

**DIVISION 785  
PLUMBING ENFORCEMENT**

**918-785-0100****Plumbing Section**

The chief plumbing inspector is charged with the organization and enforcement of the **Plumbing Specialty Code** created under ORS 447.020 and defined as a Specialty Code under ORS 455.010, as a part of the **State Building Code** under ORS 455.010.

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.020

Hist.: DC 39, f. 1-6-75, ef. 2-1-75; DC 1-1983, f. & ef. 1-3-83; Renumbered from 814-021-0113; BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98, Renumbered from 918-760-0010

**918-785-0110****Powers and Duties of the Chief Plumbing Inspector**

(1) The chief plumbing inspector is authorized and directed to enforce all the provisions of the **Plumbing Specialty Code** and to assist in enforcement of the pertinent regulations of the **Oregon Structural Specialty Code**.

(2) The chief plumbing inspector and the building official are authorized and directed under provisions of ORS Chapters 447, 455 and 693 to enforce all provisions, rules and regulations governing plumbing systems and plumbing fixtures in effect on the date of adoption of the Plumbing Specialty Code when requested by federal, state or municipal agencies whose rules and regulations require conformity to this code as a condition of acceptance, licensing, operation or occupancy.

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.020

Hist.: DC 39, f. 1-6-75, ef. 2-1-75; DC 32-1978, f. 12-19-78, ef. 1-1-79; DC 8-1981, f. & ef. 7-2-81; DC 1-1983, f. & ef. 1-3-83; Renumbered from 814-021-0114; BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98, Renumbered from 918-760-0015

**918-785-0200****Inspection and Enforcement**

(1) Permits Required:

(a) No person, firm, or corporation shall do plumbing or effective October 1, 2001, medical gas systems work in the State of Oregon without first obtaining a plumbing permit or minor label when

required and paying the appropriate fees to the authorized permit issuing agency;

(b) Plumbing permit fees shall be doubled if installation is started prior to issuance of the permit, except that this provision will not apply to proven emergency installations, in which case a permit shall be obtained within five days of starting installation.

(2) Purpose of Permit. The issuance or granting of a plumbing permit is for the purpose of knowing where to make inspections and to defray the cost of inspections. The permit shall not be construed to be an approval of any violation of any of the provisions of the statutes or of OAR chapter 918, divisions 750 to 785. The issuance of a permit shall not prevent the administrator from thereafter requiring the correction of errors in sums due for the permit in installations or in requiring the work to be done only by those authorized by law.

(3) Notice Required for Inspections:

(a) No plumbing or effective October 1, 2001, medical gas systems installation shall be covered or concealed without first obtaining the approval of the inspecting jurisdiction;

(b) The inspecting jurisdiction shall have a minimum of 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, after notification that the permittee is ready for an inspection, in which to make the following inspections:

(A) New Construction or Remodeling:

(i) A rough-in inspection prior to placement of any concrete, cover, or backfill, or prior to placement of sub-flooring if frame construction must be requested by the permittee;

(ii) A cover inspection when all rough-in plumbing is in place prior to being covered;

(iii) A final inspection of plumbing fixtures and connections just prior to the building or remodeled area being occupied.

(B) Other Inspections. In addition to the inspections required to be called for by the permittee as specified above, the division may make or require any plumbing installation to ascertain compliance with the provisions of statutes or rules. Rough-in inspections prior to placement of sub-flooring for frame construction may be waived by the inspecting jurisdiction, if adequate accessibility is available and prior approval is granted.

(4) Correction Notice for Violations. All deviations from the requirements of the statutes or rules shall be specified in writing and a copy furnished to the permittee. An additional copy may be posted at the site of the installation or mailed or delivered to the permittee or the permittee's agent at the address shown on the permit. The division may provide information on the meaning or application of the statutes and rules but shall not design or lay out work for contractors, owners, or users. Refusal, failure, or neglect to correct deviations from the minimum standards specified in the notice within 30 days of receipt or of posting of notice of violation shall be considered a separate violation of these administrative rules.

(5) Enforcement. Whenever any plumbing installation is being made contrary to the provisions of the **Plumbing Specialty Code**, by unlicensed persons, when a license is required, or OAR chapter 918, divisions 750 to 785, the inspecting jurisdiction shall order the installation stopped by notice in writing served on any person engaged in causing such installation to be made, or by posting a copy at the site of the installation, and no person shall proceed with the installation until authorized by the inspecting jurisdiction.

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Hist.: DC 31, f. 4-19-74, ef. 5-11-74; Renumbered from 814-029-0010; DC 1-1983, f. & ef. 1-3-83; Renumbered from 814-021-0605; BCD 21-1996, f. 9-30-96, cert. ef. 10-1-96; BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98, Renumbered from 918-780-0010; BCD 22-2000, f. 9-19-00, cert. ef. 10-1-00

### **918-785-0210**

#### **Calls for Inspection**

(1) All persons who take out a plumbing permit, home owners as well as plumbing contractors, shall request an inspection within 24 hours of:

(a) The completion of any plumbing or medical gas systems installation intended to be covered or concealed or which is intended to be placed into service before the final plumbing inspection; and

(b) The completion of all plumbing or medical gas systems installations for the job site covered by a particular permit.

(2) Transactions under a master inspection permit are covered by separate requirements.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Hist.: BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98; BCD 27-2000, f. 10-13-00 cert. ef. 10-01-01

### **918-785-0220**

#### **Requests for Inspection and Notice of Results**

(1) Except as provided in section (2) of this rule, an inspecting jurisdiction shall inspect within 48 hours of a written request for inspection unless the time for inspection is extended to a set date by mutual agreement. The 48 hours excludes Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

(2) The inspecting jurisdiction shall inspect an installation at a remote location within a reasonable time of the request.

(a) For the purpose of this section, a "remote location" is:

(A) An inspection location that is more than 60 miles one way using the most direct route, measured from the closest of the inspector's station, inspection office or the inspecting jurisdiction's primary offices; or

(B) An inspection location that requires more than one hour or normal driving, one way, using the most direct route from the closest point mentioned in paragraph

(A) of this subsection.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "within a reasonable time" means a response time that takes into account the time, distance and number of inspection requests, but shall not exceed seven consecutive calendar days including the date the request was received unless the time for inspection is extended to a set date by mutual agreement. If the seventh calendar day falls on a weekend or holiday, this is extended to include the next business day.

(3) Reasonable procedures designed to provide actual notice of inspection results shall be used by all inspecting jurisdictions to notify the person requesting inspections, of the results of plumbing inspection. "Reasonable procedures designed to provide actual notice" shall include posting at the job site and:

(a) Nothing more when the installation is by an owner;

(b) Nothing more when the installation is approved;

(c) For other than for a one- or two-family dwelling, notification of any deficiencies on a specific permit by:

(A) FAX transmittal to the plumbing contractor;

(B) Personal delivery to the plumbing contractor;

(C) Mailing;

(D) Telephone followed by written notification; or

(E) Other electronic or automated notification systems.

(d) By written confirmation of inspection approval if a permit holder requests confirmation.

(4) If the inspection mentioned in sections (1) and (2) of this rule involved a cover inspection and does not include any medical gas systems or components, the work cannot be covered unless:

(a) Inspection clearance is given; or

(b) The request for inspection is in writing communicated to the inspecting jurisdiction, with notice that a cover inspection is involved, no extensions are agreed to and the maximum time for making the required inspection under sections (1) and (2) of this rule are exceeded. For the purposes of this subsection:

(A) Written request includes a letter, telegram or FAX transmittal; and

(B) The burden of proof is on the person requesting the plumbing inspection to prove that a written request was communicated.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.010 & 447.020

Hist.: BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98; BCD 27-2000, f. 10-13-00 cert. ef. 10-01-01

**918-785-0230**

**Correction of Defects**

Defects in plumbing installations noted by the plumbing inspector shall be corrected and an inspection request made within 30 calendar days of the date of actual notice of deficiency. For the purpose of this rule, actual notice is given when the inspecting jurisdiction does everything required in OAR 918-785-0220.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 447.020

Stats. Implemented: ORS 447.020

Hist.: BCD 6-1998, f. 3-2-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98; BCD 3-2002, f. 3-5-02, cert. ef. 4-1-02