015-496 as amended for a journeyman gas fitter, certified in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board to perform any gas fitting work, as provided in Act No. 2015-496 as amended or as may be further defined by the Board in rules passed by the Board, unless said journeyman gas fitter performs said work for a company that is properly registered with the Board and under the general supervision of a certified master gas fitter.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed September 16, 1992. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-7-.01 Administration Of Examinations.

(1) All examinations for which the Board has authority to require shall be administered by an independent examining agency as selected by the Board.

(a) Examinations shall be based on the 2015 International Plumbing Code and the 2015 International Fuel Gas Code.

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed September 16, 1992. **Amended:** Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-8-.01 Venting Of Gas Heating Equipment.

Any contractor certified by the Alabama Board of Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors may install vents on natural gas burning heating equipment without certification by this Board.

Author: Ed Lawrence.

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed September 16, 1992.

720-X-9-.01 Penalty For Late Renewal Of Certificate Or Registration.

(1) All certificates and registrations expire on December 31 of each year. Certificate and registration fees must be paid prior to December 15 of the current year to be effective and otherwise in good standing the following calendar year. In the event the certificate or registration is renewed after December 31, but prior to February 1, the late renewal penalty shall be equal to 50% of the renewal rate for the respective certificate or registration. Late renewals received after February 1 shall be subject to a late renewal penalty equal to the renewal rate for the respective certificate or registration. The late renewal penalty is due at the time the current year's certificate or registration fee is paid.

(2) In addition to the current year's certificate or registration fee and late renewal penalty, the certificate fees for all unpaid back years shall be paid in accordance with Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-9. The certificate or registration fees for all unpaid back years are due at the time the current year's certificate or registration fee and late renewal penalty are paid.

Authors: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed November 23, 1992. **Amended:** Filed September 18, 2002, effective October 23, 2002. **Amended:** Filed May 12, 2003; effective June 16, 2003. **Amended:** Filed July 21, 2004; effective August 25, 2004. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

Amended: Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-10-.01 Waiver Or Proration Of First Year Certificate Fee.

(1) The Board shall be allowed to waive the first year fee for issuing a certificate for Journeyman and Master Plumbers and Gas Fitters who pay the examination fee and pass the examination for the respective classification.

(2) The Board shall be allowed to prorate the first year fee for issuing a certification or registration after July 1 of the calendar year in which the certification or registration is issued for Apprentice, Journeyman, and Master Plumbers and Gas Fitters who register with the Board or pay the examination fee and pass the examination for the respective classification.

Author: David H. Wilcox.

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.

History: Filed November 23, 1992. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-11-.01 Work Permitted By Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitters.

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of Act No. 2015-496, as amended, for an Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitter, certified in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board to perform any plumbing/gas fitting work, as provided in Act No. 2015-496, as amended, and as may be further defined by the Board in rules passed by the Board, unless said Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitter performs said work for a company that is properly registered with the Board and under the direct supervision of a certified Journeyman Plumber, Journeyman Gas Fitter, Master Plumber or Master Gas Fitter who remains on the job/work site at all times while such work is being performed by the Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitter. An Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitter is a trainee, therefore, it shall be unlawful, and a violation of Act No. 2015 -496, as amended, for any one Journeyman Plumber, Journeyman Gas Fitter, Master Plumber or Master Gas Fitter to directly supervise on any job site more than three Apprentice Plumber/Gas Fitter.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2

History: New Rule: Filed September 27, 1995; effective November 1, 1995. **Amended:** Filed November 15, 2007; effective December 20, 2007. **Amended:** Filed May 15, 2008; effective June 19, 2008. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-12-.01 Responsibility Of Master Plumber.

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of Act No. 2015-496, as amended, for a Master Plumber, certified in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board as provided in Act No. 2015-496, as amended, or as may be further defined by the Board in rules passed by the Board, to supervise or direct any person in the performance of plumbing or gas fitting work as defined in Section 34-37-1 (Code of Ala. 1975, as amended) where the person performing such work does not hold current certification with the Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-37-2; 34-37-17, as amended.

History: New Rule: Filed September 27, 1995; effective November 1, 1995. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-13-.01 Responsibility Of Master Gas Fitter.

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of Act No. 2015-496, as amended, for a Master Gas Fitter, certified in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board as provided in Act No. 2015-496, as amended, or as may be further defined by

the Board in rules passed by the Board, to supervise or direct any person in the performance of plumbing or gas fitting work as defined in Section 34-37-1 Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, where the person performing such work does not hold current certification with the Alabama Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2

History: New Rule: Filed September 27, 1995; effective November 1, 1995. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-14-.01 Definition Of Medical Gas Piping Systems.

Due to the threat to human life, no one shall install any medical gas piping or breach the integrity of any medical gas piping system unless the person has first received an endorsement for medical gas piping from the Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board and such endorsement is affixed to the current certificate for competency issued to said person and the certificate is in their possession. No endorsement from the Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board shall be issued or shall be valid unless said certificate holder also holds a current National Inspection Testing Certification (NITC), or other board approved agency or entity in medical gas fitting and is in possession of a valid NITC card, or card from another board approved agency or entity evidencing current certification. Annual renewal of the medical gas fitter endorsement requires submission to the Board of the medical gas fitters NITC, or other board approved agency or entity card evidencing a current, valid NITC certification, or other board approved agency or entity certification. Replacing cylinders and filters, and performing routine and preventive maintenance that does not breach the integrity of the medical gas piping system and does not constitute the installation, repair, or replacement of medical gas piping shall not require a medical gas piping endorsement.

Author: James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-37-2.

History: New Rule: Filed August 5, 1999; effective September 9, 1999. **Amended:** Filed July 21, 2004; effective August 25, 2004. **Amended:** Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018.

720-X-15-.01 Definition Of Maintenance Engineer

(Repealed 3/21/16)

Author: Alfred P. Tunstill

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-37-2.

History: New Rule: Filed July 21, 2004; effective August 25, 2004. **Repealed:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-16-.01 Bad Checks.

If a check or negotiable instrument is dishonored, the writer of the check or instrument will be required to tender payment of the full amount of such check or instrument plus a service charge of \$30.00 as established by Section 8-8-15 of the Code of Ala. 1975.

(1) If the dishonored check or instrument was tendered for the purposes of sitting for an examination, payment of the full amount of such check or instrument plus a service charge of \$30.00 must be paid in full prior to the individual being allowed to take the said examination. If

the individual has already taken the examination prior to the Board's office receiving notification of the dishonored instrument, the individual's results will be held until such time as payment is made in full including the service charge. (2) If the dishonored check or instrument was tendered for the purposes of renewing an individual certification, registration, or payment of fines or penalties, the certification or registration shall be invalid and will not be considered in good standing unless the full amount of such check or instrument plus a service charge of \$30.00 is paid within thirty (30) days.

(3) If the dishonored check or instrument was tendered for the purposes of applying for a certification or registration, the application will not be processed until such time as the payment is made in full, including the applicable \$30.00 service charge.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-37-2

History: New Rule: Filed March 24, 2009; effective April 28, 2009. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 2014; effective July 11, 2014. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-17-.01 Registration Of Legal Entities.

Beginning October 1, 2016, all legal entities, as defined in Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-1(14), engaging in the business of plumbing and/or gas fitting within the State of Alabama shall be required to register annually upon forms provided by the Board, upon first paying all prescribed fees.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-37-2

History: New Rule: Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.

720-X-18-.01 Reissuing Of Revoked Certification Or Registration.

(1) The Board, for reasons it may deem sufficient, may reissue a certification or registration to any person whose certification or registration has been revoked provided that a majority of the Board vote in favor of reissuing in accordance with Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-12. The person requesting reissue must submit an application, pay all prescribed fees, and comply with the terms set forth by the Board.

Author: David H. Wilcox

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-37-2

History: New Rule: Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016.