

**CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
FILED WITH THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR**

(Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §41-22-6, as amended).

I certify that the attached is/are correct copy/copies of rule/s as promulgated and adopted on Thursday, August 14, 2025, and filed with the agency secretary on Monday, August 18, 2025.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

RULE NO.: 720-X-4-.01

(If amended rule, give specific paragraph, subparagraphs, etc., being amended) **720-X-4-.01 Forms, Requirements And Fee Schedule: amend (2) (d) numbers 4, 5, and add number 6; amend (2) (e) numbers 4, 5, and add line 6; amend (2) (g) number 4, and add number 5; amend (3) (c) and added subsections a and b.**

RULE TITLE: Forms, Requirements, And Fee Schedule

ACTION TAKEN: State whether the rule was adopted with or without changes from the proposal due to written or oral comments:

Adopted without changes. No comments were received.

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION PUBLISHED IN VOLUME XLIII, ISSUE NO. 8, AAM,
DATED FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025.

STATUTORY RULEMAKING AUTHORITY: 34-37-2, 34-37-6

(Date Filed)
(For IRS Use Only)
REC'D & FILED
AUG 18, 2025
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

James M. Morgan

James M. Morgan

Certifying Officer or his or her
Deputy

(NOTE: In accordance with §41-22-6(b), as amended, a proposed rule is required to be certified within 90 days after completion of the notice.)

(1) All required forms shall be made available in hard copy at the Board's office as well as in downloadable form on the Board's website.

(2) Requirements for issuance of certificates:

(a) Apprentice:

1. No written exam to be taken.
2. Submit completed Apprentice Registration form.
3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".
4. Pay required fee(s).

(b) Journeyman Plumber:

1. Submit completed Application for Examination.
2. Provide verifiable proof of two (2) years of current work experience as an apprentice plumber OR of completion of a Board-approved apprentice training program.
3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".
4. Pay required fee(s).
5. Receive a passing score on the written examination.

(c) Journeyman Gas Fitter:

1. Submit completed Application for Examination.
2. Provide verifiable proof of two (2) years of current work experience as an apprentice gas fitter OR of completion of a Board-approved apprentice training program.
3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".
4. Pay required fee(s).

5. Receive a passing score on the written examination.

(d) Master Plumber:

1. Submit completed Application for Examination.

2. Provide verifiable proof of one (1) year of current work experience as a journeyman plumber.

3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".

4. Receive a passing score on the written examination.

5. Receive a passing score on the business law examination

6. Pay required fee(s):

(e) Master Gas Fitter:

1. Submit completed Application for Examination.

2. Provide verifiable proof of one (1) year of current work experience as a journeyman gas fitter.

3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".

4. Receive a passing score on the written examination.

5. Receive a passing score on the business law examination.

6. Pay required fee(s):

(f) Medical Gas Pipe Fitter:

1. Provide verifiable proof of certification at any level by the Board in either plumbing or gas fitting.

2. Provide verifiable proof of certification as a Medical Gas Installer/Brazer from the National Inspection Testing and Certification Corporation (NITC) or equal certification from another Board-approved medical gas certification entity or agency.

3. Pay required fee(s).

(g) Reciprocal Certification under Code of Ala. 1975,
§34-37-11:

1. Submit completed request for reciprocal certification.
2. Provide verifiable proof of current licensing/
certification in good standing with a state with which
the Board has a valid and current reciprocity agreement.
3. Submit completed and executed form, "Declaration of
U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence of an Alien".
4. Receive a passing score on the business law
examination.
5. Pay required fee(s).

(3) Fees:

(a) Apprentice:

1. Initial Registration Fee: \$35.00
2. Annual Registration Renewal Fee: \$35.00
3. Late Annual Registration Penalty: \$35.00

(b) Journeyman Level:

1. Non-Refundable Examination Fee: \$110.00
2. Initial Application Processing Fee: \$50.00
3. Initial Certificate Fee: \$75.00
4. Annual Certificate Renewal Fee: \$75.00
5. Inactive Fee: \$0.00
6. Late Annual Certificate Renewal Penalty: \$75.00

(c) Master Level:

1. Non-Refundable Examination Fee(s):
 - a. Written Exam: \$160.00
 - b. Business Law Exam: \$100.00
2. Initial Application Processing Fee: \$50.00

3. Initial Certificate Fee: \$175.00
4. Annual Certificate Renewal Fee: \$175.00
5. Inactive Fee: \$0.00
6. Late Annual Certificate Renewal Penalty: \$175.00

(d) Medical Gas Pipe Fitter:

1. Renewal Fee: \$25.00

(e) Business:

1. Initial Registration Fee: \$25.00
2. Annual Registration Renewal Fee: \$25.00
3. Late Annual Registration Renewal Penalty: \$25.00

(f) Miscellaneous Fees:

1. Records Request: \$15.00 + \$.25 per page
2. License Verification: \$15.00
3. Application for Alternative Assessment: \$15.00

(4) Fines: All violations not related to gas work shall carry a minimum fine of \$500.00. All violations related to gas work shall carry a minimum fine of \$1000.00. Maximum fine limits shall be determined by state law.

Author: Kelly Butler, James M. Morgan

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, §§34-37-2, 34-37-6.

History: Filed February 27, 1992. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 5, 1999; effective September 9, 1999. **Amended:** Filed September 18, 2002; effective October 23, 2002. **Amended:** Filed February 18, 2003; effective March 25, 2003. **Amended:** Filed December 11, 2003; effective January 15, 2004. **Repealed and New Rule:** July 21, 2004; effective August 25, 2004. **Amended:** Filed November 15, 2007; effective December 20, 2007. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 2014; effective July 11, 2014. **Amended:** Filed February 5, 2016; effective March 21, 2016. **Amended:** Filed June 14, 2018; effective July 29, 2018. **Repealed and New Rule:** Published June 30, 2020; effective August 14, 2020. **Amended:** Published June 30, 2021; effective August 14, 2021; operative January 1, 2022.

Amended: Published September 30, 2024; effective November 14, 2024, operative January 1, 2025. **Amended:** Published August 29, 2025; effective October 13, 2025, operative January 1, 2026.

APA-7

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
(Section 41-22-5.1)**

Control No: 720

Department or Agency: Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board

Rule No: 720-X-4-.01

Rule Title: Forms, Requirements, And Fee Schedule

Intended Action: Amend

Attached is a Business Economic Impact Statement filed pursuant to Section 41-22-5.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

Signature of certifying officer *James M. Morgan*
James M. Morgan

Date Monday, August 18, 2025

(DATE FILED)
(STAMP)



Kay Ivey
Governor

STATE OF ALABAMA

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James M. Morgan
Executive Director

Business Economic Impact Analysis Statement

Subject: Administrative Rule Change for Business Law Exam for Master Plumbers and Master Gas Fitters in Alabama

Introduction:

The proposed administrative rule change to section 720-X-4-.01 introduces a business law exam and associated fee for individuals seeking to become licensed master plumbers or master gas fitters in Alabama. This new requirement aims to elevate industry standards and ensure professionals are well-versed in legal and business practices relevant to their trades. This analysis provides an overview of the economic implications of this rule change for the state of Alabama and its stakeholders.

Economic Impacts:

1. Revenue Generation:

- The business law exam is estimated to be administered approximately 460 times annually. With a fee of \$100 per exam, total anticipated revenue from exam fees is projected to be \$46,000 each year. This revenue can support the regulatory processes managed by the Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board.

2. Cost to the Examining Board:

- While the revenue generated from the exams is significant, the cost incurred by the Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board amounts to \$80 per exam, resulting in a total expenditure of \$36,800 (460 exams x \$80). The net revenue after accounting for board expenses will be \$9,200 annually, available for reinvestment into regulatory and educational initiatives. The estimated net revenue does not include pay for staff members who will be processing exam applications.

3. Job Creation and Training Opportunities:

- As the demand for preparation courses for the business law exam increases, educational institutions and training providers may be incentivized to develop programs tailored to this requirement. This could stimulate job creation in educational services, benefiting local economies and providing a skilled workforce.



Kay Ivey
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STATE OF ALABAMA

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4. Enhanced Industry Standards:

- The rule change promotes a higher level of legal knowledge among licensed professionals. Improved compliance with legal standards decreases the likelihood of violations and associated penalties, fostering a more stable operating environment for businesses. This ultimately enhances consumer trust and safety.

5. Consumer Protection and Market Stability:

- By ensuring that master plumbers and gas fitters possess the necessary legal knowledge, the initiative reinforces consumer protection. An educated workforce minimizes risks related to non-compliance, protecting consumers from potential legal issues and ensuring better service quality.

6. Long-Term Economic Benefits:

- This administrative rule change puts the Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board in alignment with other boards that license trades. Business Law exams help to increase professionalism across various sectors. This has the potential to create a culture of compliance that benefits the broader economy.

Conclusion:

The introduction of a business law exam for master plumbers and gas fitters in Alabama represents a pivotal advancement in professional standards and consumer protection. While the revenue generated is crucial for sustaining regulatory operations, the net economic impact—including job creation, enhanced training opportunities, and improved industry compliance—will yield long-term benefits for both professionals and consumers. It is imperative that the Alabama legislature supports this administrative rule change to foster a more competent and dependable workforce in the plumbing and gas fitting industries.

James M. Morgan, Executive Director