

**11 NCAC 08 .0740 PLUMBING INSPECTOR LEVEL I, II AND III**

(a) A Plumbing Inspector, Level I (Residential), certified on or after January 1, 2027 shall be qualified to perform code-enforcement official duties for residential buildings up to three stories in height with no more than four dwelling units in accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Residential Code, including NFPA 13D residential sprinkler systems.

(b) A Plumbing Inspector, Level II (Commercial), certified on or after January 1, 2027 shall be qualified to perform code-enforcement official duties for commercial buildings up to four stories in height.

(c) A Plumbing Inspector, Level III, shall be qualified to perform code-enforcement official duties for any residential or commercial building or structure.

(d) Plumbing Inspectors, Levels I, II, or III certified on or before December 31, 2026 shall be qualified to perform code-enforcement official duties for the types of structures described in Rule .0706(a)(2) of this Section until December 31, 2032.

(e) Plumbing Inspector, Level I. A standard certificate, plumbing inspector, Level I, shall be issued to any applicant who complies with Rule .0706(b) through (g) of this Section and who provides documentation that the applicant possesses one of the following:

- (1) A one-year diploma in plumbing construction from an accredited college or an equivalent apprenticeship or trade school program in plumbing construction;
- (2) A four-year degree from an accredited college or university;
- (3) At least six months of plumbing inspection experience with a probationary Level I plumbing inspection certificate on a minimum of two Level I buildings while working under the direct supervision of a standard certified plumbing inspector I or III, with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section;
- (4) At least one year of plumbing design, construction, or inspection experience on a minimum of two Level I buildings while working under the direct supervision of a licensed professional engineer or licensed Class I plumbing contractor with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section;
- (5) A Class I license as a plumbing contractor;
- (6) At least two years of plumbing installation or inspection experience while working under a licensed Class I plumbing contractor; or
- (7) At least one year of experience with a probationary Level I plumbing inspection certificate inspecting plumbing installations a minimum of two Level I buildings.

(f) Plumbing Inspector, Level II. A standard certificate, plumbing inspector, Level II, shall be issued to any applicant who complies with Rule .0706(b) through (g) of this Section and who provides documentation that the applicant possesses one of the following:

- (1) A license as a professional engineer;
- (2) A four-year degree from an accredited college or university in mechanical engineering or mechanical or plumbing construction;
- (3) A four-year degree from an accredited college or university and at least two years of plumbing design, construction, or inspection experience on a minimum of two Level II buildings while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector II or III, licensed professional engineer, or licensed Class I plumbing contractor;
- (4) A two-year degree from an accredited college or university in mechanical engineering or mechanical or plumbing construction and at least two years of plumbing design, construction, or inspection experience on a minimum of two Level II buildings while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector II or III, licensed professional engineer, or licensed Class I plumbing contractor;
- (5) A Class I license as a plumbing contractor with experience on a minimum of two Level II buildings;
- (6) At least three years of plumbing inspection experience including one year of inspection experience with a probationary Level II plumbing inspection certificate on a minimum of two Level II buildings while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector II or III, with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section;
- (7) At least three years of plumbing design, construction, or inspection experience on a minimum of two Level II buildings while working under the direct supervision of a licensed professional

- engineer or licensed Class I plumbing contractor with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section; or
- (8) At least one year of experience with a probationary Level II plumbing inspection certificate inspecting plumbing installations on a minimum of two Level II buildings.
- (g) Plumbing Inspector, Level III. A standard certificate, plumbing inspector, Level III shall be issued to any applicant who complies with Rule .0706(b) through (g) of this Section and who provides documentation that the applicant possesses one of the following:
- (1) A license as a professional engineer with design, construction, or inspection experience on Level III buildings and specialization in mechanical engineering;
  - (2) A four-year degree from an accredited university in mechanical engineering or mechanical or plumbing construction and at least one year of plumbing design, installation, or inspection experience while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector III, licensed professional engineer, or licensed Class I plumbing contractor at least at the level of supervisor in responsible charge of a minimum of two Level III buildings;
  - (3) A two-year degree from an accredited college or university in mechanical engineering or plumbing construction and at least three years of plumbing design, installation, or inspection experience while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector III, licensed professional engineer, or licensed Class I plumbing contractor, with at least one year at the level of supervisor in responsible charge of a minimum of two Level III buildings;
  - (4) A Class I license as a plumbing contractor with experience on a minimum of two Level III buildings;
  - (5) At least four years of plumbing inspection experience including one year of inspection experience with a probationary Level III plumbing inspection certificate on a minimum of two Level III buildings while working under the direct supervision of a certified plumbing inspector III, with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section;
  - (6) At least four years of plumbing design, construction, or inspection experience while working under the direct supervision of a licensed professional engineer or licensed Class I plumbing contractor, two years of which have been performed at the level of supervisor in responsible charge of a minimum of two Level III buildings, with a supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor which complies with Rule .0706(b) of this Section; or
  - (7) At least one year of experience with a probationary Level III plumbing inspection certificate inspecting the plumbing installations of a minimum of two Level III buildings.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143-151.12(1); 143-151.12(3); 143-151.13;  
Eff. February 1, 2025;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 7, 2025.*