



## Notice of Permanent Rule

October 1, 2011

### Establishes specialized electrical inspector training and certification

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#### Purpose of the rule:

These rules implement a portion (Phase II) of House Bill 3462 (2009) that allows the Division to establish a training program that qualifies and certifies individuals as specialized building inspectors authorized to perform inspections and enforce portions of the state building code. Inspector certifications cover limited commercial and other multidisciplinary inspections that presently are not independently authorized by the Division in existing inspector certifications. These rules create a specialized electrical inspector certification and establish the training requirements necessary to qualify for the certification.

#### Citation:

Adopt: OAR 918-098-1580 & Amend: 918-098-1510 and 918-098-1530

These rules become effective October 1, 2011.

#### Effect of the rule:

The primary purpose of specialized inspectors is to provide additional options and greater flexibility for training and educating local building inspectors, allowing cities and counties to improve the application pool of qualified inspectors, and ultimately improving customer service and expediting development.

The Division worked with Chemeketa Community College to provide online course development and delivery, which required the Division to coordinate these rules with the college's academic calendar. This specialized inspector certification will be offered as part of Chemeketa Community College's fall 2011 term, which began in September 2011.

These permanent rules replace temporary rules that were adopted in August 2011. Additionally, specialized inspector certifications are valid until January 2, 2018 when the enabling legislation expires.

#### Contact:

If you have questions or need further information, please contact Policy Analyst Aeron Teverbaugh at 503-373-1354, or [Aeron.Teverbaugh@state.or.us](mailto:Aeron.Teverbaugh@state.or.us).



Secretary of State  
Certificate and Order for Filing  
**PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

I certify that the attached copies\* are true, full and correct copies of the PERMANENT Rule(s) adopted upon filing by the

Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division 918  
Agency and Division Administrative Rules Chapter Number

Stephanie Snyder PO Box 14470 Salem, OR 97309 (503) 373-7438  
Rules Coordinator Address Telephone

to become effective October 1, 2011. Rulemaking Notice was published in the September 2011 Oregon Bulletin.\*\*

**RULE CAPTION**

Establishes specialized inspector training and certifications as required by House Bill 3462 (2009)

**Not more than 15 words that reasonably identify the subject matter of the agency's intended action.**

**RULEMAKING ACTION**

List each rule number separately (000-000-0000)

Secure approval of new rule numbers (Adopted or Renumbered rules) with the Administrative Rules Unit prior to filing.

**ADOPT:** 918-098-1580

**AMEND:** 918-098-1510, 918-098-1530

**REPEAL:**

**RENUMBER:**

**AMEND & RENUMBER:**

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735

Other Auth.: 2009 Oregon Laws, Chapter 593

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735

**RULE SUMMARY**

HB 3462 (2009) authorized the Building Codes Division to create a program for training, qualifying and certifying individuals as specialized building inspectors authorized to perform inspections and enforce portions of Oregon's specialty codes. These new inspector certifications will cover limited commercial and other multidisciplinary inspections that presently are not independently authorized by the Division's existing inspector certifications. These rules specifically address specialized electrical inspector training.

Patrick Allen

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Authorized Signer Printed name Date

## **918-098-1510**

### **Purpose and Scope**

(1) The specialized inspector certification program, in OAR 918-098-1510 through 918-098-1580, establishes a program for training, qualifying and certifying individuals as specialized building inspectors authorized to perform inspections and enforce portions of the state building code. Inspector certifications cover limited commercial and other multidisciplinary inspections that presently are not independently authorized by the division in existing inspector certifications.

(2) Specialized inspectors may, after receiving certification issued under these rules, conduct inspections as provided in these rules. These rules apply to applicants and certificate holders, training providers, and participating jurisdictions for the purposes of administering and enforcing the restrictions and requirements under these rules.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735  
Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735  
Hist.: BCD 10-2011(Temp), f. 4-15-11, cert. ef. 5-1-11;  
BCD 15-2011, f. 6-30-11, cert. ef. 7-1-11; BCD 27-2011,  
f. 9-30-11, cert. ef. 10-1-11

## **918-098-1530**

### **Training Programs**

(1) Approved applicants must complete an appropriate division-approved training program and pass a division-approved examination for the desired specialized certification. Training program requirements are stated in OAR 918-098-1560 for the Specialized Solar Photo-Voltaic Inspector Certification, in OAR 918-098-1570 for the Specialized Plumbing Inspector Certification, and in OAR 918-098-1580 for the Specialized Electrical Inspector Certification.

(2) Instructor Qualifications. Specialized certification training course instructors must be approved by the division under these rules.

(a) Training course instructors may apply for approval as part of the course approval process or independent of the course approval process.

(b) Approved training course instructors must be qualified by training, licensure, and experience to teach the subject matter and supervise the corresponding fieldwork training inspections of a specialized inspector certification training program.

(c) Approved fieldwork supervisors must be qualified by training, licensure, and experience to perform the specialized inspector certification fieldwork inspections being performed.

(d) Division staff teaching training courses of supervising related fieldwork in the normal course of their duties are considered approved instructors for the purposes of these rules.

(3) Fieldwork Training. A specialized inspector certification applicant is eligible to perform the required fieldwork training after the applicant has begun the required academic coursework.

(4) Fieldwork Supervision. All specialized certification fieldwork training must be supervised and verified by an inspector with a valid Oregon Inspector Certification required to conduct the inspections being performed.

(a) An applicant's fieldwork training must be documented on a division-approved form and signed by the inspector who supervised the inspections.

(b) An inspector supervising and verifying an applicant's fieldwork training may not be qualified to conduct the inspections performed based solely on a specialized inspector certification issued according to these rules.

(5) Fieldwork Training Approval. A specialized inspector certification applicant must submit proof of completed fieldwork training to the division for verification and approval, and issuance of specialized inspector certification.

(6) Examination Approval. A specialized inspector certification applicant is eligible to take a certification examination after the division receives proof that the applicant has successfully completed the required academic coursework and fieldwork training.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735  
Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735  
Hist.: BCD 10-2011(Temp), f. 4-15-11, cert. ef. 5-1-11;  
BCD 15-2011, f. 6-30-11, cert. ef. 7-1-11; BCD 25-2011  
(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 8-18-11; BCD 27-2011, f. 9-30-11,  
cert. ef. 10-1-11

## **918-098-1580**

### **Specialized Electrical Inspector Certification**

(1) Scope of Activities and Authority.

(a) Specialized Electrical Inspectors may conduct electrical inspections in buildings less than 75 feet above grade as defined in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code where the building service or the feeder to the electrical installation being inspected is not more than 400 amps at less than 150 volts to ground or 200 amps at 150 volts or more to ground.

(b) A Specialized Electrical Inspector may not inspect any of the following:

(A) Separately derived systems, other than renewable energy, rated more than 150kw;

(B) Renewable energy systems rated more than 25kw;

(C) Occupancies classified as Assembly or Education, or any (I)-Institutional Occupancies as defined in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code;

(D) Installations governed by Chapter 5 or Articles 610, 668, 669, 695 and 700 of the Oregon Electrical Specialty Code, except for the following:

(i) Electrical connection to or alteration of a single mobile home, recreational vehicle or manufactured dwelling, including the service but excluding park construction, alteration or enlargement.

(ii) Agricultural buildings that do not contain excessive dust or corrosive areas as defined in the Oregon Electrical Specialty Code 547.1 (A) and (B).

(E) New or replacement motor loads over 100 HP.

(2) Procedure for Qualification. An applicant for certification under this rule must meet the general qualifications in OAR 918-098-1520 and Section (3) of this rule, complete a training program that meets minimum requirements established by the division, make application, pay the required fees, and pass a division-approved examination.

(3) Experience, Education, and Training Requirements. Specialized Electrical Inspector Certification applicants must have:

(a) A current One- and Two-Family or Residential Electrical Inspector Oregon Code Certificate;

(b) Held a current One- and Two-Family or Residential Electrical Inspector Oregon Code Certificate for one year prior to applying for Specialized Electrical Inspector Certification; and

(c) Been employed as an inspector and performed inspections in the specialty code area listed in (a) above for a minimum of one year prior to applying for Specialized Electrical Inspector Certification.

(4) Certification. Upon completion of all training, and after passing a division-approved examination, the division will certify an applicant as a Specialized Electrical Inspector, and issue the appropriate documentation.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.720, 455.730 & 455.735

Hist.: BCD 25-2011(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 8-18-11; BCD 27-2011, f. 9-30-11, cert. ef. 10-1-11