



# **Plumbing Code**

## **Statutes and Regulations**

**October 2014**

**Labor Standards and Safety Division  
Mechanical Inspection**



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**Mechanical Inspection - Certificate of Fitness**

**[www.labor.alaska.gov/lss/mihome.htm](http://www.labor.alaska.gov/lss/mihome.htm)**

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**For information on Contractor Licensing or Electrical and  
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**[www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing.aspx](http://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing.aspx)**

Note to Readers: The statutes and administrative regulations listed in this publication were taken from the official codes, as of the effective date of the publication. However, there may be errors or omissions that have not been identified and changes that occurred after the publication was printed. **This publication is intended as an informational guide only and is not intended to serve as a precise statement of the statutes and regulations of the State of Alaska. To be certain of the current laws and regulations, please refer to the official codes.**

## Chapter 63

### Plumbing Code

#### Section

- 10. Minimum plumbing standards.
- 20. Permits.
- 25. Appeals.
- 30. (Repealed).

#### **8 AAC 63.010. Minimum plumbing standards**

(a) The codes set out in this section are adopted in accordance with AS 18.60.705 as the minimum plumbing standards to be followed throughout the state. The Department of Labor and Workforce Development adopts the following codes by reference that are published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)

(1) *Uniform Plumbing Code*, 2012 Edition, Sections 101.0 – 102.2.5, 103.5 - 103.5.4, 103.5.6 - 103.5.8.2, 103.5.9.1- 103.5.9.3, and 103.8. of chapter 1, chapters 2 through 10, chapter 11 excluding the requirements of section 1101.5, chapters 12 through 16, and appendices A through L; with the following revisions:

(A) Section 422.2(3) of the *Uniform Plumbing Code* is amended by adding the following language to line one of the section, after the words “mercantile occupancies”:  
except food service establishments with seating.”;

(B) Section 508.5 of the *Uniform Plumbing Code* is amended by adding a section 508.5.1 which reads: “508.5.1. When a water heater is installed upon a platform, such as within a garage, the water heater relief valve piping shall discharge to the floor over the edge of the platform.”;

(C) Section 1213.0 of the *Uniform Plumbing Code* is amended by adding section 1213.1 which reads: “1213.1. In addition to the requirements of this code for gas piping, the facilities and piping for use with liquefied petroleum gas shall meet the following requirements:

(D) Section 605.11 of the *Uniform Plumbing Code* is amended by replacing existing language to read:

"604.11 Lead Content. The maximum allowable lead content in pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption shall be not more than a weighted average of 0.25 percent with respect to

the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures. For solder and flux, the lead content shall be not more than 0.2 percent where used in piping systems that convey or dispense water for human consumption. Exceptions: (1) Pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, fixtures, or backflow preventers used for nonpotable services such as manufacturing, industrial processing, irrigation, outdoor watering, or any other uses where the water is not used for human consumption. (2) Water closets, bidets, urinals, fill valves, flushometer valves, tub fillers, shower valves, service saddles, or water distribution main gate valves that are 2 inches (50 millimeters) in diameter or larger.”;

(A) Liquefied petroleum gas piping shall not serve any gas fired appliance located in a pit or basement where heavier than air gas might collect to form a flammable mixture.

(B) Pipe joint compounds used on threaded connections shall be insoluble in liquefied petroleum gas.

(C) Every valve and appurtenance used on such piping shall be designed and approved for use with liquefied petroleum gas.

(D) Relief valves shall discharge to the exterior of the building into the air and shall be at least five feet horizontally away from any opening into a building that is below the discharge opening.”;

(2) *Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code*, 2012 edition, paragraphs 101.1 - 103.2, 103.3.1, 103.4, chapters 2 through 10, and appendices A through C;

(3) *Uniform Solar Energy Code*, 2012 edition, paragraphs 101.0 -103.2, 103.4, 106.0 - 106.2, 106.4, chapters 2 through 12, and appendices A through C.

(b) Repealed 12/6/2003.

**History:** (Eff. 8/5/72, Register 43; am 7/12/81, Register 79; am 11/1/2000, Register 156; am 9/25/2002, Register 163; am 12/6/2003, Register 168; am 9/27/2008, Register 187; ; 2/23/2011, Register 197; am 10/23/2014, Register 212)

**Authority:** AS 18.60.705

AS 18.60.710

**Editor's note:** Copies of the codes adopted by reference in 8 AAC 63.010 are available at the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, 4775 East Philadelphia Street, Ontario, California 91761-2816. In addition, the codes are available for inspection at the Lieutenant Governor's Office, Juneau, Alaska.

As of Register 151 (October 1999), the regulations attorney made technical revisions under AS 44.62.125 (b)(6) to reflect the name change of the Department of Labor to the Department of

Labor and Workforce Development made by ch. 58, SLA 1999 and the corresponding title change of the commissioner of labor.

### **8 AAC 63.020. Permits**

Permits will be issued on a fee basis in accordance with the schedule outlined in AS 18.60.720 .

**History: Eff. 8/5/72, Register 43**

**Authority:** AS 18.60.710                      AS 18.60.720

### **8 AAC 63.025. Appeals**

(a) A notice issued under AS 18.60.725 for a violation of AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.790 or of this chapter is final unless the person affected or the owner or contractor of a construction premise affected files an appeal with the commissioner within 30 days after receipt of the notice. The appeal must be in writing and must include

- (1) a specification of objections to the department's findings, and a concise summary of facts in support of each objection; and
- (2) a description of the relief sought.

(b) The commissioner's decision will be based upon the departmental record including the written appeal and will state the facts relied upon by the commissioner in deciding the appeal.

(c) The commissioner, in his discretion, will hold a hearing on the appeal to supplement the record where clarification or additional facts are necessary for a proper resolution of the appeal.

(d) A hearing held under this section will be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) except that the director will act as hearing officer. In addition to other powers conferred, the hearing officer may

- (1) issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum to compel production of testimony or other evidence at the hearing;
- (2) permit the testimony of a material witness to be taken by deposition;
- (3) order the continuance of a hearing; or
- (4) act upon the evidence before the hearing officer without further notice if the appellant does not appear at the hearing.

(e) Within 30 days after the hearing, a copy of the decision will be sent to the appellant. Within 30 days after the decision is issued, the appellant may appeal to the superior court.

**History: Eff. 10/2/83, Register 87**

**Authority:** AS 18.60.710

AS 18.60.725

**8 AAC 63.030. Use of plastic drain, waste and vent (dww) pipe and fittings**

Repealed 7/12/81.

**Article 08.**

**PLUMBING CODE**

**Sec. 18.60.705. Plumbing code.**

(a) Except as provided otherwise in this section, and unless the department adopts by regulation a later edition of the following publications or a later version of another nationally recognized code approved by the legislature by law, the following publications are adopted as the minimum plumbing code for the state:

(1) paragraphs 101.3 - 101.5.6, 103.5.1.1 - 103.5.1.4, 103.5.3.5, 103.5.4.2, 103.5.5.1 - 103.5.5.2, 103.5.6.1 - 103.5.6.3, and 103.8 - 103.8.2 of chapter 1, chapters 2 - 14, and the appendices A through L of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and adopted at the 67th annual conference, September 1996, excluding Table 4.1, "Minimum Plumbing Facilities"; and adding Appendix Chapter 29, Table A - 29 - A, "Minimum Plumbing Fixtures," of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Building Code published in April 1997 by the International Council of Building Officials, except that for the category identified in Table A - 29 - A as "Assembly places- Auditoriums, convention halls, dance floors, lodge rooms, stadiums and casinos," when the category is applied to auditoriums, convention halls, stadiums, and casinos, the ratios

(A) indicating the number of water closets required for females are changed to provide the following:

- (i) four water closets for 1 - 50 females;
- (ii) six water closets for 51 - 100 females;
- (iii) 10 water closets for 101 - 200 females;
- (iv) 14 water closets for 201 - 400 females; and
- (v) one additional water closet for each 100 females over 400 females; and

(B) indicating the number of lavatories required for females and males are changed to

- (i) one lavatory for each water closet up to four water closets; and
- (ii) one additional lavatory for each two additional water closets beyond four water closets;

(2) the 1997 edition of the Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and adopted at the 67<sup>th</sup> annual conference, September 1996, excluding pages 1 - 8 of Part I, Administration; and

(3) the 1997 edition of the Uniform Solar Energy Code published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and adopted at the 67<sup>th</sup> annual conference, September 1996, excluding pages 1 - 7 of Part I, Administration.

(b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the use of a pipe or pipe fitting containing more than 8.0 percent lead, or of solder or flux containing more than 0.2 percent lead in the installation or repair of a public water system or in the installation or repair of plumbing of a residential or nonresidential facility that provides water for human consumption is prohibited. This subsection does not apply to the use of leaded joints necessary to repair cast iron pipe.

(c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a single-wall heat exchanger may be used if

- (1) the heat transfer medium is water type or propylene type glycol;
- (2) the pressure of the heat transfer medium is limited to a maximum of 30 pounds per square inch by an approved safety relief valve; and
- (3) the heat exchanger is prominently and permanently labeled with instructions concerning (1) and (2) of this subsection.

#### **Sec. 18.60.710. Duties of the department.**

The department is responsible for the administration of the code. The department may adopt regulations designed for maximum practical implementation of the code, and may grant exceptions from specific code provisions, where distance or other factors make implementation impractical. Specific consideration shall be given to outlying villages and sparsely populated areas to ensure that AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740 will not impose an undue financial burden. The department may by regulation designate appropriate inspection to a public or private utility company. A company so designated may refuse utility connections if an installation does not meet the requirements of this code.

**Sec. 18.60.715. Administration.**

- (a) The code applies to all new construction, all new work in relocated buildings, and to any alteration, repairs, or reconstruction of buildings except as provided otherwise under AS 8.60.705 - 18.60.740.
- (b) The department may inspect work installed, removed, altered, or replaced on any plumbing, gas or drainage piping, plumbing fixture, water heater, or water treating equipment in a building or other location. A permit or inspection is not required for the following work: the stopping of leaks in drains, soil, waste, or vent pipes, the clearing of stoppages in or repairing of leaks in pipe valves or fixtures, and repairs or alterations not of a substantive nature that can be reasonably exempted from inspection.
- (c) Nothing in AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740 prohibits a person from performing plumbing work on the person's own property.
- (d) The department may adopt regulations establishing fees for inspections conducted under AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740. Fees may be established under this section only for inspections requested by the owner of a structure.
- (e) The department shall maintain a record of all plumbing inspections performed by it and of all inspection fees and permit fees collected by it.

**Sec. 18.60.720. Cost of permits.**

(a) If the department by regulation requires permits for plumbing work, fees may not exceed the following:

- (1) for issuing each permit \$2.00;
- (2) a permit for each
  - (A) plumbing fixture or trap or set of fixtures on one trap, including water, drainage piping and backflow protection \$1.50;
  - (B) building sewer or trailer park sewer \$5.00;
  - (C) drain in rainwater system \$2.00;
  - (D) cesspool \$5.00;
  - (E) private sewage disposal system \$10.00;
  - (F) water heater and/or vent \$1.50;



- (G) gas piping system of one to five outlets \$1.50;
  - (H) gas piping system of six or more outlets, per outlet \$.30;
  - (I) industrial waste pretreatment interceptor, including its trap and vent, but excluding kitchen type grease interceptors functioning as fixture traps \$1.00;
  - (J) installation, alteration, or repair of water piping or water treating equipment \$1.50;
  - (K) repair or alteration of drainage or vent piping \$1.50;
  - (L) lawn sprinkler system or any one meter which includes backflow protection devices \$2.00;
- (3) for vacuum breakers or backflow protective devices on tanks, vats, or for installation on unprotected plumbing fixtures including necessary water piping
- (A) one to five \$2.00;
  - (B) over five, each \$.30.

(b) The department shall keep a record of all fees collected and all inspections performed.

**Sec. 18.60.725. Enforcement; reinspection.**

(a) A department inspector shall give written notice to the owner of a constructed premise or the contractor of a premise under construction of each violation of the code. The notice of violation must accurately describe the violation and give specific reference to the section and paragraph of the code. In addition, the notice must prescribe the necessary changes so that the work will comply with the code.

(b) In case of complaints by a contractor, builder, or installer charging arbitrary actions or incompetence on the part of an inspector, the commissioner, after reviewing written presentation of the dispute, may require reinspection by a new inspector who has no connection with either disputant.

**Sec. 18.60.730. Penalty for violations.**

A person who violates a provision of the code, and who, after receiving the notification required by AS 18.60.725, refuses to correct the violation, after proof of the violation, is subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000.

**Sec. 18.60.735. Borough or city regulation.**

AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740 do not affect the authority of a municipality to prescribe by ordinance, rule, or order, standards for their respective areas of jurisdiction no less stringent than those established under AS 18.60.705 . AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740 are not intended to duplicate or preempt code administration or enforcement by municipalities. An organized municipality or unorganized village having less than 2,500 population is exempt from the provisions of AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740.

**Sec. 18.60.740. Definitions.**

In AS 18.60.705 - 18.60.740,

- (1) "code" means the code adopted under AS 18.60.705;
- (2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and workforce development;
- (3) "department" means the Department of Labor and Workforce Development;
- (4) "inspector" means a qualified inspector employed by, designated by, or under contract to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.