



NEW SCHEDULE OF FEES

Beginning January 1, 2019, the licensing and renewal fee for active HVAC and Refrigeration certifications will increase by \$25.00 to \$190.00. The fee for inactive HVAC and Refrigeration contractors will increase by \$12.50 to \$95.00. You must still renew each certification separately.

The examination fees still remain \$150.00 per exam. As of May 2, 2018, the Board was approved by the Veterans Administration to notify veterans that their examination fees may be reimbursed by the VA. Use VA Form 22-0803 to apply for reimbursement of certification testing fees. The facility code for the Alabama Board of Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors is 46-0012-01.

NEW CONTINUING EDUCATION DEADLINE

Effective October 25, 2018, Rule 440-X-4-.02(2) now requires: "All certified contractors licensed with the Board shall complete the required continuing education hours prior to receiving a renewal of their certification. The failure to complete the minimum continuing education requirements before November 1st annually will prevent the renewal of a certified contractor's license until proof of compliance is submitted in writing to the Board. All continuing education submitted after December 31st of the year in which the hours are intended shall result in accrual of, all late, penalty and delinquent fees applicable."

Due to the increasing number of contractors waiting until the last week of the year to obtain the required education hours, the Board unanimously voted to change the submission date for continuing education. The rule change is not intended to punish contractors, but to ensure contractors have ample time to renew their license without rushing to complete education requirements. Any education submitted to the Board after November 1st annually will be entered in a timely manner; however, there will be no guarantee that the education hours will be entered prior to the December 31 renewal deadline.

Newsletter Contents

New Director Appointed	2
New Location of Board Office	2
New Compliance Officer	2
Alternative Refrigerants	3
Education Message	4
Compliance Report	5
Additional Licensing	5

**ALABAMA BOARD OF
HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING
AND REFRIGERATION
CONTRACTORS**

2018 BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman

Tony Brown, Northport

Vice Chairman

Dink Myers, Albertville

Board Members

Susan Bolt, Opelika

Alan Boswell, Tuscaloosa

Albert Davis, Birmingham

Charlie Edwards, Montgomery

Misty Forbus, Wetumpka

Brett Hall, Eva

Troy Ingram, Gurley

Dr. Heshmat Aglan, Tuskegee

Barrett Richard, Cullman

Wilbur Webb, Mobile

New Executive Director Appointed

After serving the State of Alabama for 25 years, and as Executive Director for the Board of Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors for 16 years, Kathy LeCroix made a decision to retire from State service.

At the December 2017 Board Meeting, the Board voted to appoint Jeffrey Becraft as the new Executive Director for the Board effective May 1, 2018. Mr. Becraft served as Deputy Director under Ms. LeCroix for 5 years and has been with the Board for a total of 13 years after transferring from the Alabama Treasury Department, under the leadership of now Governor, Kay Ivey.

Mr. Becraft is excited to take over leadership of the Board and has already begun implementing changes to improve the Board from now and into the future. Mr. Becraft welcomes all contractors to freely contact him for any reason. He can be reached by email at jeffrey.becraft@hacr.alabama.gov or by phone at (334) 242-5550.

The Board Has Moved (Again!)

Due to the sale of 121 Coosa Street, Montgomery, Alabama, to the Equal Justice Initiative, the Board has relocated to a new office.

The Board will be relocated to its previous home located at 100 North Union Street in downtown Montgomery, Alabama., also known as the RSA Union Building. The new suite number is 986 on the 9th floor of the building.

Because of the move, the Board's phone number has also reverted back to its old phone number, (334) 242-5550. Please be sure to make the change in your contacts.

NEW COMPLIANCE OFFICER HIRED

We are excited to announce that on May 16, 2018 the Board hired a fourth compliance officer to service the Birmingham territory. Brandon Johnson, is based out of the Tuscaloosa area and will service the territory from Tuscaloosa across central Alabama to Oxford and as far south as Prattville.

This is the first time in over fifteen years the Board has had equal coverage throughout the State of Alabama.

Greg Nuby will continue to service Fultondale north including Florence, Huntsville, and Scottsboro.

Mike Smith services the Mobile/Baldwin County areas and continues up through western Alabama into Selma and Demopolis.

Waylon Spivey, the new Compliance Supervisor, will continue to service the Dothan area continuing northeast to Montgomery, in addition to supervision across the entire State of Alabama.

To speak with your local compliance officer please contact the Board at 1-866-855-1912, and a member of the Board's staff with direct you to the appropriate person.

WILL WE EVER RECOVER??

Remember the good old days??? No... not the days when you walked uphill barefooted, both ways to school or the days when you bought a soda for a nickel or the days when a gallon of gas was fifteen cents. I mean the really good old days when you didn't have to worry about the words Recover, Recycle or Reclaim. Those were the good old days when the charge on an air conditioner was blown into the atmosphere if the repair or replacement required removal of the refrigerant. In the good old days, you didn't worry about where your next drum of R-22 would come from because there was plenty to go around and it was cheap. No one talked about Ozone Depleting Substances or Global Warming. Ah, the good old days....

Fast forward almost three (3) decades to our current environment. Since July 1, 1992 Section 608 of The Clean Air Act has prohibited "individuals from intentionally venting ozone depleting substances used as refrigerants (generally CFCs, HCFCs & HFC's) into the atmosphere while maintaining, servicing, repairing or disposing of air-conditioning and/or refrigeration equipment". To put it simply, for the past twenty-six (26) years, every legitimate HACR contractor in the country should have been utilizing a documented refrigerant recovery process each time a refrigerant system had to be opened. This recovery process would ensure that all contractors are adhering to the letter of the law and that the recovered refrigerant will be available to be put back into the supply chain through the reclaim process.

The truth of the matter is this, we have been on the honor system as contractors for the past twenty-six (26) years and we have failed. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicates that the amount of R-22 refrigerant being returned to EPA Certified Reclaimers in the United States each year is not enough to meet the service requirements past the 2020 deadline. So where has it all gone? Is it being stored in yellow & gray drums in the corners of our warehouses across the country? Or is most all the R-22 being used each year being lost into the atmosphere through system leaks and "de minimis" release? The answers to these questions remain unknown.

The bitter facts of where we are as an industry do not change with those questions being answered. With only one (1) more cooling season to go, the 2020 deadline is on our doorstep. We are quickly running out of readily available, affordable R-22 for service and repair. Sure, there are "drop-in" refrigerants on the market for sale. However, these same refrigerants require a recovery/replacement process to be properly used. My fear is that many contractors are just "topping off" systems and mixing the refrigerants which further exacerbates the issue at hand.

Questions still remain. Where do our customers stand during this next decade? Will the HACR contractors across the country step up and do what is needed? Will we as contractors handle the imminent R410a phase-out any differently? The biggest question for us all as an industry still remains... will we ever RECOVER?

Tony S. Brown, co-owner

Turner & Schoel, Inc.

Alabama Reclamation Services, LLC

BOARD STAFF

Executive Director

Jeffrey M. Becraft

Compliance

Waylon Spivey
Compliance Supervisor

Greg Nuby
Compliance Officer

Brandon Johnson
Compliance Officer

Mike Smith
Compliance Officer

Jennifer Hudson
Legal and Compliance
Assistant

Education Staff

Glenn Nuby
Education Administrator

Chase Jenkins
Education Assistant

Administrative Staff

Amber Moncrief
Licensing Specialist

Nelda Claybrook
Accountant

Crystal Johnson
Accounting Assistant

Amy Mashburn
Administrative Assistant

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDUCATION STAFF!

What are the benefits to learning a skilled trade as opposed to having a four-year degree?

While there are many positives to going to 4 years of school for a bachelor's degree, there are also a few big negatives. Most obvious being the cost.

Since 1990, tuition costs have risen over 300%, far outpacing the growth of the economy. When costs rise at 7-8% per year, while inflation grows 2-3% per year, you end up with a product that becomes unaffordable. About 2/3 of students with bachelor's degrees are leaving college with debt that averages \$37,152. Because of interest and the average 120 month span of payments, the total cost is averaging \$130,000.

According to Forbes magazine, the total amount of Americans with student loans is 44.2 million and the total student loan debt is 1.52 trillion.

Most skilled trade training programs range from 6 months to 2 years, at a cost well below \$30,000.

The only people benefiting from your four-year degree, is the college or university. Often times while a college student is finishing 4 years in school, paying tens of thousands per year, our tradesman is graduated and earning money (in some cases, making six figures as a 21-year-old).

In as 2015 USA Today is the story of Joseph Poole. Mr. Pool monitors the manufacturing process at a Chevron Phillips petrochemical plant in Houston. By the end of 2015 his wages exceeded \$100,000. Poole didn't get the job with the engineering degree he originally considered. Instead, Poole landed it with a two-year course at a local community college.

"The potential to make just as much money as an engineer, but for half the cost of the education, was here," Poole says. "Just seeing firsthand how things are made is something I really enjoy doing."

By 2020, an estimated 2.5 million new, middle-skill jobs like Poole's are expected to be added to the workforce, accounting for nearly 40% of all job growth, according to a USA TODAY analysis of local data from Economic Modeling Specialists International and CareerBuilder.

With this in mind, college is not what all young people are planning. A percentage of those who do go to college do not finish. Another percentage of those who graduated are underserved by their education and are forced into jobs they could have been hired into with a high school diploma - many still burdened with student loan debt.

Vocational careers are becoming a lucrative career path for high school graduates as well as those who are college educated but underemployed. Many of these jobs can be attained through apprenticeship programs, on the job training, or attending vocational classes at community colleges. So remember, trade school education or internships will save on tuition, start being able to make money sooner, and can start taking measurable steps towards a career more quickly.

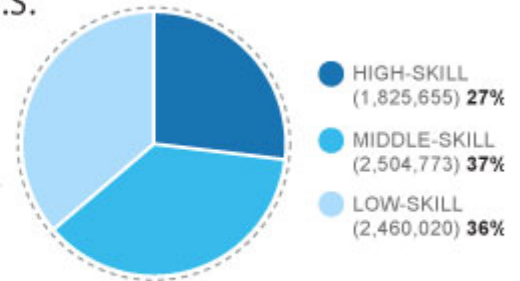
Chase Jenkins, Board Education Assistant

New jobs in the U.S.

MIDDLE-SKILL JOBS, REQUIRING SOME POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION BUT LESS THAN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE, ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE UP THE LARGEST SHARE OF NEW JOBS.

NEW JOBS CREATED 2013 TO 2017:

Sources Economic Modeling Specialists Intl., CareerBuilder
FRANK POMPA, USA TODAY



1. 5 Benefits of Working in the Trades | The Art of Manliness. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.artofmanliness.com/articles/reviving-blue-collar-work-5-benefits-of-working-in-the-skilled-trades/>

2. USA TODAY |(2018). Retrieved from <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/09/30/job-economy-middle-skill-growth-wage-blue-collar/14797413/>

3. Forbes | (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/zackfriedman/2018/06/13/student-loan-debt-statistics-2018/#7eec1d557310>

2018 COMPLIANCE IN ACTION

UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE

Dewayne Pierce
James Weathers
Gregory Smith
Daniel Kane
John McCorkle
Duane Carnovale
Mario Rodriguez
Dennis Burke
Dongelle Suddeth
Timothy Lett
Phillip Hall

UNLICENSED CONTRACTORS NON-COMPLIANCE

Rhonda Blitz
Keith Bedsole
Michael Hartmann
Peter Kellenberger
Michael Morgan
Robert McKinney
Clay Wingard
Chaz Schweiger
Horace Abney

WARRANTS

Robert Church
Jason Warren
John Goldberg
Juan Duenas
Kevin Strange
Dellion Weeks
Donald Sylvester
Bryan Andrew
Matthew Dickey

LICENSEES ON PROBATION

Shedric Gantt
Von Arthur

GENERAL CONTRACTOR AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM LICENSING REQUIRED FOR HVAC CONTRACTORS - DOES THE FOLLOWING APPLY TO YOU?

The Alabama Board for General Contractors' law requires that any HACR contractor performing a job over \$50,000 hold a subcontractor or prime contractor license issued by the General Contractors Board. If you have any questions about this requirement please contact the Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Board at (866) 855-1912 or the General Contractors Board at 800-356-6361 or online at: www.genconbd.alabama.gov .



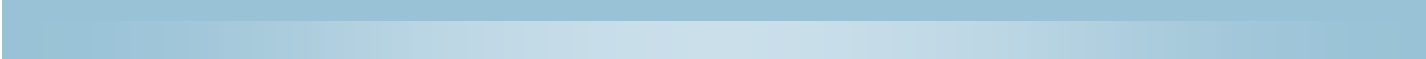
The Alabama Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board law requires that any HACR contractor involved in the installation, service or repair of a gas furnace connected to liquefied petroleum (LP) gas hold the appropriate certification with their agency. If you have any questions about LP Gas requirement please contact the Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Board at 866- 855-1912 LP Gas Board at 800-545-9246 or online at: www.lpgb.alabama.gov



EXPANDED EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CERTIFIED CONTRACTORS

The Board appreciates the hard working licensed contractors who are determined to deliver quality services to Alabama’s consumers. As part of that effort, the Board has created an Education Division dedicated to offering continuing education in more locations across the State of Alabama than previously. The Board is also constructing a classroom to accommodate up to 20 people to offer education in house. In addition to education offered to certified contractors, the Board is working toward offering complimentary education to the technicians employed by any licensed contractor in Alabama. Again, this education is free to all certified contractors and their staff, and will count toward the CE hours required for each certified contractor in attendance.

For more information regarding education, please contact the Board at (866) 855-1912.



STATE OF ALABAMA BOARD OF HEATING,
AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION CONTRACTORS
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Montgomery, AL 36130-5025

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE