

5 Steps to Obtaining Your Alabama Electrical Contractor's License

Step 1. Sign up for the exam.

To do electrical work throughout the state of Alabama you need a license. To qualify for a contractor's license you need four years' work experience in designing, planning, laying out and supervising electrical construction, and installing electrical components. You can substitute up to two years of education in a Board-approved electrical curriculum at the rate of one year of education for a half year of work.

To apply for an electrician's license, contact:

Alabama Electrical Contractors Board
610 S. McDonough St.
Montgomery, AL 36104
Tel: (364) 269-9990
<http://www.aecb.state.al.us>

To obtain an electrical contractor's license, you must pass an exam given by PSI Examination Services. PSI has four testing centers located Alabama: Birmingham, Huntsville, Mobile, and Montgomery. PSI will make every effort to schedule the examination site and time that is most convenient for you.

For information on the exam, contact:

PSI Examination Services
3210 E. Tropicana Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89121
(800) 733-9267
www.psiexams.com

Exam and License Fees: PSI charges a nonrefundable fee of \$165 to take the exam. The contractor's license fee is an additional \$200.

If you have an unrestricted electrical contractor's license from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina or Mississippi, you can get a license from the Board by reciprocity. You must have passed their exam with a grade of at least 75 to get the license and hold it in good standing. You will still have to pay the \$365 fee for the Alabama license. If you got your electrical contractor's license in Mississippi, you'll have to take the business section of the Alabama electrical contractor's exam and pay \$28 for that part of the exam as well.

Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.

To find out what documents and books the State of Alabama requires for this exam, follow this link to your state's exam page of our website <http://www.constructionbook.com/contractor-license/alabama/index.asp>. You must purchase these documents and books in preparation for the exam.

Step 3. Start studying!

To fully prepare for your exam it is best to thoroughly study the required documents and books, as well as any recommended studying materials. The amount of preparation time

needed will be different for each individual. Be sure to allow yourself enough time to fully prepare for the exam.

Step 4. Follow the rules.

PSI requires that you present two forms of ID when you appear for your exam. One ID must be government issued (Driver's license, State ID or Military ID) and must have a picture or a complete physical description. Both must have a signature and pre-printed name, which matches the name in our records.

The following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- Cell phones, pagers, and guests are not allowed in the examination site. This policy is strictly enforced.
- Any individual papers that are not part of a paper-back, ring-binder, spiral binder, or loose leaf binder type of book, or part of a multi-paged CMR, MGL, UL, or NFPA documents as described in this section **MUST** be removed prior to entering the examination area.
- Non-programmable, non-printing, silent, battery-operated, non-alphabet key calculators will be permitted.
- Copies of the books and references required for the open-book portions of the exam will be admitted into the exam room. They may be tabbed or un-tabbed and may contain highlighted or underlined sections or paragraphs of the original text.

Step 5. Good luck on the exam!

PSI advises that you must arrive at least 30 minutes before your exam's scheduled start time. The exam is seven hours long -- four hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon. Here's the content of the exam:

The exam is broken down into the following sections:

Part I (closed book, one hour, 50 questions) -- 17% of total grade:

Subject	Number of questions
General theory	24 - 26
NEC chapter 1	6 - 8
NEC chapter 2	1 - 3
NEC chapter 3	0 - 2
NEC Article 90	0 - 2
NEC chapter 4	6 - 8
NEC chapter 5	2 - 4
NEC chapter 6	2 - 4

Part II (open book, three hours, 100 questions) -- 33% of total grade:

Subject	Number of questions
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General theory	8 - 10
NEC chapter 1	1 - 3
NEC chapter 2	9 - 11
NEC chapter 3	12 - 14
NEC chapter 4	16 - 18
NEC chapter 5	4 - 6
NEC chapter 6	7 - 9
NEC chapter 7	0 - 2
NEC chapter 8	1 - 3
NEC chapter 9	2 - 4
Business	29 - 31

Part III (open book, three hours, 30 questions) -- 50% of total grade:

Subject	Number of questions
Service	4 - 6
Voltage drop	2 - 4
3Ø 208V delta and wye loads	2 - 4
Conduit fill	3 - 5
Conductor ampacity	2 - 4
Motors (branch circuit)	0 - 2
Motors (feeders)	0 - 2
Motors (protection)	0 - 2
Motors (control)	2 - 4
Appliance loads	1 - 3
Transformers, 3Ø transformer calculation	1 - 3
Grounding conductor and equipment ground	0 - 2
Power factor, power, and volt-amps	0 - 2