



Louisiana State Plumbing General Information

An administrative overview and
regulatory update for 2019

State Plumbing Board of Louisiana

Mission:

The purpose of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana is the protection of the health, safety, environment, and general welfare of all persons who use and rely upon plumbing systems for their personal and/or commercial use.

Consists of 8 Members Appointed by the Governor

- 3 members from the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Louisiana
- 3 members from the Louisiana Pipe Trades Association
- 2 members from the Department of Health and Hospitals
 - 1 inspector
 - 1 engineer



**STATE PLUMBING BOARD
OF LOUISIANA**

*"From Hospital to Home, Your Health Depends on Proper Plumbing
— A Cornerstone of Public Health"*

Officers

Kelly Craft, Vice-Chairman / Interim Chairman

Rickey Fabra, Secretary/Treasurer

Members

Carl Bourgeois

Gerald LaCour

Randall McGee

Larry Reiling, Sr.

Terry Smith

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page featuring a dark grey background on the left and a green geometric pattern on the right. The text "SPBLA Board Members" is written in white on the dark grey background.

SPBLA Board Members

Brad Holland	Region A Ascension, Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, Livingston, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee
Mark Sheridan	Region B Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Charles (EB), Orleans, St. Bernard, St. John the Baptist (EB), St James (EB)
Pat Oliver	Region C Assumption, Terrebonne, St. John the Baptist (WB), Lafourche, St. James (WB), St. Charles (WB)
Glen Gremillion	Region D Allen, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Beauregard, Cameron
Fred Fontenot	Region E Avoyelles, Grant, Rapides, Winn, Catahoula, La Salle, Sabine, Concordia, Natchitoches, Vernon
Jim York	Region F Caldwell, Franklin, Madison, Richland, East Carroll, Jackson, Morehouse, Tensas, West Carroll, Lincoln, Ouachita, Union
John Odum	Region G Bienville, Caddo, De Soto, Webster, Bossier, Claiborne, Red River
Blain Matte	Region I Acadia, Iberia, St. Landry, St. Mary, Evangeline, Lafayette, St. Martin, Vermillion
David Nunez	Region L St. Helena, Tangipahoa, St. Tammany, Washington

Enforcement Officers

Complaints must be filed in writing to the SPBLA Enforcement Division.

SPBLA was recently approved to hire 2 additional Enforcement Officers for Region A and Region B

SPBLA
Administrative
Staff

Ashley Jones Tullier
Executive Director

Ashleigh W. Cambre
*Enforcement Division &
Program Specialist*

**Dustine
Tullier**
*Accounting
& HR*

Jayde Sibley
*Medical Gas &
Natural and Master
Natural Gas*

**Harleigh
Corcoran**
*Apprentice,
Tradesman, &
Journeyman*

Laura Ryan
*Master, CPE, &
Insurance*

- Effective January 1, 2017, anyone wishing to apply for the Journeyman License must complete an apprenticeship program.
- In addition, all workers performing the job of an apprentice, must be registered with the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana as an apprentice and renewed annually.
- Any laborer performing the work of an apprentice and is found to not be registered will be subject to a citation, as may the company for which they work.
- Ratio of apprentices to journeyman plumbers must be 1:1!
- Apprentices shall register with SPBLA and pay applicable fees annually for renewal

Apprentices

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Tradesman License

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

- ▶ A TRADESMAN PLUMBER allows a person to repair* existing plumbing systems in one- and two-family dwellings at the direction of a master plumber and without the supervision of a journeyman plumber.
 - ▶ *Repair is limited to the performance of repairs to existing plumbing, the clearing of stoppages or repairing leaks.
- ▶ No Tradesman Plumber shall be permitted to do the work of a Journeyman Plumber.
- ▶ Tradesman Plumbers DO NOT affect the ratio of 1:1.
- ▶ Requirements for a Tradesman License:
 - ▶ Must be currently enrolled as an apprentice through the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana
 - ▶ Must have performed 2 years (or 4,000 hours) of manual labor of plumbing under the direct, constant, on-the-job supervision of a journeyman or master plumber.
- ▶ Once a Tradesman, continued participation is not required in an apprenticeship program, unless applying for the Journeyman license in the future.

- ▶ No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a journeyman plumber unless he/she possesses a license issued by the board.
- ▶ Journeyman plumbers must be under the supervision of a licensed master plumber to engage in the art of plumbing.

Journeyman

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Master Plumber

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

- ▶ No natural person shall engage in the work of a master plumber unless he/she possesses a master plumber license issued by the board.
- ▶ Must also possess or previously possessed a journeyman plumber license to perform the duties of a journeyman plumber

- ▶ A plumber who successfully passed the master plumber exam but does not wish or intend to practice as a master plumber.
- ▶ Cannot designate an employing entity or knowingly allow an employing entity to hold itself out as employing him/her as a master plumber.
- ▶ Permitted to work as a journeyman plumber provided he/she is currently or was previously licensed by the board as a journeyman plumber.

Inactive Master Plumber

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Restricted Master Plumber

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

- ▶ Any natural person who, prior to July 1, 1990, possessed a master plumber license issued by a local governmental jurisdiction or to a journeyman plumber licensed by the board who was permitted by local law to conduct a plumbing business in a local governmental jurisdiction as an employing entity.
- ▶ A restricted master plumber license permits the licensee to perform plumbing work only in the geographic region previously covered by the local governmental authority.

A master plumber, journeyman plumber or landscape irrigation license holder who has been issued an endorsement by this board permitting he/she to install, repair and maintain backflow prevention devices between the public or an individual consumers potable water source and any other system through which it is possible to introduce any used water, industrial fluid, gas or substance other than the intended potable water with which the system is supplied. ASSE Series 5000 Standard 5110/5130.

Water Supply Protection Specialist

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Medical Gas Installer and Verifier

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

- ▶ Verifier - The work or business of testing and verifying medical gas piping installations and systems. ASSE Series 6000 standard 6030
- ▶ Installer - The work or business of installing in buildings and premises, piping used solely to transport gases for medical purposes. ASSE Series 6000 Standard 6010. NFPA 99 Brazing.

- A natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to install, alter and/or repair natural gas systems; is licensed as such by the board; is supervised by a master gas fitter and is in the employ of an employing entity
- Only exemptions: Municipality or gas district; Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission.

Natural Gas Fitter

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Master Natural Gas Fitter

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

A natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to plan and lay out natural gas systems, supervises gas fitters in the installation, alteration and/or repair of natural gas systems, and is such licensed by the board

- ▶ A gas fitter who does not wish or intend to practice as a master gas fitter.
- ▶ Cannot designate an employing entity.

Inactive Master Natural Gas Fitter

This information is important for you to know for your company to be in compliance with the Louisiana rules and regulations!

Licensing Reminders



Journeyman plumbers must be under the supervision of a licensed master plumber to engage in plumbing *unless making repairs to existing plumbing.*



Master plumbers shall designate to the board one, and only one, employing entity.



Master plumbers should notify the board of any employment changes.



Employing entities must employ a licensed master plumber.

Signage and Marketing Reminders



Signs must be plainly visible from the street at any location where plumbing work is being done and should include:

Employer's full name, address, and phone number

Master plumber license number (reading "LA Licensed Master Plumber")



Service vehicles should have permanent signs or lettering affixed to both sides of the vehicle

Master plumber license number may be abbreviated LMP



Lettering must be at least 2 inches tall



All marketing (including website) should include the employer's full contact information and the master plumber license number

1

Self-employed Journeyman plumbers must show proof of general liability insurance in a minimum amount of \$100,000, as well as auto insurance.

2

Master plumbers must submit proof of the following to SPBLA:

- Comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance in a minimum amount of \$100,000
- Vehicle liability insurance
- Workers Compensation (or affidavit if no employees)

Insurance Requirements Reminders

SPBLA Enforcement

Enforcement officers inspect jobsites:

Licenses

Quality of Workmanship

Sign on Jobsite

Citations may be issued for:

Plumbing without
the proper license

Using unlicensed
personnel

Substandard work

No or inappropriate
jobsite or vehicle
signage

Informal enforcement hearings held quarterly,
with decisions made to go before the board

Thank you.

This has been prepared for
you by the
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling
Contractors of Louisiana.
Copyright 2019.