



11 Robert Toner Blvd., # 234 | North Attleboro, MA 02763 | Phone: 508-839-3407 | www.acane.org

FACT SHEET

Proposed Regulation Amendment 780 C.M.R. § 110.R5 CSL HVAC

Summary:

The Air Conditioning Association of New England (ACA/NE) has submitted a proposal to the Massachusetts Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) to create a HVAC Construction Supervisors License (CSL). The scope of work covered under the new license would include the construction, reconstruction, installation, maintenance, repair or removal of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems of less than ten-ton capacity.

The new license would be subject to all of the obligations currently imposed on other construction supervisors.

ACA/NE and its members anticipate that the new HVAC CSL will result in a simplified and uniform HVAC permit. The certification, testing, continuing education and licensing guideline will be developed by the BBRS with assistance and input from the relevant parties, including city and town building inspectors.

It makes sense to develop an HVAC CSL through the BBRS because ninety percent (90%) of the work that residential contractors do is defined in the International Energy Conservation (IEC) and the International Residential Codes (IRC) is already under the authority of the BBRS. Additionally, the mission of the BBRS is SAFETY and Health of the people and building.

Background and Rationale for the Proposed Amendment

The HVAC CSL would provide several benefits for ACA/NE members and the public. The HVAC CSL will:

- Simplify and unify the permitting process to perform residential HVAC work;
- Increase the efficacy of energy conservation and efficiency measures now in use, with the increased emphasis of performance-based, rather than prescriptive-based code requirements;
- Improve the quality of services HVAC contractors provide to residential customers;
- Bring certification, training, testing and continuing education requirements for licensed professionals responsible for performing residential HVAC work;
- Improve accountability and the quality of services being offered to the public;
- Require that technicians demonstrate their knowledge of and expertise in all matters of safety procedures; and
- Provide oversight by professional building code administrators who will be charged with the inspection of all work performed.

The Training for Expertise and Safety

While HVAC technicians already receive a great deal of training before they perform installation and repair services, this amendment will serve to improve the quality of HVAC services offered to the public.

Increased accountability and oversight will improve public safety. Specific educational and safety training will be required before a residential technician can obtain a HVAC CSL.

Specific Training Requirements may include:

Industry Code

- Residential Code
- International Energy Code

General Business Safety

- Asbestos Awareness
- Burns and Cuts
- Business Practices for Small Contractors
- Carbon Monoxide Safety
- Combustion Analyzing
- Cylinder Handling
- Dangers of Electrical Hazards
- Distracted Driving, Driving Safely
- Eye Protection and Eye Washing
- Fan Safety
- Fire Prevention, Protection and Emergency Egress Safety
- Fire Safety
- First Aid
- Fixed and Portable Ladder Safety
- HotWorks
- Job Site Safety
- Ladders and Falls
- Lead Safe Practices
- Material Handling
- Mold, Respiratory Masks,
- Osha 10
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Safety Clothing
- Slip, Trip and Fall Hazard Protection
- Tag Out/Lock Out

- Walking on Icy Surfaces
- Working in Confined Spaced,
Working in Hot Attics Safety
- Soldering, Brazing and Welding
- Workplace Safety

HVAC Technical Certification

- ACCA Manual J
- ACCA Manual D
- ACCA Manual S
- Air Conditioning
- Air Distribution
- Airflow Basics
- Basic HVAC Equipment Types
- Electrical Components
- Electrical Measurement
- Filtration
- Gas Furnaces
- Heat Pumps
- HVAC Refrigeration Components
and Hand Tools
- Hydronic System Basics
- Hydronics Gas
- Hydronics Oil
- Maintenance Inspection Basics
- North American Technician Excellence
(NATE) Official HVAC Certification
- Oil Furnaces
- Room Temperature Differences
- System Installation Basic

The Cost

ACA/NE and its member anticipate that any increase in cost to their members to obtain and maintain the HVAC CSL will be minimal, and these costs are unlikely to be passed on to consumers.

Grandfather Clause

Candidates for the HVAC CSL who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the BBRS that they have at least five years' experience in the supervision of individuals engaged in the construction, reconstruction, installation, maintenance, repair or removal of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems of less than ten-ton capacity, may elect to and if requested, shall receive a license in this category without being required to take the exam.

This exception shall remain in effect until December 31, 2021, provided acceptable evidence is provided to the BBRS in the form of a letter attested to by the candidate indicating that he/she possesses the minimum qualifications while identifying specific projects, noting the owner and address, and spanning at least five years in which the candidate was involved.

What is the Air Conditioning Association of New England (ACA/NE)?

ACA/NE is a not-for-profit trade association for residential heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigeration contractors. ACA/NE represents and serves companies that design, install, service and repair air conditioning, heating, refrigeration, air purification, ventilating systems, plumbing, piping, sheet metal and energy management systems of all sizes and complexities. The membership includes manufacturers of equipment, wholesalers and distributors of equipment, vocational and technical schools, and others with an interest in the HVAC/R industry.

Contact

Manuel Chaves
manny@chaveshvac.com
ACA/NE Government Affairs Chairman
Chaves Heating and AC, Inc.
15 Bonazzoli Ave.
Hudson, MA 01749
Phone: (978) 562-5309
www.chaveshvac.com

Catherine Flaherty, CAE
cflaherty@acane.org
Executive Director
ACA/NE
11 Robert Toner Blvd., # 234
North Attleboro, MA 02763
Phone: (508) 839-3407
www.acane.org