# **CCLD REVIEW**

Construction Codes and Licensing Division • Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry • Spring 2024

## Registration is open for the 2024 Spring Seminar

Course includes seven hours continuing education for building officials

The 2024 Department of Labor and Industry, Construction Codes and Licensing Division's (CCLD) Spring Seminar – Facts and Fact Sheets for the Minnesota Residential Code – will focus on the Residential Building Codes and municipal reporting and is presented by Terence Olson and Don Sivigny, CCLD.

#### When and where

The seminar is offered in-person at six locations throughout Minnesota in April and May 2024. Locations have been expanded to better meet the needs of Minnesota's code professionals.

- April 17 Detroit Lakes (Holiday Inn)
- April 18 Carlton (Black Bear Casino Event Center)
- April 24 Rochester (Chateau Center)
- April 25 Redwood Falls (Redwood Area Community Center)
- May 1 Shoreview (MnDOT Conference Center)
- May 2 Little Falls (Camp Ripley Building 6-76)

#### Continuing education

Each session includes seven hours of continuing education credit for building officials.

The cost is \$85 for each session. View more and register at https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/events/.



#### **Questions?**

Contact Don Sivigny at don.sivigny@state.mn.us or 651-284-5841 for more information.

### Technical Advisory Groups to review 2024 model codes

At a February 2024 meeting, the Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC) appointed members to five Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) to review the 2024 International Code Council model codes and make recommendations for their potential adoption with amendments. Two additional TAGs were tasked with reviewing codes for elevators and related devices and administrative and Minnesota provisions.

The TAGs will begin their review of the model codes in April 2024. Once their work is completed, a summary of the TAG members' reviews will be submitted to the CCAC and stakeholders for review and comment. The CCAC will review the summaries of the findings and make recommendations for any potential amendments to Minnesota Rules chapters.

View more information about TAGs and meetings at dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/technical-advisory-groups-tags.

# Building Official Training grants awarded, new round planned

Building Official Training grants help qualified municipalities establish or continue training programs that provide on-the-job training and education under the supervision of the municipality's Minnesotacertified building official. The goal of the program is for the trainee to gain a building official-limited or building official certification.



Five of eight available Building Official Training grants were recently awarded during the 2024 grant cycle.

Those grants went to the Minnesota municipalities of Moorhead, Sartell, Shakopee, St. Paul and Worthington.

A second offering for the remaining three grants was open for applications Feb. 12 to March 1 and recipients will be announced in April. This offering was for a one-year grant cycle. Additionally, this round differed by offering two options for applicants:

- An entry level position for a newly hired trainee or cross training of an existing municipal employee into a new building code department position, or
- Continuing the training of an existing Building Official Training grant trainee toward a higher level of building official certification.

Plans are now being made for the 2025 grant which, tentatively, will be announced in July 2024.

Learn more at <a href="mailto:dli.mn.gov/bot">dli.mn.gov/bot</a> or contact us at <a href="mailto:bot.dli@state.mn.us">bot.dli@state.mn.us</a>.

# Staff members promote electrical safety at Minnesota carnivals and fairs

DLI Electrical Representatives Wade Schlie and Steven Dudley attended the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs annual convention in Bloomington, Minnesota, in January 2024.

During this convention, Dudley and Schlie met individually with carnival owners, inflatable operations, circuses, food vendors and fair-board members. They addressed any questions or concerns attendees had from the previous year and for the new season. They also shared inspection and safety documentation.

Staff also offered two presentations about electrical licensing, safety and inspections during the convention. One presentation was tailored to carnival owner-operators and



The trade show floor during the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs annual convention. DLI staff presented during the event and met individually with attendees.

the other to fair-board members. DLI attends this event yearly to promote electrical safety and to update attendees about changes they may encounter for the next season.

### Schedule of board and council meetings

Below is a schedule of meetings for boards and council supported by CCLD.

Visit <u>dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils</u> to view meeting minutes, agendas, rulemaking documents and schedules for these meetings and additional boards and councils.

#### **Board of Electricity**

- April 9, 2024
- July 9, 2024
- Oct. 8, 2024

# **Construction Codes Advisory Council**

TBD

### **Board of High Pressure Piping**

July 11, 2024

### **Plumbing Board**

- April 16, 2024
- July 16, 2024
- Oct. 15, 2024

#### Interested in serving on a board or council?

Minnesotans are encouraged to apply for positions on state councils, boards, task forces and commissions through the Secretary of State's Open Commissions and Appointments process.

Visit <u>dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils</u> for more information about how to apply.

# Translated documents, Language Line available

A selection of documents and web pages related to building codes, workers' compensation, workplace safety, apprenticeship and more have been translated into various languages.

Additionally, DLI has access to Language Line, a free language translation service for limited-English speakers.

View the translated documents and instructions to access Language Line at <a href="https://www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/about-dli/translated-materials">www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/about-dli/translated-materials</a>.



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Receive email notification when an issue is available by <u>subscribing online</u>.

### **Contact information**

#### **CCLD** main contact info

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#### Visit the **Contact Us** page

### **Licensing information**

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

**Electrical information** 

individuals, building officials)

Phone: 651-284-5026 Fax: 651-284-5746 DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us

#### Boiler, high-pressure piping,

### **boats-for-hire inspection**

Phone: 651-284-5544 Fax: 651-284-5746 DLI.Code@state.mn.us

#### **Plumbing information**

Phone: 651-284-5063
Fax: 651-284-5746
DLI.Plumbing@state.mn.us

#### **License enforcement details**

Phone: 651-284-5069 Fax: 651-284-5746 DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us

**Contractor registration** 

Phone: 651-284-5074 DLI.register@state.mn.us

### Virtual electrical inspection process simplified, expanded

More than 300 virtual electrical inspections conducted each month in Minnesota

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) has updated the technology used to perform virtual electrical inspections to simplify the process for contractors and the agency.

Previously, Microsoft Teams was used to conduct virtual electrical inspections. This required inspectors to send meeting invitations and contractors to install the Teams application. Now, inspections are initiated via text message and no longer use Microsoft Teams. Virtual inspections are web-based through the VuSpex platform with no application to install.

#### **Benefits of virtual inspections**

DLI is conducting more than 300 virtual electrical inspections each month. Often, a virtual inspection allows for inspections at the time of project completion, or after corrections are made, while your crew is still on the worksite, avoiding the need for return trips to complete minor corrections or to final a permit when corrections have been made.

#### **Feedback**

Comments from the contractors who have used virtual inspections have been very positive. VuSpex allows inspections in rural areas of relatively low connectivity which has helped expand the locations available for

The inspector sends a text message invite near the scheduled time.

| Inspector | Inspecto

virtual inspections and results in fewer cancellations due to connectivity issues. Additionally, with the VuSpex GO app, we will be able to take offline field reports for load management devices and saver switches to help manage inspections for these units in a way that will add flexibility to our staff and to the electrical contractors who will be required to use the program.

#### Sign up and schedule

The virtual electrical inspection process is integrated within the existing iMS permitting platform used to request electrical permits. If a permit is eligible for virtual inspections, you will be invited to schedule the inspections in iMS. On-site, licensed electricians can schedule a virtual inspection while still on-site and as little as 15 minutes prior to the requested time.

View more about virtual electrical inspections at <a href="mailto:dli.mn.gov/ERVI">dli.mn.gov/ERVI</a> or contact us at <a href="mailto:ERVI.DLI@state.mn.us">ERVI.DLI@state.mn.us</a>.

# Committee reviewing Plumbing Code amendments for potential adoption

The Minnesota Plumbing Board is currently reviewing the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) for the next code adoption. An Ad Hoc Rule Making Committee is tasked with reviewing potential code amendments and making recommendations to the board. These meetings take place both in-person and virtually.

The board is also requesting comments about its possible amendments to the Minnesota State Plumbing Code, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4714. This chapter was last modified in 2020. Visit <a href="https://diamon.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/2024-upc-ad-hoc-rulemaking-committee">diamon.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/2024-upc-ad-hoc-rulemaking-committee</a> to download a Request for Action form to provide input and view the meeting schedule.

### South metro unlicensed contractor fined \$14,500

 An unlicensed contractor operating out of Apple Valley and Burnsville was found to have engaged in residential remodeling, electrical and plumbing work without a license. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activities and fined \$14,500.



- An Alexandria-based registered electrical employer was found to have engaged in unlicensed electrical work at work sites it does not own/lease. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activity, to hire a licensed electrical contractor to review and correct its electrical work, and fined \$20,000, of which \$12,000 was stayed contingent on future compliance.
- An unlicensed Maplewood contractor was found to have engaged in plumbing work without having the appropriate contractor license. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activity and fined \$4,000, which was stayed contingent on future compliance.
- A licensed Plymouth high pressure piping (HPP) contractor allowed their registered unlicensed pipefitters
  to perform HPP work without being directly supervised by a licensed HPP pipefitter. The contractor was
  censured and ordered to ensure that their registered unlicensed pipefitters are appropriately supervised.
  The contractor was censured and fined \$7,500, of which \$3,750 was stayed contingent on future
  compliance.
- A licensed Wyoming, Minnesota, residential building contractor was found to have engaged in unlicensed electrical work. The contractor was censured and fined \$8,000, of which \$5,000 was stayed contingent on future compliance.

#### More information

View summaries of enforcement actions at <u>dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners/file-complaint-and-view-enforcement-actions</u>. Contact us at 651-284-5069 or <u>dli.contractor@state.mn.us</u>.

### DLI consults with McDonald's for plumbing upgrades

After consulting with DLI, McDonald's Corporation is updating their Minnesota restaurants to provide a humidified warmer for the breakfast line. At the fast-food restaurant's request, DLI reviewed their equipment and plumbing needs.

Due to the construction of the humidifying chamber, it was determined that an additional backflow prevention device would be required on the water service to the unit. McDonald's is recommending to the store owners to install a RPZ backflow prevention device.

The installation of the water line and backflow prevention device requires a plumbing plan review (separate from the Department of Health Review), plumbing permit and inspection by the local jurisdiction. As a reminder, the backflow prevention device must only serve the new equipment.

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