APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 720

Department or Agency: ALABAMA PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS EXAMINING BOARD

Rule No.: 720-X-21-.02

Rule Title: Continuing Education General Standards

Intended Action: Amend

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved? Yes

To what degree?: Licensees will be required to have 4-hours of continuing education annually per certification held. This will increase by 4 hours.

Is the increase in cost more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? Yes

Are all facets of the rule-making process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? No

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Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer: James M. Morgan

James M. Morgan

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

REC'D & FILED
FEB 27, 2026
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

APA-2

ALABAMA PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS EXAMINING BOARD

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board

RULE NO. & TITLE: 720-X-21-.02 Continuing Education General Standards

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:
Action corrects an aspect of the CE rules that was confusing to our licensees. Number of hours required for multiple certifications was the same as for one certification, but the total number was split into two categories: Plumbing or Gas. The proposed amendment would make the total CE hours per certification held a straight 4-hours.

TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:
The public may present views in writing by mail to Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining Board, 216 Aquarius Drive, Ste. 319, Homewood, AL 35209, by emailing jimmy.morgan@pgfb.alabama.gov, or in person at the public hearing on May 14, 2026. The public hearing will be held at 10:00am at the board office located at 216 Aquarius Drive, Suite 319, Homewood, AL 35209.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
Thursday, May 14, 2026

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:
James M. Morgan
jimmy.morgan@pgfb.alabama.gov

James M. Morgan
James M. Morgan

(Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt
rules or his or her deputy)

720-X-21-.02 Continuing Education General Standards.

(1) All certified contractors shall obtain a minimum of four (4) hours of CE annually~~, regardless of the number of certifications held~~. Individuals who hold two certifications must obtain ~~two~~four hours of CE per certification held.

(a) Example 1: If a certified contractor only holds certification as a Master Plumber, he/she is required to obtain 4-hours of plumbing CE annually.

(b) Example 2: If a certified contractor holds both Master Plumber and Master Gas Fitter certifications, he/she is required to obtain ~~2-hours~~4-hours of plumbing CE and ~~2-hours~~4-hours of gas fitting CE annually.

(2) All certified contractors shall be individually accountable for continued competence to renew annually.

(3) The Board may prescribe additional continuing education courses as disciplinary action.

(4) All certified contractors shall meet continuing education requirements as stated in Section 34-37-8, Code of Ala. 1975.

(5) Continuing education is not required for an individual who is acquiring and renewing their initial certification from the Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board during the current calendar year.

(a) Continuing Education is not required for individuals who have applied for and been placed on inactive status. Inactive contractors who wish to become active again must complete all continuing education requirements as a prerequisite to being approved to be placed on active status.

(b) Individuals whose certification is delinquent must pay back fees and penalties, unless they qualify for a waiver of annual fees and penalties and complete the required 4 hours of CE prior to being made active again.

(6) Failure to complete the minimum continuing education requirements before November 1st annually will prevent the renewal of a certified contractor's license until proof of compliance is submitted to the Board.

(a) Example 1: A Master Gas Fitter who has obtained 4-hours of CE prior to October 1, 2026, may renew his/her certification as soon as renewal season (October 1-December 31) begins, but under any circumstance 4-hours of CE must be

completed prior to November 1, 2026, to avoid a penalty.

(b) Example 2: A Master Gas Fitter wishes to renew his/her certification on or after November 1, 2026, but has not obtained 4-hours of CE. He/she will be required to submit a CE Deficiency Plan to the board that details how the licensee will obtain the required CE hours. He/she would then be required to pay the deficiency fee, then complete the CE and renew the certification prior to December 31, 2026, in order to avoid paying a late certification renewal penalty.

(7) Units of measure for continuing education in hours. One hour equals at least 50 minutes.

(8) Continuing education hours are awarded in increments of one hour not to exceed four hours.

(9) Certified contractors who obtain CE hours in excess of what is required for a specific year may NOT use those hours toward CE credit for the following year.

(10) The Board may accept continuing education earned from an alternative continuing education provider by submitting a request for approval of non-traditional continuing education and paying the prescribed fee.

(11) Continuing education courses and activities may not be repeated within the earning period for credit.

(12) Proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements must be submitted to the Board before November 1st annually.

Author: James M. Morgan
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-37-2.
History: **New Rule:** Published September 30, 2024; effective November 14, 2024, operative January 1, 2025. **Amended:** Published ; effective .

Penalty: Non-compliance will prevent renewal of certification.