

5 Steps to Obtaining Your California Residential Journeyman Electrician Contractor License

Step 1. Sign up for the exam.

Here is a link to the application: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/das/elecercert/EleCertApps3.asp>.
Once completed, you may click on the submit button at the bottom of the application for automatic submission to the California Department of Industrial Relations.

If you would prefer to complete the application by hand, do so in blue or red ink. Mail the application to:

California Department of Industrial Relations
Division of Apprenticeship Standards
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 8th floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-703-4920
415-703-5477 (fax)

Once you apply for the exam and are approved by the DAS your application will be forwarded to the testing vendor, Experior Assessments. Experior Assessments will then send you a "Candidate Information Bulletin". Included in the bulletin will be important information regarding the exam. You will then call the 800 number listed in the bulletin to schedule your date, time and location of your exam. Please note: A test date is not automatically assigned to you.

A fee of \$75 per application and a fee of \$100 for to sit for an examination is required and must accompany the application. A check or money order made payable to DIR-Electrician Certification Fund must accompany the application.

Candidates may test at any of Experior's eight California testing centers, which are located in San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno, Fremont, Rancho Cordova, Van Nuys, Cerritos, and Colton. All questions and requests for information about exam administration should be directed to:

Experior
1260 Energy Lane
St. Paul, MN 55108
Tel: 800-805-9123
TDD Users: 800-790-3926

You must have at least four years of experience to qualify to take the examination. Credit for experience is given for experience at a journey level or as a foreman, supervising employee, contractor, or owner-builder. A journeyman is a person who has completed an apprenticeship program or is an experienced worker, not a trainee, and is fully qualified and able to perform the trade without supervision.

There is no reciprocity between states. However, where an applicant holds a license as an electrician in another state and it is determined by the Chief of the DAS that the requirements for experience to hold a license in that state are comparable to California's experience requirements to sit for the exam, the Chief may deem the applicant to have the required experience.

Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.

To find out what documents and books the State of California requires for this exam, refer to the list of documents and books on your state's exam page of our website. You must purchase these documents and books in preparation for the exam.

Step 3. Follow the rules.

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination. All materials brought to the examination site must be left in an unmonitored area at your own risk. Some questions require arithmetic computation. Applicants may bring a hand/pocket calculator (either battery operated or solar powered) that is non-printing and not alpha-programmable.

Step 4. 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 5. Good luck on the exam!

There are 75 multiple-choice questions on the Residential Journeyman Electrician test and you have 3 hours to complete the test. In order to pass the exam, you are required to get 70% of the answers correct. The test is administered on a computer. Little to no experience is needed to operate the computer. A short practice lesson is given prior to the test. It is best to arrive at the examination site at least 15 minutes prior to the exam's start time. You must present one valid form of identification that is in the same name as the name used to register for the exam, has a current photo, and your signature. Good luck!

The subjects covered on the Residential Journeyman Electrician Exam are as follows:

Principles	8%
Installations	8%
Fundamentals	8%
Services, Feeders & Branch Circuits	11%
Grounding & Bonding	11%
Conductors and Cables	8%
Low-voltage Systems	5%
Special Occupancies	5%
Special Equipment	6%
Motors	4%
Power and Conditioning Equipment	5%
Testing/Test Equipment	5%
Lighting	8%
Raceways and Boxes	8%