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**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON  
STATE OF NEW YORK**

Date: February 8, 2023

Sponsored by Council Members: Resciniti, Riley, Friedman, Burns, Strawn, Scanlon, Scaringi

Introduced by Committee: Rules/Special Studies

**ORDINANCE**

*entitled*

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS  
SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 225, ELECTRICAL  
STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF  
BINGHAMTON

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Binghamton wishes to amend various sections of the Code of the City of Binghamton, Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Binghamton, duly convened in regular session, does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. That the Code of the City of Binghamton, Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-2, *Definition*; Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-6.D, *Permits*; Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-22.A, *Applications for licenses*; Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-24, *Qualifications*; Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-29.C, *Restrictions*; and Chapter 225, *Electrical Standards*, §225-29.D, *Restrictions*, be amended as shown in the attachment.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Introductory No. 023-29

Permanent No. 023-28

Sponsored by City Council Members:  
Resciniti, Riley, Friedman, Burns, Strawn, Scanlon,  
Scaringi

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS  
SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 225, ELECTRICAL  
STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF  
BINGHAMTON

The within Ordinance was adopted by the Council of  
the City of Binghamton.

2/8/23

Date 2/8/23  
City Clerk [Signature]

2/9/23

Date Presented to Mayor

2/12/23

Date Approved [Signature]  
Mayor

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Councilwoman Resciniti	✓			
Councilwoman Riley	✓			
Councilwoman Friedman	✓			
Councilman Burns	✓			
Councilman Strawn	✓			
Councilman Scanlon	✓			
Councilman Scaringi	✓			
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Code of the City of Binghamton

Adopted  Defeated  
7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain 0 Absent

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Binghamton at a meeting held on 2/8/23. Approved by the Mayor on 2/12/23. [Signature]

## Chapter 225, ELECTRICAL STANDARDS

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Binghamton 10-5-1970 (Ch. 7 of the 1970 Code); amended in its entirety 5-3-2004 by Ord. No. 04-55. Subsequent amendments noted where applicable.]

### GENERAL REFERENCES

Board, commission and committee procedures -- See Ch. 16.  
Building construction -- See Ch. 200.  
Fire prevention -- See Ch. 235.  
Housing and property maintenance -- See Ch. 265.  
Plumbing -- See Ch. 310.

### ARTICLE I, General Provisions

#### § 225-1. Purpose and intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the protection of life and property through ensuring the proper installation, maintenance and repair of electrical wiring in the City of Binghamton. The provisions contained herein shall constitute the rules regulating person or persons engaged in the work of electrical installation, repair and/or maintenance in the City of Binghamton.

#### § 225-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings unless the context requires otherwise:

APPRENTICE -- A person engaged in electrical work under the direct supervision of a master or journeyman electrician.

BOARD -- The Board of Electrical Examiners of the City, established by this chapter.

INSPECTOR -- The person or persons authorized and required by this chapter to make electrical inspections within the City.

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN -- A person having a valid license issued by the City of Binghamton, experienced, and doing any work in connection with the installation, erection, alteration, extension or repair of electrical wiring, apparatus, fixtures, devices, appliances, excluding portable appliances as hereinafter defined, and equipment for light, heat or power purposes or for signaling systems operating on 50 volts or more.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN -- Any person who has a valid license issued by the City of Binghamton and engages in or carries on the business of installing, erecting, altering or repairing electrical wiring, apparatus, fixtures, devices, appliances, excluding portable appliances as hereinafter defined, and equipment utilized or designed for the utilization of electricity for light, heat or power purposes or for signaling systems operating on 50 volts or more, and any person who ~~performs or~~ supervises the performance of work done in connection with the installation, erection, alteration, extension or repair of electrical wiring, apparatus, fixtures, devices, appliances, excluding portable appliances as hereinafter defined, and equipment for light, heat or power purposes or for signaling systems operating on 50 volts or more, and any person who contracts to do any of the foregoing.

PORTABLE APPLIANCE -- An appliance capable of being readily moved where established practice or the conditions of use make it necessary or convenient for it to be detachable from its source of electric current by means of flexible cord and attachment plug.

WORKING MASTER ELECTRICIAN -- Any person who has a valid license issued by the City of Binghamton and performs the work as described as a journeyman and master electrician. Any holder of a master electrician license and journeyman's electrician license shall become a holder of a working master electrician license.

LOCAL SHOP – an office, vehicles, tools and equipment located in Broome County or one of the NY or PA counties directly adjacent to Broome County.

LOCAL SUPERVISOR -- A master electrician, licensed to do electrical work in the City of Binghamton, who will be responsible for providing DIRECT SUPERVISION for any and all work being performed under a permit that has been granted by the City of Binghamton.



**DIRECT SUPERVISION** - - To provide review of plans, drawings, installation instructions and manufacturer specifications and technical interpretation of such documents to any employees performing work under a permit. To oversee activities as they occur and provide inspections, direction, feedback, and assistance.

**PROOF OF FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT** - Pay stubs and/or a W-2.

**VERIFIED EMPLOYEE** - - An employee who has submitted **PROOF OF EMPLOYMENT** at a **LOCAL SHOP** by a corporation or electrical contracting business and such proof has been reviewed and approved by The Board of Electrical Examiners.

§ 225-6. Permits; penalties for failure to obtain permit.

- A. Permit required; display. It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person to install, alter or repair, or cause to be installed, altered or repaired, any electrical wiring in the City until such time as proper application has been filed with the Superintendent of Building Inspection of the City and a permit has been obtained from the Superintendent. Such permit shall be conspicuously displayed upon the exterior of the premises whereon such installation, alteration or repair is to be performed.
- B. Notwithstanding any other restrictions, the owner-occupant or intended owner-occupant of residential real property shall make application for an electrical permit to make alterations or repairs to the electrical system on said real property consisting of one, two or three dwelling units without being required to obtain a license as a master electrician for said electrical work. This provision shall in no way authorize a person to perform electrical work outside of property owned by said person or on property containing more than three dwelling units, mixed use, or nonresidential property. Electrical work shall be limited to electrical wiring within the dwelling units, excluding service entrance cable and electrical panel, to accessory structures (i.e., garages and pools), and exterior fixtures located on such property, excluding electrical service entrance cable and electrical panel. The electrical work shall be subject to inspection by the City of Binghamton Electrical Inspector or his or her successor or designee.
- C. No permit shall be issued to any person unless he or she is the holder of a license as a master electrician under this chapter or is exempted from such license requirement pursuant to Subsection B of this section. All property owners and/or master electricians must obtain a permit prior to commencement of any electrical work authorized pursuant to this section. Failure to obtain such permit shall result in a minimum fine of \$100 up to \$500 for the first violation, and a minimum fine of \$500 up to \$1,000 for the second violation. Any person who fails to comply three or more times in a five-year period shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and liable for a fine of \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months or both.
- D. If the applicant for a permit is a FULL TIME EMPLOYEE acting on behalf of a corporation, AND such corporation shall have established a LOCAL SHOP. In addition, such an employee shall be a VERIFIED EMPLOYEE and shall be designated as the LOCAL SUPERVISOR for the work to be done under the permit. Verification of having a LOCAL SHOP and PROOF OF FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT shall be submitted to The Board of Electrical Examiners for review and approval.
- E. Inspection of work performed by owner-occupant.
  - (1) All work performed by persons described in Subsection B shall be inspected by the City's Electrical Inspector, its designee or successor. If said work does not meet all applicable electrical and safety codes, the person shall be informed of the violations by the Inspector, and the person shall then remedy all violations within 10 days.
  - (2) If the work performed by a person pursuant to Subsection B does not meet all applicable codes after two inspections, the owner must hire a City of Binghamton licensed master electrician, licensed pursuant to this chapter, and pay a fee for any additional required inspections. Fees for electrical inspections shall be established by the duly authorized appointee of the electrical inspection agency of the City of Binghamton.
- F. If a property owner knowingly violates any section of this chapter or knowingly hires a person to perform work covered by this chapter, who is not licensed pursuant to this chapter, said owner shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$500 and a maximum fine of \$1,500.
- G. To obtain an electrical permit the master electrician shall submit a City of Binghamton electrical permit application and an electrical inspection request form to the designated inspection agency. Also

- (4) A Class B license shall only be issued to a journeyman or master electrician duly licensed from a municipality whose licensing program is recognized by the City of Binghamton, or to an individual who has successfully completed a state-approved electrical apprenticeship program recognized by the City of Binghamton Examining Board.

§ 225-21. Failure to renew license.

- A. Every licensee who fails to renew his or her license prior to the expiration thereof shall pay an additional fee as set from time to time by the City Council for each year or part thereof, together with the license fee prescribed in this section for each year the license is not renewed, upon the renewal of the license (See Exhibit J). Prior to issuance of a license, the applicant must bring his or her license current for all back years. If the license has not been renewed for over five years, § 225-20B may apply. The maximum renewal fee shall not exceed the cost associated with the maximum fee required by this section.
- B. Every licensee who fails to renew a Class A or Class B master electrician's license and/or a journeyman's electrician license for five consecutive years must thereafter qualify for an original license hereunder and comply with all the requirements hereof relative thereto; except that the applicant may submit in writing to the Board a request to renew the expired license. Included in the request shall be notarized statements from owners of the electrical businesses in which the applicant was employed. These statements shall include but not be limited to the following:
  - (1) Description of the type of business in which the applicant worked.
  - (2) Detailed description of the work performed by the applicant.
  - (3) Length of time in which the applicant was employed.
  - (4) Any other information reasonably necessary for the Board to render a decision.
- C. Upon review of the information submitted the Board shall render a decision to either grant the renewal or require the person making the request to retest.

§ 225-22. Applications for licenses.

- A. Master electricians. Every person desiring a license as a master electrician under this article shall make application therefor to the Board of Electrical Examiners in such form and detail as the Board may prescribe. Such application shall state, among other things, the name and place of business of the applicant, the class of license applied for and the name of the representative of the applicant who will take the examination for the license and who will act as the ~~supervisor~~ LOCAL SUPERVISOR of the work to be done under the license, if granted. ~~If an applicant for a master electrician's license Class A or B is a corporation, any officer of the corporation may be designated as the representative of the applicant for such purposes, provided that such person is a stockholder of such corporation in a minimum amount of 25%. Verification shall be submitted to the Board for review and approval.~~
- B. Journeyman electrician. Every person desiring a license as journeyman electrician under this article shall make application therefor to the Board of Electrical Examiners in such form and detail as the Board may prescribe. Such application shall state, among other things, the name and residence address of the applicant, the name and business address of the employer of the applicant and the nature and extent of the experience of the applicant in work as a journeyman electrician.
- C. Examination fee to accompany application. Unless examination shall have been waived by the Board of Electrical Examiners under § 225-23C, each application for a license shall be accompanied by a



check or money order for the examination fees as set from time to time by the City Council (See Exhibit J).

§ 225-23. Examinations.

- A. Generally. Examinations shall be in writing. A complete record of every examination given shall be kept on file until three years after the date of the examination. Examinations shall be offered at least two times per year. The Board of Electrical Examiners may, in its discretion, authorize no more than two additional examinations per year if the Board determines that a sufficient number of eligible candidates warrants the additional offering of said examination. In no event shall the examination be offered twice during any three-month period. The results of each such examination shall be announced by the Board not later than 30 days from the date of such examination.
- B. Presentation for examination. The applicant or, in the case of those applying for licenses as master electricians, the designated representative of the applicant shall present himself or herself for examination at the time and place specified in a notice to be given by the Board of Electrical Examiners.
- C. Waiver of examination. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, where an applicant for a master electrician's license, Class C, establishes to the Board's satisfaction that he or she holds a current license from another state or political subdivision thereof or from the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof, which license was issued on the basis of a qualifying examination, the Board shall have the power to waive the written examination, at its discretion.
- D. Re-examination. An applicant or the representative of an applicant who has failed in his or her first examination shall not be eligible for reexamination until three months from the date of such failure; one who fails twice or more shall not be eligible for further reexamination until at least six months have elapsed from the date of such second or subsequent failure. Any person who fails two consecutive examinations shall retake both parts of the examination when eligible. The re-examination fee shall be the same as the initial examination fee.
- E. All persons who have passed either the master or journeyman's examination must obtain their license within one year of the notification that the applicant has passed the examination. Failure to obtain the license will forfeit the right to the license and the applicant will be required to re-exam.

§ 225-24. Qualifications for master electrician's license.

No license as a master electrician shall be granted to any person unless the designated representative shall prove to the satisfaction of the Board of Electrical Examiners that he or she ~~has or will establish a place for the regular transaction of business;~~ is a competent electrician and qualified to do electrical contracting, construction and installation work and electrical wiring; has a working knowledge of electricity and the natural laws, properties and functions of electricity and of appliances, apparatus, materials and devices for electric light, heat, power and signaling purposes used and required in such work, combined with a practical working knowledge of the requirements and provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations of the Board and the laws of the state, if any, and of the City for installation of electrical wiring, devices, appliances and equipment and of the provisions thereof requiring permits therefor. Proof of competency shall be that the applicant is a holder of a duly authorized City of Binghamton journeyman's license for the minimum of two years. The Board may waive this requirement at its discretion upon review of the application from a duly licensed master electrician from another state or political subdivision thereof or from the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof.

**§ 225-25. Qualifications for journeyman electrician's license.**

- A. No license as a journeyman electrician shall be granted to any person unless he or she has shown proof of the required hours (9,000 or 8,250) and has successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program and working under the direct supervision of a licensed electrician and furthermore shall prove to the satisfaction of the Board of Electrical Examiners that he or she is a competent electrician and qualified to do electrical repairing and maintenance work; has a working knowledge of electricity and the natural laws, properties and functions of electricity and of appliances, apparatus, materials and devices for electric light, heat, power and signaling purposes, combined with a practical working knowledge of the requirements and provisions of the National Electrical Code and a knowledge of the provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations of the Board and the laws of the state, if any, and of the City for the repair and maintenance of electrical wiring, devices, appliances and equipment.
- B. The applicant must submit proof of the total number of hours as determined by the Board of on-the-job training over a five-year period under a duly licensed electrician as recognized by a governing agency recognized by the Board, with supervision documented, or submit proof of enrollment in and subsequent completion of an approved electrical apprenticeship program, before applying to take the journeyman's examination. Documentation or any other information deemed necessary by the Board shall be provided showing proof of the above, and all such proof shall be notarized.

**§ 225-26. Signing and issuance of licenses.**

Licenses shall be signed by the Chairperson of the Board of Electrical Examiners and the City Clerk and shall be issued by the City Clerk after due certification by the Board.

**§ 225-27. Records of issuance, suspension and revocation of licenses.**

In addition to the records kept by the Board of Electrical Examiners as provided in § 225-17F, it shall be the concurrent duty of the City Clerk to keep and maintain records of all licenses issued, suspended or revoked and to make such records available for public inspection.

**§ 225-28. Minimum age of applicant; refusal of license for felony convictions.**

No license shall be granted to any person who is less than 21 years of age. The Board of Electrical Examiners may, in its discretion, refuse the issuance or renewal of a license to a person who has been convicted of a felony, cognizable as such by the laws of the State of New York or the United States of America.

**§ 225-29. Restrictions upon licenses.**

- A. Assignment; transfer. No license issued hereunder shall be assigned or transferable.
- B. Identification of licensee. Each license as a master electrician issued hereunder shall specify the name of the person licensed, who shall be known as the "holder of the license," and such person shall be designated in the license as the supervisor of all work to be done under the license.
- C. Designation of supervisor. The person designated as the ~~supervisor~~ LOCAL SUPERVISOR ~~may be the holder of the license or, if the holder is a firm or partnership, may be a member thereof or, if the holder is a corporation, may be an officer of the corporation, provided that he or she has the requisite qualifications of stock ownership herein prescribed therefor, or, if a person in the employ of the holder of the license, must be a master electrician as set forth herein and have the requisite stock ownership as herein prescribed.~~



- D. ~~Supervisor~~ LOCAL SUPERVISOR for more than one license prohibited. The same person shall not be designated as the ~~supervisor~~ LOCAL SUPERVISOR ~~in~~ for two or more ~~licenses~~ ~~businesses issued to different holders~~.
- E. Termination of LOCAL supervisor's employment. In the event that the business association of the LOCAL supervisor with, or the employment of the LOCAL supervisor by, the holder of the license shall terminate, the holder shall notify the Board of Electrical Examiners of such fact forthwith and shall promptly designate another person as the representative of the holder who shall submit himself or herself for examination to the Board when notified so to do. If no such new designation is made within 30 days after the termination of the association or employment of the former LOCAL supervisor, the license of the holder shall become null and void on the 30th day following such termination.
- F. Numbering; form; color. All licenses shall be numbered in the order in which they are issued and shall be in such form and of such color and shall contain such information as may be prescribed by the Board of Electrical Examiners.
- G. Display. Each license shall at all times be kept conspicuously displayed in the place of business or employment, as the case may be, of the licensee.

§ 225-30. Additional requirements for Class A licensed master electricians.

- A. A certificate shall be issued by the Board and City of Binghamton and signed by the City Clerk and the Chairperson of the Board. Specifications for the certificate shall be determined by the Board.
- B. Certificate; penalty. Any person to whom such certificate has been issued who shall loan, rent, sell or transfer the same to another person, whether such person is entitled to receive a similar plate or sign or not, or otherwise willfully violates the provisions of this section shall be punishable by the Board of Electrical Examiners by a fine not exceeding \$500 for the first offense, and not less than \$750 nor more than \$1,000 for a subsequent offense, and in addition thereto shall forfeit his or her license hereunder.

§ 225-31. Suspension and revocation of licenses; fines.

- A. Any license issued hereunder may be suspended or revoked, in the discretion of the Board of Electrical Examiners, after hearing, upon due notice held, upon charges given to the licensee and an opportunity to be heard in his or her defense, in person and/or by attorney, if the Board is satisfied that the holder of such license or any of his or her or its officers or employees willfully, or by reason of incompetence, has violated any provision of this chapter or of any other law, or of any ordinance, local law or the Building Code of the City governing electrical work or requiring permits therefor, or any requirements contained in the rules and regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, known as the "National Electrical Code."
- B. The Board of Electrical Examiners may, in lieu of suspending or revoking a license hereunder, impose a fine not exceeding \$50 for the first offense, and not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for a subsequent offense, and may suspend the license until such fine is paid.