

Chapter 27

**PLUMBING<sup>1</sup>**

**Art. I. In General, §§ 27-1 -- 27-20**

**Art. II. Plumbers, §§ 27-21 -- 27-70**

Div. 1. Generally, §§ 27-21 -- 27-35

Div. 2. Board of Examiners, §§ 27-36 -- 27-55

Div. 3. Certificates of Competency,  
§§ 27-56 -- 27-70

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 27-1. Code adopted.**

The International Plumbing Code, 2012 edition, one (1) copy of which is, and has been on file in the Office of the City Council Clerk for more than fifteen (15) days, is hereby adopted as the official Plumbing Code of the City.

(Code 1986, § 27-1; Ord. No. 9360, § 1, 5-8-90; Ord. No. 9654, § 10, 1-6-92; Ord. No. 10175, § 1, 3-7-95; Ord. No. 10678, § 1, 3-10-98; Ord. No. 11725, § 1, 7-26-05; Ord. No. 12605, § 1, 5-29-12)

**Cross references**--Building code adopted, § 10-1; electrical code adopted, § 14-2; National Fire Protection Association's fire prevention code adopted § 17-1; Gas code adopted, § 19-1.

**State law reference**--Adoption of codes by reference authorized, T.C.A., § 6-54-502.

**Sec. 27-2. Appendices to code adopted.**

The following appendices to the International Plumbing Code, 2012 edition, and as further amended in this chapter, are hereby adopted as part of the official Plumbing Code of the City.

Appendix B - Rates of Rainfall.

Appendix C – Vacuum Drainage System

Appendix D - Degree Day Temperature.

Appendix E - Sizing of Water Piping.

Appendix F - Structural Safety.

(Code 1986, § 27-2, Ord. No. 9360, § 2, 5-8-90; Ord. No. 10175, § 2, 3-7-95; Ord. No. 10678, § 2, 3-10-98; Ord. No. 11725, § 2, 7-26-05; Ord. No. 12605, § 2, 5-29-12)

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<sup>1</sup> **Cross reference**--Water and gas mains, § 31-266 et seq.; type and maintenance of plumbing facilities of public swimming pools, § 33-37.

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

### Sec. 27-3. Amendments to code adopted.

The following sections and appendices of the International Plumbing Code, 2012 edition, are hereby amended, as hereinafter provided:

- a. Section 101.1 and 101.2 are deleted in their entirety and the following language is substituted in lieu thereof:

**Section 101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the International Plumbing Code hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

**Section 101.2 Scope.** The provisions of this code shall apply to the erection, installation, alteration, repairs, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of plumbing systems within this jurisdiction. This code shall also regulate nonflammable medical gas, inhalation anesthetic, vacuum piping, nonmedical oxygen systems and sanitary and condensate vacuum collection systems. The installation of fuel gas distribution piping and equipment, fuel gas-fired water heaters and water heater venting systems shall be regulated by the *International Fuel Gas Code*. Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically adopted.

**Exceptions:**

Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the *International Residential Code*.

- b. Section 106.1 is deleted in its entirety and the following language is substituted in lieu thereof:

**106.1 When required.** Any properly licensed contractor who desires to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the code official and obtain the required permit for the work.

- c. Section 106.5.3 and 106.5.4 are deleted in their entirety and the following

**PLUMBING**

new sections are substituted in lieu thereof:

**Section 106.5.3 Expiration.** Every permit issued by the code official under the provisions of this code shall expire by limitation and become null and void if the work authorized by such permit is not commenced within 180 days from the date of such permit, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned at any time after the work is commenced for a period of 180 days. Before such work can be recommenced, a new permit shall be first obtained.

**Section 106.5.4 Extensions.** Any permittee holding an unexpired permit shall have the right to apply for an extension of the time within which the permittee will commence work under that permit when work is unable to commenced within the time required by this section for good and satisfactory reasons. The code official shall extend the time for action by the permittee for a period not exceeding 180 days if there is reasonable cause. No permit shall be extended more than once.

- d. Section 106.6.2 is deleted in its entirety and the following language is substituted in lieu thereof:

**Section 106.6.2 Fee Schedule.** The fees for all plumbing work shall be as indicated in the following schedule:

**PERMIT FEES**

Permit Fees:

For issuing each permit..... \$ 35.00

Plus the following when provided:

For each Plumbing Fixture, Floor Drain, Roof Drain, or Trap (including Water and Drainage Piping).....	\$ 5.00
For each Roof Drain.....	\$ 5.00
For each Building sewer.....	\$ 10.00
For each Building Sewer having to be replaced or repaired.....	\$ 10.00
For each Water Heater and/or Vent.....	\$ 5.00
For installation, alteration or repair of water Piping and/or water treating equipment.....	\$ 10.00

**CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE**

For repair or alteration of Drainage or Vent Piping.....	\$	10.00
For each Pressure Reducing Device and each Check Valve Assembly- - -		
One to Five.....	\$	5.00
For Vacuum Breakers or backflow protective devices Installed subsequent to the installation of the Piping or equipment served .....	\$	5.00
For each Sand, Grease or Oil Interceptor Underground.....	\$	25.00
Above ground.....	\$	10.00
For each Other Miscellaneous Items.....	\$	5.00
For each Sanitary Sewer Connection.....	\$	70.00
For each Lateral Sewer Connection provided.....	\$	800.00
For each Manhole.....	\$	100.00
For each Reinspection Fee.....	\$	50.00

All of the fees in this section shall be nonrefundable unless in the determination of the Director of Public Works, the department has not completed sufficient review to justify the entire fees for Lateral Sewer Connection provided due to inaccurate information on the location of the Lateral Sewer. In such incidents any proportional refund shall be in the sole discretion of the Director of Public Works.

- e. Section 106.6.3 entitled refunds is deleted in its entirety.
- f. Sections 108.4 and 108.5 are deleted in their entirety and the following language is substituted in lieu thereof:

**108.4 Violation penalties.** Any person who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter or repair plumbing work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the code official, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a municipal offense subject to the general penalty set forth in Chattanooga City Code § 1-8. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

**108.5 Stop work orders.** Upon notice from the code official, work on any plumbing system that is being done contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner shall immediately cease. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property,

## PLUMBING

or to the owner's agent, or to the person doing the work. The notice shall state the conditions under which work is authorized to resume. Where an emergency exists, the code official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work. Any person who shall continue any work in or about the structure after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be assessed a fine in accordance with general penalty provisions under Chattanooga City Code § 1-8.

- g. Section 109. Means of Appeal, is amended by deleting said Section in its entirety, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

### **Section 109. Board of Adjustments & Appeals.**

The Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals for all of the adopted building Codes of the City of Chattanooga as established by Section 2-625, Part II, Chattanooga City Code, shall act as the Board of Adjustments and Appeals for appeals from any decision of the Building Official or his designee and consider variances of the technical codes as provided in this Code.

- h. Section 305.4.1. is amended by deleting said section in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

**Section 305.4.1. Sewer Depth**, is amended by substituting the words "Twelve (12) inches" for the phrase "[NUMBER] inches (mm)" wherever such phrase appears within the subsection.

- i. Section 504.6 is amended as follows:

**Section 504.6 (5) Requirements for discharge piping**, is amended by deleting, a portion of the sentence "to the pan serving the water heater or storage tank".

- j. Section 716 is added as follows:

### **Section 716. Lining of Sewers, Drains and Vents.**

**716.1 Lining.** All sanitary sewers, building sewers, building drains, waste and vent piping to be lined must meet the requirements of ASTM

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

F1216-09. Lining shall be continuous and not stop at fittings.

**716.2 Lining video.** A video of the interior of existing piping to be lined must be submitted to the Chief Plumbing Inspector of the Inspection Division, Land Development Office prior to a permit being issued and work beginning. A video of the lining after installation is also required prior to any final inspections.

**716.3 Permitting for lining.** A properly licensed master plumber is required to obtain a permit prior to beginning any lining of sanitary sewers, building sewers, building drains, waste and vents on the interior of a building or structure.

- k. Section 903.1 is deleted in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

**Section 903.1. Roof Extension,** is amended by substituting the words “Six (6) inches” for the phrase “[NUMBER] inches (mm)” wherever such phrase appears within this subsection.

- l. Section 918 is amended as follows:

**Section 918. Air Admittance Valves for Venting Plumbing Fixtures and Fixture Branches,** is amended by adding a new Section 918.9 which shall read as follows:

**“918.9 – Any use of air admittance valves on fixture branches is subject to the discretion and approval of the Chief Plumbing Official.”** The use of Air Admittance Valves is prohibited on all new construction. **Check Section Numbers please.**

- m. **Section 919.** Engineering Vent Systems, is amended by deleting said section and all of its subsections in their entirety.

(Code 1986, § 27-3; Ord. No. 9360, § 3, 5-8-90; Ord. No. 10175, § 3, 3-7-95; Ord. No. 10678, § 3, 3-10-98; Ord. No. 11175, § 31, 9-11-01; Ord. No. 11725, § 3, 7-26-05; Ord. No. 12361, §§ 1 & 2, 3-2-10; Ord. No. 12605, § 3, 5-29-12)

## PLUMBING

### **Sec. 27-4. References to other codes.**

(a) Any reference in the International Plumbing Code, 2003 edition, to the International Fire Code shall be construed to reference the appropriate sections set forth in the National Fire Code (NFPA) which is the official fire code of the City of Chattanooga. (Ord. No. 11725, § 8, 7-26-05)

(b) Any reference to the International Existing Building Code, the International Sewage Disposal Code, and/or the International Electrical Code shall be deleted from the reference standards in Chapter 13 of the International Plumbing Code and all such references shall be construed to reference the appropriate official codes adopted by the City of Chattanooga. (Ord. No. 11725, § 9, 7-26-05)

### **Secs. 27-4 -- 27-20. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE II. PLUMBERS<sup>2</sup>**

### **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

### **Sec. 27-21. Liabilities not affected.**

This article shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any party owning, operating, controlling or installing any plumbing, devices, appliances, equipment, or sewer for damage to persons or property caused by any defect therein, nor shall the city be held as assuming any liability by reason of the examination authorized herein or the license and certificate issued as herein provided. (Code 1986, § 27-21)

### **Sec. 27-22. Identification of vehicles.**

Every licensed master plumber shall identify any vehicles regularly used in the installation of plumbing with his certificate number and his name or the name of the company with whom he is associated in letters and numerals not less than three (3) inches high on each side of such vehicles; any other vehicle used by a master plumber in the installation of plumbing shall be likewise identified while being so used. (Code 1986, § 27-22)

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<sup>2</sup> **Cross references--**Electricians, § 14-31 et seq.; gas fitters and installers, § 19-51 et seq.

**CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE**

**Sec. 27-23. Masters to carry worker's compensation insurance.**

Master plumbers shall also be required to maintain worker's compensation insurance as required by the laws of the state.  
(Code 1986, § 27-23; Ord. No. 11725, § 4, 7-26-05)

**Secs. 27-24 -- 27-35. Reserved.**

**DIVISION 2. BOARD OF EXAMINERS<sup>3</sup>**

**Sec. 27-36. Created; appointment, qualifications.**

There is hereby created a board of plumbing examiners for the city to be composed of seven (7) persons, all of whom shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to the approval of the city council; three (3) of whom shall be master employer plumbers with not less than five (5) years' practical experience, with at least one being a union employer and one being a nonunion employer and three (3) of whom shall be journeyman plumbers with not less than five (5) years practical experience, with at least one being a union plumber and one being a nonunion plumber, and the seventh member of the board shall be member of the general public and representing the public. (Code 1986, § 27-36; Ord. No. 9654, § 1, 1-6-92; Ord. No. 12589, § 1, 5-1-12)

**Sec. 27-37. Terms; oath; removal.**

All members of the board created under this division shall hold office for two (2) years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Before entering upon their duties each member of such board shall take and subscribe to an oath to faithfully and fairly discharge his duty, without fear, favor or partiality, and to the best of his ability. The mayor may, subject to the approval of a majority of the city council, discharge any member of such board at any time for good cause, and appoint a successor.  
(Code 1986, § 27-37; Ord. No. 9654, § 1, 1-6-92)

**Sec. 27-38. Organization; officers.**

As soon as practical after the appointment and qualification of the members of the board created under this division, they shall meet and organize by selecting one (1) of their members to

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<sup>3</sup> **Cross reference**--Board of examiners of gas fitters and installers, § 19-66 et seq.

## PLUMBING

be the chairman of the board, one vice-chairman, and one secretary unless that position is provided by staff of the building inspection office. (Code 1986, § 27-38; Ord. No. 12589, § 2, 5-1-12)

### **Sec. 27-39. Meetings.**

The board created by this division shall hold meetings semi-annually for the examination of applicants to determine their knowledge of the rules and regulations for the installation of plumbing devices, appliances and equipment as set forth in the statutes of the state, this code and other ordinances of the city and the International Plumbing Code; to issue licenses and certificates therefore; to determine the general qualifications and fitness of each applicant for executing the class of work covered by the license applied for and for the transaction of other business. A special meeting may be called by the chairman with the approval of a majority of the board, at a time and place designated. (Code 1986, § 27-39; Ord. No. 12589, § 3, 5-1-12)

### **Sec. 27-40. Compensation.**

The members of the board shall serve without compensation.  
(Code 1986, § 27-40)

### **Sec. 27-41. Regulations authorized; printing required.**

The board created under this division may promulgate rules and regulations not inconsistent with this article, and in such event shall have such rules and regulations printed for distribution.  
(Code 1986, § 27-41)

### **Sec. 27-42. City to furnish quarters, file for board; opening of file.**

The city shall provide proper and adequate quarters for the meetings of the board created under this division and for the purpose of holding examinations. The city shall furnish an adequate file that can be locked for all books and records relating to the business of such board.  
(Code 1986, § 27-42)

### **Sec. 27-43. Records to be open to inspection.**

Records of the meetings of the board created by this division, including the names of all licensees, shall be open for inspection by the public at all reasonable times and a complete record of the results of every examination shall be kept on file by the Board in compliance with the

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

Records Retention Manual adopted by the City Council pursuant to T.C.A. § 10-7-702. (Ord. No. 12589, § 4, 5-1-12)

**Secs. 27-44 -- 27-55. Reserved.**

### DIVISION 3. CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY<sup>4</sup>

**Sec. 27-56. Required.**

In the interest of public health, sanitation, and safety, it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of plumbing, to do or perform any plumbing work or to make any plumbing installation for which a permit is required as a master plumber or journeyman plumber without first having been examined, certified and obtained a certificate of competency as such by the board created under division 2 of this article, or without having registered as an apprentice plumber as hereinafter provided in this article. "To engage in business" as used in this article shall mean "to hold or be held out to the public for hire" in the plumbing business. (Code 1986, § 27-56)

**Sec. 27-57. Application, examination required; nature of examinations.**

(a) All persons now or hereafter desiring to engage in the plumbing business in the city, either as a master employer plumber or as a journeyman plumber, shall apply, in writing, to the secretary of the board created under division 2 of this article, for a certificate of competency and shall appear in person before said board and submit to an examination relative to their qualifications as a master employer plumber or a journeyman plumber, and the examinations for master plumber shall be different from that for journeyman plumber. Such examinations shall be reasonable and especially thorough so as to obtain from the applicant an understanding of the extent of his knowledge of the subjects upon which he is questioned.

(b) The applicant for a master plumber's certificate of competency must show, upon due examination, that the applicant presenting himself is of good moral character and has a satisfactory knowledge of plumbing and the laws pertaining thereto as regulated by this Code and the ordinances of the city governing the same, and he shall have a satisfactory knowledge of the fundamentals of plumbing and particularly with respect to the use and function of fixtures, soil pipes, vent pipes, drainage systems, water systems, plumbing ventilation and plumbing sanitation.

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<sup>4</sup> **Cross references**--Businesses, trades and occupations generally, Ch. 11; examination and certification of gas fitters and installers, § 19-86 et seq.

## PLUMBING

(c) The applicant for a journeyman's certificate of competency must show, upon due examination, that the applicant presenting himself is of good moral character and has a satisfactory knowledge of plumbing and the laws pertaining thereto as regulated by this Code and the ordinances of the city governing the same, and he shall have a satisfactory knowledge of the fundamentals of plumbing and must show his qualifications to install plumbing fixtures and drainage systems in a sanitary manner; and such applicant for journeyman's certificate of competency shall further show, upon examination, that he has practical knowledge of house drainage, plumbing ventilation and water systems and shall show evidence of four (4) years' actual work experience in the plumbing trade.

(d) Any person who shall apply for registration as an apprentice plumber upon forms provided for that purpose by the city shall be registered as such by the board created under division 2 of this article without examination and without charge, and a certificate of registration as an apprentice plumber shall be issued to such applicant, without charge.

(e) The board created under division 2 of this article may authorize issuance of a temporary journeyman plumber's certificate of competency to any applicant who shall have paid to the treasurer of the board an application fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), and who holds a valid, unrevoked journeyman's license issued by any other municipality similar to the requirements of the city for journeyman plumbers, or who, in the opinion of the board has the necessary qualifications of a journeyman. The temporary journeyman plumber's certificate of competency shall be valid only until the day the next journeyman plumber's examination is to be given. Such temporary journeyman's certificate may be revoked at any time by the board upon notice to the holder thereof; provided, further, that not more than one (1) temporary journeyman's certificate may be issued to any one (1) person.

(f) The board created under division 2 of this article may waive the examination requirements of this article and renew an expired certificate of competency of a master or journeyman plumber, other than a temporary journeyman plumber's certificate; provided that, such certificate must be renewed within three (3) years of the date of its original issuance or last renewal; and, provided further, that, the applicant for such renewal has not engaged in any activities which would require the type of certificate for which application is made within such period.

(Code 1986, § 27-57; Ord. No. 11725, § 5, 7-26-05)

### **Sec. 27-58. Applicants from newly annexed areas.**

(a) Persons engaging in the plumbing business in territory annexed to the city, as a master employer plumber whose principal business is plumbing, whose principal place of

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

business has been located and maintained in the annexed territory for three (3) or more years next preceding the annexation of such territory, may be exempt from taking the written examination required by this chapter. The board created under division 2 of this article is authorized to issue certificates of competency as master employer plumbers to such persons who evidence a satisfactory knowledge of the fundamentals of plumbing, particularly with respect to the use and function of fixtures, soil pipes, vent pipes, drainage systems, water systems, plumbing ventilation and plumbing sanitation and who shall also evidence a satisfactory knowledge of the laws pertaining to plumbing as regulated by this Code and the ordinances of the city governing same. Persons desiring issuance of certificates of competency as a mater employer plumber under this section shall make application therefor to the board, along with payment of the fees set out in this code, within six (6) months after the date of the annexation of the territory within which their principal place of business is located.

(b) Persons engaging in the plumbing business in territory annexed to the city, as a journeyman who have been employed by a master employer plumber whose principal place of business has been located and maintained in the annexed territory for three (3) or more years next preceding the annexation of such territory, may be exempt from taking the written examination required by this chapter. The board of plumbing examiners is authorized to issue certificates of competency as journeyman plumber to such persons who evidence five (5) years' actual work experience in the plumbing trade and who give satisfactory evidence of their knowledge of the fundamentals of plumbing and the laws pertaining thereto as regulated by this Code and the ordinances of the city governing same and who shall also evidence a satisfactory practical knowledge of the installation of plumbing fixtures, drainage systems, plumbing ventilation and water systems. Persons desiring issuance of a certificate of competency as a journeyman plumber under this section shall make application therefor to the board of plumbing examiners, along with payment of the required fees set out in this code, within six (6) months after the date of annexation of the territory within which their employer's place of business is located.

(Code 1986, § 27-58)

### **Sec. 27-59. Passing examination; issuance.**

Any applicant answering correctly seventy (70) per cent of the questions asked in the examination shall be considered qualified to pass the examination, and the board created under division 2 of this article shall issue to the applicant a certificate of competency, either as a master plumber or as a journeyman plumber, whichever the applicant may have applied for, upon payment of the required fees within sixty (60) days after notice by the Board. Examinations given by the board created under division 2 of this article shall be written and a complete record of every examination, including the score of the applicant shall be kept on file by the board in compliance with the Records Retention Manual adopted by the City Council pursuant to T.C.A.

**PLUMBING**

§ 10-7-702. Such certificate of competency shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of such board. (Code 1986, § 27-59) (Ord. No. 12589, § 5, 5-1-12)

**Sec. 27-60. Examination fees established.**

An application fee for a journeyman workman’s certificate shall be accomplished by an examination fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and an application for a master employer’s certificate shall be accompanied by an examination fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). (Code 1986, § 27-60; Ord. No. 11725, § 6, 7-26-05)

**Sec. 27-61. License fee established.**

Any person who has passed the examination by the board created under division 2 of this article and is otherwise qualified to engage in work as a master plumber or a journeyman plumber shall be issued a certificate of competency by the board upon payment of the following fee:

- (1) Master employer plumber, per year or any part thereof .....\$100.00
  - (2) Journeyman plumber, per year or any part thereof ..... 10.00
  - (3) Temporary journeyman workman plumber ..... 10.00
  - (4) Retired or inactive plumber, per year or any part thereof..... 25.00
- (Code 1986, § 27-61; Ord. No. 12098, § 1, 3-25-08; Ord. No. 12589, § 6, 5-1-12)

**Sec. 27-62. Disposition of fees.**

The secretary of the board created under division 2 of this article shall make a report to the city treasurer of the amount of fees collected pursuant to sections 27-57, 27-60 and 27-61 of this chapter, and shall pay the same into the city treasury within three (3) days after the collection thereof. All expenses incurred by such board shall be paid by the city treasurer from the fees collected. Any balance left in said fund shall be held by the city treasurer subject to the order of the mayor, and in no event shall the board created under division 2 of this article incur a greater expense than that collected by it in fees. (Code 1986, § 27-62; Ord. No. 9654, § 13, 1-6-92; Ord. No. 12589, § 7, 5-1-12)

**Sec. 27-63. Expiration; renewal authorized.**

Beginning on the date of passage of this Ordinance, all licenses issued by the Board shall be effective and renewed on a two year scheduled basis with the license expiring on the 30<sup>th</sup> day

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

of June in odd numbered years following its date of issuance. Those whose license expires on June 30, 2012, shall be renewed for one (1) year. Beginning with the renewal due on June 30, 2013, all licenses issued by the Board shall renew every two (2) years in the odd numbered years. Each certificate of competency shall expire on the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day of June following the date of its issuance and shall be renewable without further examination upon application of the holder within sixty (60) days after notice of the expiration date, and the payment of the two-year fee set out above. Any applicant for a renewal who fails to make application and pay the required fee within sixty (60) days of notice may be required to take another examination by the Board of Examiners unless such applicant shows good and sufficient cause for the failure to make such application; provided that, if any licensee enters active service in the armed forces of the United States, the applicant shall be granted a renewal license upon his application after discharge from such service if such application is presented to the board within six (6) months following the date of his discharge. The failure to renew any license before June 30th of the third year following expiration of a license will result in retesting.  
(Code 1986, § 27-63; Ord. No. 12589, § 9, 5-1-12)

### **Sec. 27-64. Examination of renewal application; required.**

It shall be the duty of the board created under division 2 of this article to review all applications for the renewal of any certificate, and the board shall require that each applicant for renewal shall file a statement signed by the applicant that he has not misused his license and that he has abided by this Code and the ordinances of the city pertaining to plumbing, sewers and street cut-ins. If an applicant for renewal cannot honestly file such a statement, a full explanation of these reasons must accompany the renewal application in lieu of all or part of the required statement. The board may disapprove any renewal of a certificate of competency when the applicant has misused his certificate or has made any intentional misstatement in such application, provided, however, that such board shall not disapprove any renewal until after the application has been accorded an opportunity to be heard after five (5) days' notice by registered mail or personal service of such a notice.  
(Code 1986, § 27-64; Ord. No. 12589, § 9, 5-1-12)

### **Sec. 27-65. Scope; display required.**

(a) *Journeyman.* The issuance to any applicant of a certificate of competency as a journeyman workman plumber shall entitle the holder thereof only to work as a journeyman plumber and shall not entitle him to exercise the functions of or carry on the business of a master employer plumber. The holder of a certificate of competency as a journeyman workman plumber, or a temporary journeyman certificate, shall carry such certificate with him at all times when he is engaged in plumbing work.

## PLUMBING

(b) *Master.* A certificate of competency as a master employer plumber shall entitle the holder thereof to secure permits and perform the duties of a master plumber in the City. All master plumbers shall be assigned a permanent license number by the plumbing board. It shall be the duty of a master plumber to frame and display this license in a conspicuous business location.

(Ord. No. 11725, § 7, 7-26-05)

(c) *Apprentice.* Apprentice plumbers may do any and all things done by journeyman plumbers; provided that, such work may only be done under the supervision of and in the presence of a properly certified or licensed journeyman plumber.

(Code 1986, § 27-65; Ord. No. 11725, § 7, 7-26-05)

### **Sec. 27-66. Master's to show name of holder; duties of master.**

(a) Each certificated for a master plumber's license issued in accordance with the provisions of this article shall specify the name of the person who passed the examination, who shall be known as the holder of the certificate and as supervisor of all work done under the license.

(b) "Supervision of work" shall mean:

(1) The license holder shall be available at least three (3) days per week during normal working hours at the holder's place of business located in the general metropolitan area of the city.

(2) The business in which the holder is associated shall have a local office in the general metropolitan area and a local phone listed under the name of the firm with which he is associated.

(c) The board of plumbing examiners and the chief plumbing inspector shall be notified in writing the name of the firm with which the holder is associated.

(d) Any holder who applied as, and was licensed as, a representative of a corporation, firm or association, and who ceases to be a representative of such corporation, firm or association for whatever reason, shall immediately notify the board of such termination. The board shall immediately contact the corporation, firm or association by which the holder was employed and ascertain the current status of the bids, contracts, permits, etc., of such corporation, firm or association covering work being or to be performed within the city, and the board may, in its discretion, relieve any hardships and permit such work on a temporary basis as they deem advisable.

**CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE**

(e) The license holder shall have an employee to answer to telephone calls or a telephone-answering device at his place of business during normal business hours, and the license holder shall be capable of returning such calls within twenty-four (24) hours of the time they are made.

(Code 1986, § 27-66)

(f) All license holders will comply with all workers compensation provisions for any employees which are required by the State of Tennessee at the time any work is performed and submit any evidence of workers compensation insurance that is required by the State of Tennessee before any license is issued.

(Ord. No. 12589, § 10, 5-1-12)

**Sec. 27-67. Doing work without proper certificate.**

(a) No person certified as a master plumber shall be entitled to perform the duties of a journeyman workman plumber unless he also holds a certificate of competency as a journeyman plumber, but no person holding himself out to the public for hire shall do any kind of plumbing work for the public, whether the same is being done by himself or whether he is merely assisting another plumber doing plumbing work, unless he shall have issued to him a certificate of competency as provided for in this article; provided, however, that every qualified journeyman plumber who holds a certificate of competency may have working together with him an apprentice who must be registered under the provisions of this article. Helpers digging ditches or trenches will not be required to comply with the provisions of this article when working for a licensed master plumber.

(b) It shall be unlawful for a master plumber to allow any person who is not licensed as a journeyman plumber or registered as an apprentice plumber to do any plumbing work.

(Code 1986, § 27-67)

**Sec. 27-68. Licenses, certificates not transferable.**

No license and certificate issued in accordance with the provisions of this article shall be assignable or transferable.

(Code 1986, § 27-68)

**Sec. 27-69. Suspension, revocation; denial of renewal.**

## **PLUMBING**

(a) The board created under division 2 of this article shall revoke or suspend a certificate issued to any master plumber, journeyman or apprentice plumber upon positive proof that such person:

- (1) Knowingly violated the provisions of this chapter or the rules and regulations of such board.
- (2) Practiced fraud or deception in making application for or obtaining certificate or registration required hereunder or any renewal thereof.
- (3) Is incompetent to perform a service to the public as a certified plumber.
- (4) Permitted his certificate or registration to be used, directly or indirectly, by another to obtain or perform plumbing work or services.
- (5) Is guilty of such other unprofessional or dishonorable conduct of such nature as to deceive or defraud the public.
- (6) Failed to comply with the sections of this chapter of this Code, the requirements of the plumbing code, or repeatedly failed to obtain permits required before commencing work.
- (7) Obtained a permit, directly or indirectly, for another unless the license holder shall be the supervisor of all work covered by the permit; provided, however, that, supervisors of work, as herein used, shall have the same meaning as set out in section 27-66 of this chapter.
- (8) Received from another any compensation wherein the sole consideration therefor is the obtaining of a permit for plumbing work.

(b) The board may disapprove any renewal of a certificate when the applicant has misused his license, has made any intentional misstatement on such application, or has been guilty of any act or conduct which would constitute grounds for revocation or suspension of a certificate as herein provided; provided, however, the board shall not disapprove any renewal until after the applicant has been accorded an opportunity to be heard after five (5) days' notice by registered mail or personal service of such a notice.

(c) No action of the board to suspend or revoke a certificate of competency or registration shall become final until the alleged offender has been given an opportunity to appear before the board to show cause as to why such action should not be taken.

## CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE

(d) Notice, in writing, of the proposed action of the board to revoke or suspend a certificate shall be given to the holder of such certificate, stating the specific charges upon which such action is based. The notice shall stipulate that a hearing will be scheduled at a time and place set by the board for the aggrieved party to show cause why such action should not be made final. Such hearing shall not be held less than five (5) days following notice to the aggrieved party. Failure to appear before the board to answer the specific charges set forth in the notice shall be deemed just cause for final revocation or suspension of a certificate.  
(Code 1986, § 27-69)

### **Sec. 27-70. Appeals from board.**

Any person aggrieved by any action or decision of the board created under division 2 of this article shall have the right of appeal to the board of adjustment and appeals by requesting an appeal in writing and by lodging such request with the chief plumbing inspector of the city within ten (10) days after said action or decision.  
(Code 1986, § 27-70)

### **Sec. 27-71. Temporary Certificates.**

Anything in this article to the contrary notwithstanding, however, it shall be lawful for the board created under the division 2 of this article to issue a temporary journeyman's certificate of competency to any applicant who shall have paid to the treasurer of such board an application fee of ten (\$10.00) dollars, and holds a valid unrevoked journeyman's card issued by another municipality with similar journeyman plumber requirements as this city, or who, in the opinion of such board, has the necessary qualifications of a journeyman. The temporary journeyman plumber certificate of competency shall be valid only until the day the next journeyman plumber examination is to be given. Furthermore, such board may revoke such temporary journeyman's certificate at any time and no more than one (1) temporary journeyman's certificate can be issued to any one (1) person.  
(Ord. No. 12589, § 11, 5-1-12)