

# ILLINOIS PLUMBING LICENSE LAW

## (225 ILCS 320/)

### (225 ILCS 320/1) (from Ch. 111, par. 1101)

Sec. 1 Purpose. It has been established by scientific evidence that improper plumbing can result in the introduction of pathogenic organisms into the potable water supply, result in the escape of toxic gases into the environment, and result in potentially lethal disease and epidemic. It is further found that minimum numbers of plumbing facilities and fixtures are necessary for the comfort and convenience of workers and persons in public places.

Consistent with its duty to safeguard the health of the people of this State, the General Assembly therefore declares that the regulation of plumbing and the plumbing trade is necessary for the protection of the public health, convenience, and welfare. The General Assembly therefore declares that individuals who plan, inspect, install, alter, extend, repair and maintain plumbing systems shall be individuals of proven skill. Further, the General Assembly declares that a guide for the minimum control and number of plumbing materials and fixtures, the design of plumbing systems, and the construction and installation methods of plumbing systems is essential for the protection of public health and convenience. In order to insure plumbing skill and to authoritatively establish what shall be good plumbing practice, this Act provides for the licensing of plumbers and registration of plumbing contractors and for the promulgation of a Minimum Plumbing Code of standards by the Department. This Act is therefore declared to be essential to the public interest. (Source: P.A. 92-338, eff. 8-10-01.)

### WHO MAY DO PLUMBING

(2) Nothing herein contained shall prohibit the owner occupant or lessee occupant of a single family residence, or the owner of a single family residence under construction for his or her occupancy, from planning, installing, altering or repairing the plumbing system of such residence, provided that (i) such plumbing shall comply with the minimum standards for plumbing contained in the Illinois State Plumbing Code, and shall be subject to inspection by the Department or the local government unit if it retains a licensed plumber as an inspector; and (ii) such owner, owner occupant or lessee occupant shall not employ other than a plumber licensed pursuant to this Act to assist him or her.

For purpose of this subsection, a person shall be considered an "occupant" if and only if he or she has taken possession of and is living in the premises as his or her bona fide sole and exclusive residence, or, in the case of an owner of a single family residence under construction for his or her occupancy, he or she expects to take possession of and live in the premises as his or her bona fide sole and exclusive residence, and he or she has a current intention to live in such premises as his or her bona fide sole and exclusive residence for a period of not less than 6 months after the completion of the plumbing work performed pursuant to the authorization of this subsection, or, in the case of an owner of a single family residence under construction for his or her occupancy, for a period of not less than 6 months after the completion of construction of the residence. Failure to possess and live in the premises as a sole and exclusive residence for a period of 6 months or more shall create a rebuttable presumption of a lack of such intention.

### Section 890.1910 Inspections

A plumbing system or any part thereof shall not be enclosed, covered up or used until the system has been inspected and approved by a plumbing inspector. **It is the responsibility of the licensed plumber, plumbing contractor or owner occupant on the job to arrange for inspection by a Department or local plumbing inspector.** The plumbing inspector may require tests as listed in Section 890.1930 to determine whether or not the system as installed is in compliance with this Part. Plumbing found not to be in compliance with this Part shall not be approved. A plumbing system not complying with the provisions of this Part shall not be used until such time as it is brought into compliance with this Part. After the plumbing corrections have been made, the plumbing contractor shall arrange for reinspection.

a) Exposure of Work. When plumbing work has been covered or concealed prior to being tested and approved, it shall be exposed for testing. It is the responsibility of the licensed plumber, plumbing contractor or owner occupant to expose plumbing for inspection purposes.

### There are three basic plumbing inspections:

- 1) Any plumbing under concrete slab
- 2) All waste and vents complete through roof
- 3) Final inspection after all plumbing fixtures and water heaters have been installed before being occupied

**Penalty for violations on back of page**