

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2013

By: Representatives Lynch, Rye

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND REQUIRE CONTINUING EDUCATION
FOR HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING, AND
REFRIGERATION LICENSEES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH AND REQUIRE CONTINUING
EDUCATION FOR HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR
CONDITIONING, AND REFRIGERATION
LICENSEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Technical and code training is important to protecting the investment and the health and safety of homeowners and occupants;

(2) Each heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration licensee shall keep himself or herself aware of changing technology to assure a continuing level of competence and ability to design, install, and service heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration equipment safely and efficiently; and

(3) Training shall be continual throughout the career of a heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and Refrigeration licensee.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish and require continuing education for heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration licensees.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 33, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17-33-309. Continuing education – Definition.

(a)(1) The HVACR Licensing Board shall establish a continuing education program.

(2) The board shall establish guidelines for assuring efficacy and availability of continuing education to include without limitation instruction provided by:

(A) State, county, or municipal inspectors or other state-approved officials;

(B) Equipment and supply distributors and manufacturers;

(C) Colleges and other institutions of education including state, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations; and

(D) Trade organizations involved in the HVACR industry.

(3) The board shall promulgate rules to assess a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per hour of continuing education to be used to maintain the continuing education program.

(b)(1) Annual completion of the continuing education program under this section shall be required for active heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration licensees renewing a Class A or Class B license.

(2)(A) A continuing education program shall consist of training made up of not more than two (2) hours of code training and two (2) hours of technical or business training.

(B) An additional two (2) hours of code training may be substituted for the two (2) hours of technical or business training.

(C) As used in this section, “training” means actual face-to-face time in classroom, field, or laboratory instruction or an appropriate amount of online instruction or coursework as determined by the board.

(3) Application for annual renewal of a license under this chapter shall be accompanied by proof of completion of an approved continuing education program established under this section.

(c)(1) This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

(2) The HVACR License Board shall promulgate rules and guidelines for administering the continuing education program by December 31, 2017.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2018, all applications for renewal shall be accompanied by proof of completion of required continuing education.