RULES AND REGULATIONS

PERTAINING

TO

PLUMBERS LICENSE FEE, EXPIRATON, RENEWAL,

JOURNEYMAN, AND MASTER PLUMBER QUALIFICATIONS

SECTION I AUTHORITY

The following Amendment to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code is duly adopted and promulgated by the Arkansas State Board of Health pursuant to the authority expressly conferred by the laws of the State of Arkansas in Act 200 of 1951, as amended by Act 372 of 1957, Act 555 of 1963, Act of 1973 and Act 902 of 1975 and Act 816 of 1987 and Act 330 of 1991.

SECTION II. PURPOSE

The Board, by regulation and after public hearing, may set reasonable license or examination fee for all licenses called for under Act 200 of 1951 as amended including, but not limited to Master Plumber Licenses, Journeyman Plumber License, Apprentice Plumber License registration, Restricted Plumber License and Plumber and/or Gas Inspector Certification.

SECTION III. DEFINITIONS

(a) The State Board means the Arkansas Board of Health.

(b) The Department means the Plumbing and Natural Gas Section of the Arkansas Department of Health.

(c) Administrative Authority means the individual official, board, Department or agency established and authorized the state, county, city or other political subdivision to administer and enforce the provisions of Act 200 of 1951 as adopted or amended.

(d) Journeyman Plumber means any person other than a Master Plumber, who is engaged in the practical installation of plumbing.

(e) Master Plumber means any person skilled in the planning, superintending and the practical installation of plumbing and familiar with the laws, rules and regulations governing the same.

(f) Restricted Plumber means a person qualified to install building water or sewer lines or other special phases of plumbing providing that such person has demonstrated competency for that particular phase of plumbing.

(g) Gas Utility means a firm or corporation engaged in the distribution of natural gas, manufactured gas and/or a mixture of natural gas and manufacturing gas, delivered to the consumer through a system of distribution piping.

(h) Gas Utility Serviceman means an employee of a gas utility specially trained for gas service work with the utility.

SECTION IV. EXAMINATION FEES

(a) The examination fees for Master, Restricted Supervising Solar Mechanic, Restricted Residential Maintenance, Restricted Governmental Maintenance, Restricted Supervising Hospital Maintenance, Restricted Water and Sewer Service Line Installation and Restricted Supervising Gas Fitter Plumbers shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars ($125.00).

(b) The examination fees for Journeyman, Restricted Gas Fitter, Restricted Hospital Maintenance, and Restricted Solar Mechanic Plumbers shall be seventy-five dollars ($75.00).

(c) The fees for additional examination due to failure to appear without proper notification or pass any portion of the test shall be Fifty dollars ($50.00)

(d) All non-scheduled or oral examination fees shall require an additional fifty dollars ($50.00) per examination.

(e) All examination fees must accompany the application when submitted.

SECTION V. LICENSE FEES

(a) The license fee for Master, Restricted Supervising Solar Mechanic, Restricted Residential Maintenance, Restricted Water and Sewer Service Line Installation shall be two hundred dollars ($200.00) annually.

(b) The license fee for Restricted Supervising Gas Fitter Plumbers shall be two hundred dollars ($200.00) annually.

(c) The license fee for Journeyman and Restricted Solar Mechanic Plumbers shall be seventy-five dollars ($75.00) annually.

(d) The license fee for Restricted Gas Fitter Plumber shall be seventy-five dollars ($75.00) annually.

(e) Registration fees for Apprentice, Restricted Gas Fitter Trainee, Restricted Hospital Maintenance Trainee, Restricted Solar Mechanic Trainee, and Plumbing or Gas Inspector shall be twenty-five dollars ($25.00) annually.

(f) The license fee for a Restricted Governmental Maintenance Plumbers License and Restricted Supervising Hospital Maintenance Plumbers License shall be one hundred dollars ($100.00) annually

(g) The license fee for a Restricted Hospital Maintenance Plumbers License shall be thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents ($37.50) annually.

(h) The license fee for a Gas Utility Serviceman shall be twenty-five dollars ($25.00) and the fee for Restricted Gas Utility License shall be two hundred dollars ($200.00) annually.

SECTION VI. TERMS OF EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL

(a) Master, Journeyman and Apprentice Plumbers licenses issued under the provisions of these regulations shall expire annually on December 31st. The license shall be renewed by February 1st. After February 1st a of ($5.00) per month shall be added

(b) All Restricted Plumbers Licenses issued under the provisions of these regulations shall expire annually on June 30th. The license shall be renewed by August 1st. After August 1st a penalty of five dollars ($5.00) per month shall be added.

(c) All Plumbing and/or Gas Inspector's Certificates issued under the provisions of these regulations shall expire annually on June 30th. The license shall be renewed by August 1st. After August 1st a penalty of five dollars ($5.00) per month shall be added.

(d) In no case shall the Committee of Examiners issue more than one (1) type of license per applicant as defined under Act 200 of 1951, as amended.

(e) All licenses shall be renewed annually within thirty days after the expiration date of the license. The Department may renew a license after the thirty-day period if there is sufficient reason for not renewing in the time specified and after payment of penalties as prescribed by regulation.

(f) The Department may set a system of staggered expiration dates for all licenses issued by the Department.

(g) The Department may issue permits for less than (1) year. The cost of such permits shall be determined based upon the number of months the permit is valid divided by twelve (12) months multiplied by the amount of annual fee.

SECTION VII. DEFERMENT OF LICENSE

(a) A Master or Journeyman Plumber holding a current license may make application to the Department for deferment of such license. The Department, upon receipt of such application, may grant deferment of license. Deferments shall be make annually at a fee of twenty dollars ($20.00) per year.

(b) The Department may grant a deferment without regular or reinstatement fees to members of the Armed Services.

(c) The Department may grant a courtesy deferment without regular or reinstatement fees to a Master or Journeyman Plumber who becomes a legally appointed or employed Plumbing Inspector.

SECTION VIII. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE

(a) Reinstatement of Expired License.

A Master or Journeyman Plumber whose License has expired for non-payment of renewal fees may make an application to the Department for reinstatement of license. The application must be supported with an amended experience record covering all experience subsequent to the date of the lapse.

Upon receipt of the application and experience record, the Department will determine whether to reinstate without examination or whether to require an examination.

If reinstatement is granted, the applicant shall pay the applicable reinstatement fee for three hundred twenty-five dollars ($325.00) for Master Plumber License or one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00) for Journeyman Plumber License, in addition to any backfees and penalties assessed under Section XIII (13) of these Regulations.

After a license has been delinquent for non-payment of fees for over a period five (5) consecutive years, the application for reinstatement must be supported with an amended experience record covering all experience subsequent to the date of delinquency. Upon receipt of the application and amended experience record, the Committee of Examiners will determine whether to reinstate with or without examination.

(b) Reinstatement of Deferred License

A Master or Journeyman Plumber whose license has been deferred under Section VII of these Regulations may apply for reinstatement by applications to the Department. The Department may reinstate such license without examination upon payment of the current license fee and a reinstatement fee of twenty dollars ($20.00).

After a license has been deferred over a period of five consecutive years, the application for reinstatement must be supported with an amended experience record covering all experience subsequent to the date of deferment. Upon receipt of the application and amended experience record, the Committee of Examiners will determine whether to reinstate without examination or whether to require an examination.

(c) Reinstatement of Revoked License

A Master or Journeyman Plumber whose license has been revoked may make application for a new license one year after the date of revocation on an application form furnished by the Department. Such application shall contain a statement of intent to comply with all pertinent laws and regulations.

The Committee of Examiners may issue a new license after the applicant has passed the prescribed examination. Fees for such license shall be the same as for a new license.

SECTION IX. TRANSFER OF MASTER PLUMBER LICENSE TO JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER LICENSE.

(a) A Master Plumber may transfer a Master Plumber License to that of a Journeyman Plumber License by application to the Department and payment of twenty dollars ($20.00) transfer fee to cover services connected with the transfer of a license.

(b) A Journeyman Plumber who has previously held a Master Plumber License in this state may reinstate as a Master without examination provided the applicant pay a twenty dollar ($20.00) transfer fee plus the cost of a Master Plumber License.

If more than five (5) years have elapsed since the original transfer from Master to Journeyman the application for transfer must be supported with an amended experience record covering all experience subsequent to the date of transfer. Upon receipt of the application and amended experience record, the Committee of Examiners shall determine whether to require an examination. If an examination is required the examination fee for a Master Plumber License shall be charged.

SECTION X. RECIPROCAL LICENSING

(a) The State Committee of Plumbing Examiners, as a means of facilitating interstate practice, shall make an independent determination on all applications for reciprocal registration. An applicant shall present satisfactory evidence of such qualifications.

(b) Application for reciprocal licensing shall be made on a form provided by the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners. These forms must be completely accomplished, notarized and filed with the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners, together with a fee of three hundred twenty-five dollars ($325.00) for a Master, or one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00) for a Journeyman Plumber Reciprocal License.

SECTION XI. DELINQUENT LICENSES FEES

(a) In special cases, where back licenses fees have accumulated so as to work an extreme hardship on the applicant, the Department may allow the applicant to pay on back license fees on an installation plan. In no case may the current license fee be paid in this manner. The payments of the back fees shall be made at the discretion of the Department to fit the individual case. A license issued under such conditions shall be revoked for non-payment of any part of the fees.

SECTION XII. MASTER AND JOURNEY PLUMBER QUALIFICATIONS

(a) An applicant for the Master Plumber examination shall have a minimum of five (5) years experience and an applicant for Journeyman Plumber examination shall have a minimum of four (4) years experience or its equivalent.

(b) The State Committee of Plumbing Examiners shall approve an applicant for Master or Journeyman level examination provided that the applicant is currently licensed as a Master or Journeyman Plumber in another state or political subdivision of that state and whose plumbing laws and codes are similar to those of the state of Arkansas.

(c) The State Committee of Examiners shall consider an apprentice Plumber for the Journeyman Plumber examination provided the Apprentice Plumber has successfully completed the training as defined under said plumber apprenticeship regulations.

(d) The State Committee of Plumbing Examiners may consider applicants for Master Plumber examination who are professional engineers with special expertise in plumbing engineering.

(e) Individuals applying for and obtaining Journeyman Plumber licensing must hold that license for one (1) full year before becoming eligible for Master Plumber examination. In cases of extreme hardship, the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners may waive the one (1) year requirement in whole or in part.

SECTION XIII. CORRECTION OF VIOLATIONS

(a) An applicant applying for any license, or reinstatement of license, under any condition, shall submit satisfactory evidence, when required, that said applicant has not violated any provisions of Act 200 of 1951 as amended. Where such violations have existed, the Department may require all back license fees and penalties to be paid and all violations corrected.

SECTION XIV. INSPECTION FEES

(a) The Department shall charge fees for inspections authorized under Act 200 of 1951 as amended. The inspection fees shall be as follows:

(1) Each rough-in inspection.....$25.00

(2) Each additional inspection caused by the negligence of the supervising license holder.....$35.00

(b) The Department shall not charge an inspection fee to investigate consumer complaints and/or to assist the local Administrative Authority having jurisdiction over an inspection unless the Department is acting in place of said Administrative Authority.

SECTION XV. PLUMBING and/or GAS CODE FEES

(a) The Department may prepare and cause to be printed such codes, bulletins, or other documents for those engaged in the business and to the public upon request. The Department shall charge a fee for codes and regulations as follows:

(1) Plumbing Code (with binder).....$45.00

(2) Gas Code Only (with binder).....$30.00

(3) Gas Insert Only (without binder)..... $25.00

(b) The Department may furnish one copy of Plumbing and Gas Code to each local inspection program, gas utility company, or library fee of charge. Any additional codes and/or amended versions of existing codes shall require fees and outlined above.

SECTION XVI. REVOCATION OF LICENSE

(a) The Committee of Examiners may on its own motion make investigation and conduct hearing and may on its own motion or upon complaint in writing duly signed and verified by the complainant, suspend or revoke any Master or Journeyman Plumbers License if it has reason to believe that the holder of such license has violated any provisions of

these regulations, any rule or order prescribed by the Board or has demonstrated incompetency to act as a Master or Journeyman Plumber.

(b) The use of a Master or Journeyman Plumber's License to do plumbing other than permitted by the license shall be grounds for automatic suspension and/or revocation of such license by the Committee of Examiners providing the licensee is duly notified within thirty (30) days of the violation and pending a full hearing under the Administrative Procedures Regulation of the Arkansas Department of Health.

SECTION XVII. TEMPORARY PERMITS

The Department may issued temporary revocable permits to Master and/or Journeyman Plumber applicants provided the Committee of Examiners has approved the eligible of the applicant for Master and/or Journeyman Plumber Examination.

SECTION XVIII. HEARINGS

In the case of each final order issued by the Department, any affected party may within thirty (30) days of such order submit a written request for hearing to the Director of the Department. **NOTICE:** All hearing will be scheduled within a reasonable time and held after reasonable notice has been provided to all known affected parties.

SECTION XIX. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of these regulations, or the application thereof to any person is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of these Regulations which can give effect without the invalid provisions of applications, and to this end the provision hereto are declared to be severable.

SECTION XX. REPEAL

All regulations and parts of Regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.