

# CCLD REVIEW

CONSTRUCTION CODES AND LICENSING DIVISION  
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

SPRING 2014

## Construction Industry Conference a success

More than 350 attendees took part in the first-ever event in Bloomington

The State of Minnesota and its construction industry partners hosted the first-ever Minnesota Construction Industry Conference Feb. 6, 2014, in Bloomington, Minn.

The sold-out conference drew more than 350 attendees. This one-day conference provided educational and networking opportunities for highway/heavy, commercial building and residential contractors, plus informative general sessions for the entire construction industry.



The event updated construction-industry members about current regulations and rules and provided an opportunity for attendees to share ideas with state officials about how to build a better Minnesota. It also included 1-on-1 with the State sessions where attendants could schedule one-on-one time with subject matter experts about an array of topics.

Based on survey feedback from participants, the conference had an overall satisfaction rate of 7.9 out of 10.

Industry and government partners for the event included:

- Associated General Contractors of Minnesota
- Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.
- Builders Association of Minnesota
- Minnesota State Building Trades Council
- Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic



Left, DLI Commissioner Ken Peterson welcomes attendees to the Construction Industry Conference on Feb. 6, 2014. Right, presenters and moderators share information during workshops and general sessions.

Development

- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Minnesota Department of Administration
- Minnesota Department of Human Rights

### Verify a license online

## Use DLI's online tools to check a license, certificate or registration

It's personal ... and business: DLI's online [License Lookup](#) tool allows users to check the status of many personal and business licenses, certificates, registrations and bonds right from their computers.

➤ Visit [www.dli.mn.gov/cclid/LicVerify.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/cclid/LicVerify.asp) to get started.



License Lookup ▶

# Legislature considering contractor registration pilot program changes

The Construction Contractor Registration Pilot Program created by the legislature in its 2012 session is set to expire June 30, 2014. As the expiration approaches, the legislature is considering a bill that would make the program permanent. More than 13,000 contractors are currently registered with DLI.

## Why a pilot program?

The purpose of the pilot program is to identify building construction providers in the state and ensure workers are being appropriately classified as employees or independent contractors. The goal of the program is to ensure that all contractors are in compliance with Minnesota laws. With broad support from the construction industry, DLI recommended that this program be made permanent in its report to the legislature. A copy of the report is on the DLI website at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp).

## Do I need to register?

All commercial and residential building construction or improvement contractors who are not already licensed or registered with DLI are required to be registered.



Registration is free and done on DLI's website at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp).

## Do I need to hire a sub that is registered?

**Yes.** Contractors are required to hire subcontractors who are properly registered or licensed. Contractors can verify registration by using the DLI online license look-up tool at <https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/lookup/licensing.aspx>.

For more information about contractor registration, visit [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp) or contact DLI at (651) 284-5074 or [dli.register@state.mn.us](mailto:dli.register@state.mn.us).

## More information about contractor registration

Online: [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/register.asp)  
Phone: (651) 284-5074  
Email: [dli.register@state.mn.us](mailto:dli.register@state.mn.us)

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Receive email notification when an issue is available by [subscribing online](#).

## Contact information

### CCLD main contact info

Phone: (651) 284-5012  
Toll-free: 1-800-657-3944  
Fax: (651) 284-5749

### Visit the [Contact Us](#) page

### Licensing information

[DLI.License@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.License@state.mn.us)

### Business/Contractor Licenses and Bonds:

(651) 284-5034  
(Including: Electrical, HPP, Plumbing, Residential, Manufactured Structures, Mechanical Bonds, Technology System, Water Conditioning)

### Personal Licenses and

**Certificates:** (651) 284-5031  
(Including: Boiler Engineers, Electricians, Plumbers, Power Limited Technicians, Pipefitters, Unlicensed Individuals, Building Officials)

### Electrical information

Phone: (651) 284-5026  
Fax: (651) 284-5749  
[DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us)

### Boiler, High-Pressure Piping, Boats-for-Hire inspection

Phone: (651) 284-5544  
Fax: (651) 284-5737  
[DLI.Code@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Code@state.mn.us)

### Plumbing information

Phone: (651) 284-5063  
Fax: (651) 284-5748  
[DLI.Plumbing@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Plumbing@state.mn.us)

### License enforcement details

Phone: (651) 284-5069  
Fax: (651) 284-5746  
[DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us)

### Contractor registration program

Phone: (651) 284-5074  
[DLI.register@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.register@state.mn.us)

# Electrician, plumber licenses and reciprocity

Reciprocal agreements enable individuals who are licensed in one state to obtain a license in another state without having to pass that state's license examination.

To qualify for a license under a reciprocal agreement, an applicant must meet the experience and training requirements in the state where they are making application. Because some states have different experience and training requirements, individuals may not qualify for a license in another state under the provisions of Minnesota's agreement with that state.

In addition to the experience and training requirements, an applicant must also meet the following:

- the license must be the same or greater class and obtained by examination in the state in which the license was issued;
- the license must have been held for at least one year;
- the applicant has not failed the license examination in the state in which he or she is making application;
- the applicant is not applying for a license that has been revoked or suspended.



Some electrical and plumbing licenses may be issued through reciprocity.

A Minnesota license holder whose license has been inactive for more than two years doesn't qualify for licensure under a reciprocal agreement.

Minnesota has reciprocal license agreements with North Dakota and South Dakota for master and journeyman plumber licenses.

Minnesota has reciprocal agreements for master and journeyman electrician licenses with North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa.

Minnesota has reciprocal agreements for journeyman electrician licenses with Alaska, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Arkansas.

After obtaining a license through a reciprocal agreement, the individual is considered the same as other license holders and must meet that state's license renewal requirements to maintain the license.

Plumbing reciprocity information:  
[www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingReciprocity.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingReciprocity.asp)

Electrical reciprocity information:  
[www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/LicElectricalPersonalRec.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/LicElectricalPersonalRec.asp)

## Certification changes

# New backflow prevention certification requirements

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, all state certified backflow prevention testers and rebuilders must obtain certification through the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) to maintain their DLI certification.

This requirement – promulgated by the State Board of Plumbing – applies to backflow prevention testers and rebuilders who submit a renewal or new application to DLI after Jan. 1, 2015.

If your existing state certification expires Dec. 31, 2014, you won't have to prove ASSE certification until Dec. 31, 2016, as long as you submit your renewal before the certification expiration.

The majority of existing certifications expire Dec. 31, 2014. As long as renewals are submitted by the deadline, most individuals will have almost three years to obtain ASSE certification. The remaining certified

testers and rebuilders have until their Dec. 31, 2015, expiration to obtain ASSE certification.

### More information about the certification requirement

- DLI: [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingBackflow.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingBackflow.asp)  
ASSE: [www.asse-plumbing.org/certifications.html](http://www.asse-plumbing.org/certifications.html)

## At the spa

# Plumbing connections for pedicure spa chairs

## Installation must follow requirements of Minnesota Plumbing Code

Pedicure spa chairs in salons are becoming popular statewide. Yet these fixtures sometimes cause confusion for designers and installers trying to ensure the chairs meet the requirements of the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

Requirements were adopted in the 2012 Minnesota Plumbing Code to address health and sanitation concerns associated with the use of these fixtures. The design and installation of pedicure spa chairs must comply with the following requirements:

1. If the water supply connections to the pedicure spa chairs include submerged inlets or inlets below the spill line of the fixture, each water supply line must be provided with an approved backflow preventer rated for high-hazard application. If a shut-off valve is installed downstream of the backflow preventer serving the hand-held spray hose, the backflow preventer must be rated for continuous pressure such as a pressure type vacuum breaker or a reduced pressure zone type of backflow preventer.
2. The chair must meet the general requirements and water retention sections of ANSI/ASME Standard A112.19.7 or IAPMO IGC 155 (see Minnesota Rules, part 4715.1240, subp. 2a). Documentation showing compliance through third-party testing like

UL, CSA, IAPMO is also required. This documentation is often provided by the manufacturer or displayed on the product listing identification label on the pedicure spa.

3. The pedicure spa chair must discharge to the building drain by gravity through a direct connection and be properly trapped and vented, similar to a shampoo sink or bathtub installation. Indirect pumped waste is not allowed.

For more information, contact DLI's plumbing staff members at (651) 284-5063. Minnesota Plumbing Code, Chapter 4715, is available at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingCode.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingCode.asp).



## Keep in touch

### Sign up for DLI's monthly newsletter

Stay up-to-date with DLI by signing up for its monthly email list.

DLI will send occasional messages to subscribers to share highlights and news from throughout the agency.



Sign up at [www.dli.mn.gov/email.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/email.asp)

## Fasteners

### New manufactured structures bulletin

A new manufactured structures bulletin about the use of fasteners for structural elements and truss bracing requirements was recently posted on DLI's website.

Bulletin 45, "Industrialized Modular Buildings and Prefabricated Structures; Minnesota State Building Code Chapters 1361 and 1360" is available at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ManufacturedBulletins.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ManufacturedBulletins.asp).

# 2014 National Electrical Code: **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

**Question: What are some of the code-wide changes to the 2014 NEC and why were these changes made?**

**Answer:** Four new articles were added to the 2014 NEC including Article 393 Low-Voltage Suspended Ceiling Power Distribution Systems, Article 646 Modular Data Centers, Article 728 Fire Resistive Cable Systems, and Article 750 Energy Management Systems. Also, several significant changes apply throughout:

- **110.21 Field Applied Hazard Markings.** This change was made to obtain uniformity of the labeling requirements and should conform to ANSI Z535.4.
- **110.25 Lockable Disconnecting Means.** This was added to send the users to one location for these requirements.
- **DC system requirements** were expanded throughout the 2014 NEC because the increase in DC-operated systems create a need to obtain consistency in those applications.
- **Voltage threshold** has been increased from 600 volts to 1,000 volts because of technologies that operate over 600 volts, such as wind and solar.

**Question: Were significant changes made in the 2014 NEC to the requirement for a grounded circuit conductor at every switch location?**

**Answer:** Yes. The intent of the provision for a grounded circuit conductor (GCC) at every switch location was to complete a circuit path when electronic lighting control devices are installed at a later date. The code now recognizes those switch locations where the installation of the GCC would not be necessary. 2014 NEC Section 404.2(C) lists seven conditions where a grounded conductor is not required in a switch box.

**Question: The NEC mandates all GFCI devices be installed in a readily accessible location to accommodate monthly testing as required by the device manufacturers. With the 2014 NEC requirement in 210.8 for GFCI protection for all 15- and 20-amp 120-volt receptacles installed within six feet of a kitchen sink, will the receptacle behind a refrigerator or shelf-mounted microwave oven or the receptacle for the dishwasher or disposal at the back of the sink cabinet be considered readily accessible?**

**Answer:** Maybe. Although routine testing of a GFCI receptacle device located in a sink cabinet may involve

moving small items that may be stored there, the GFCI device in the under-sink cabinet is considered readily accessible. The receptacle located behind a refrigerator or permanently installed microwave would not be considered readily accessible, in which case the GFCI protection could be provided by an upstream GFCI receptacle, GFCI circuit breaker or faceless GFCI device.

**Question: The 2014 NEC requires garage receptacles to be on a branch circuit that does not feed other outlets outside of the garage. Would the luminaire mounted outside at the service door and the receptacles mounted outside a garage be allowed on this circuit?**

**Answer:** No. Although there is a separate requirement for a dedicated branch circuit if it is known that electric vehicle charging equipment will be installed, the intention of Section 210.52(G) was to provide adequate power should electric vehicle charging equipment be installed at some time in the future. To accommodate that, outlets for lighting and receptacles on the exterior of the garage cannot be installed on the garage receptacle circuit.

**Question: Will the changes to Section 450.10 in the 2014 NEC prohibit individual lugs mounted to a dry-type transformer enclosure for the grounding and bonding connections?**

**Answer:** Yes. Connections to individual lugs for the grounding, bonding and grounding electrode conductor rely on the enclosure for continuity. To create a more effective connection for the grounding, bonding and grounding electrode connections, a terminal bar is now required in the transformer enclosure which specifically cannot be mounted over the vented portion of the transformer. These terminal bars are available as a transformer accessory and require that nonconductive coatings (such as paint, lacquer, and enamel) on the transformer enclosure be removed before mounting.

**Question: Would a receptacle installed on the ceiling of the garage for the automatic door opener serve as the receptacle required by 2014 NEC for at least one receptacle for each car space?**

**Answer:** No. Recognizing the possibility that electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles will be stored there, this

**'NEC' continues on Page 7**



# Common building plan review questions answered by CCLD

The questions below are part of an ongoing series featuring frequently asked questions received by CCLD's Building Plan Review Section. The responses are the opinions of the plan review staff members and do not represent an official division or State Building Official interpretation.

**Q:**

**Can portable seats be provided in accessible showers?**

**A:**

**No.** Seats must be permanently attached and comply with the size and spacing requirements of A117.1 Section 610. Minnesota Rules, chapter 1341 amendment to A117.1 Section 608.4 requires a folding seat be provided in roll-in and alternate roll-in type showers and either a folding or non-folding seat be provided in transfer-type showers.

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**Q:**

**Is the main entrance to a building required to be an accessible entrance?**

**A:**

**Yes.** IBC Section 1104.5 requires the accessible route coincide with the general route of travel. The intent is to merge together the occupants of the facility so they have equivalent experiences and interactions. Based on technical feasibility, existing buildings may not be required meet this provision.

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**Q:**

**Are toilet rooms provided in excess of the minimum fixture count also required to be accessible toilet rooms?**

**A:**

**Yes.** IBC Section 1109.2 requires all toilet rooms be accessible. This is not affected by fixture count or intended user. The only exceptions to this are listed in Section 1109.2

## Boilers

### Online boiler installation permits are on-the-way

DLI's Boiler Inspection Division is creating an online permit and notification system for new boiler installations.

As part of the new system, installing contractors will visit DLI's website and input information about the boiler and its location. Once completed, the installer and state boiler inspector will receive email notice about the installation allowing the contractor to contact the boiler inspector to set up the first inspection.

#### Do I need a permit?

Installation permits will be required for individual boilers or a boiler connected to a common circulation manifold if the individual or combined BTU input exceeds: 100,000 BTUs for steam boilers, 500,000 BTUs for hot water supply boilers or 750,000 BTUs for hot water heating boilers. More details about the installation permits will be available at [www.dli.mn.gov/cclld/boiler.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/cclld/boiler.asp).

## Assistant Director John Schultz to retire from DLI

John Schultz, whose name is synonymous with electrical regulation in Minnesota, will retire in July 2014 after 25 years of service. Although his last official day is July 22, he will begin an extended vacation April 14.



John Schultz

His responsibilities as assistant director for DLI's Construction Codes and Licensing Division (CCLD) will be shared among several staff members.



Todd Green

Todd Green, CCLD's high pressure piping supervisor, has been promoted to manager of inspection services. Green will manage the inspection units for high-pressure piping, elevators, boilers and electrical. Green was formerly a pipefitter and welder and began work as an HPP inspector at DLI in 1997. Since 2002, he has been CCLD's chief HPP inspector

and supervisor. Green has been the DLI commissioner's designee on the Board of High-Pressure-Piping Systems since 2007. He helped develop and deploy CCLD's eTRAKiT online permitting system and continues to develop this system for all CCLD disciplines.

Jim Lungstrom, CCLD's assistant director for plan review and regional inspection services, will assume Schultz's administrative responsibilities. He is a licensed professional

civil engineer and has been employed by the state for 27 years. Lungstrom has worked for the Pollution Control Agency as a supervisor for various plan review and inspection programs. Since 2008, he has worked at DLI in CCLD's building and plumbing programs. Lungstrom is the current commissioner's designee to the Plumbing Board.



Jim Lungstrom



Sam Sampson

Marcus "Sam" Sampson, a CCLD electrical representative, is expected to be the commissioner's designee on the Board of Electricity. Sampson has been with CCLD and the Board of Electricity for the past 18 years and has been active on committees that serve the electrical industry including Underwriters Laboratories and the National Fire Protection Association.

John Williamson, DLI's chief electrical inspector, will continue to supervise CCLD's 12 area representatives and 75 contract inspectors. He has 36 years of electrical industry experience and 20 years with the state. He is a licensed master electrician, a certified building official and serves as a system administrator for CCLD's TRAKiT system and other database systems.



John Williamson

### 'NEC' continued from Page 5

change was made to ensure enough capacity for a vehicle charging station in the garage. The new requirement in Section 210.52 makes it clear the receptacles required by this section must be in addition to any receptacle that is required based on items one through four of Section 210.52.

### Corrections and revisions

The NEC is a complex document with thousands of people working to bring it together. Occasionally there are technical or typographical errors and omissions not recognized until after publication.

To date, three Tentative Interim Amendments (TIAs), two separate sets of Errata and one Formal Interpretation have

### Visit DLI at the North Central Electrical League 2014 Upper Midwest Electrical Expo

The NCEL 2014 Electrical Expo is scheduled for April 16-17 at the Minneapolis Convention Center and will include many technical sessions, product demonstrations, exhibitors and more.

» Visit [www.ncel.org](http://www.ncel.org) for details.

been issued and are available from the NFPA website at [www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=70](http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=70). Be sure to incorporate these changes into your copy of the 2014 NEC.

# Stand-down for fall prevention in construction

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently announced a national safety stand-down June 2 through 6 to raise awareness among employers and workers about the hazards of falls, which account for the highest number of deaths in the construction industry.

During the stand-down, employers and workers are asked to pause their workday to talk about fall prevention in construction and discuss topics like ladder safety, scaffolding safety and roofing work safety. Learn how to partner with OSHA in this stand-down at [www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown](http://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown). The Web page provides details about how to conduct a stand-down, receive a certificate of participation, and access free education and training resources, fact sheets and other outreach materials in English and Spanish.

The stand-down is part of OSHA's ongoing Fall Prevention



Campaign, which was started in 2012, to provide employers with lifesaving information and educational materials about how to plan ahead to prevent falls, provide the right equipment for their workers and train all employees in the proper use of that equipment.

## Enforcement actions

### Unlicensed building contractor fined \$14,000

Some recent [CCLD enforcement actions](#) include:

- The license of a Class A Master Electrician from Hickory, N.C., was suspended and penalized \$2,000 for failure to fulfill continuing education requirements and failure to cooperate with the commissioner's request for information.
- The licenses of an Anoka, Minn., plumbing contractor and its master plumber were suspended until they show proof of satisfaction of a judgment held against them by a material supplier.
- An unlicensed residential building contractor from Duluth, Minn., was determined to have falsely displayed licensure, failed to complete projects and failed to meet code and manufacturer requirements. The contractor was fined \$14,320 and ordered to cease and desist from contracting.
- A licensed residential building contractor from northern Minnesota was found to have failed to complete projects, refund \$15,000 for uncompleted work, use proceeds of payments for labor, skill or building materials, and respond to the commissioner's request for information. The contractor's license was revoked, penalized \$11,500 and ordered to cease and desist from residential building contracting.



#### Enforcement actions

View enforcement and license actions taken against licensees.

Summaries of all final CCLD enforcement actions are available at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Enforcement.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Enforcement.asp). Questions about specific enforcement actions should be directed to (651) 284-5069 or [DLI.contractor@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.contractor@state.mn.us).