
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS



REGULATIONS

Last Updated September 1, 2025

STATUTES
Title 54.1, Chapter 11

**Article 3. Tradesmen, Backflow Prevention Device
Workers, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Fitters.**

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS



Individual License and Certification Regulations

Last Updated August 1, 2025

STATUTES
Title 54.1, Chapter 11

www.dpor.virginia.gov

Backflow Prevention Device Work

Backflow prevention device work” means work performed by a backflow prevention device worker for reconstruction or renewal of any part of a backflow prevention device for the purpose of returning to service a currently installed device.

This does not include the removal or replacement of a defective device by the installation of a rebuilt or new device.

Backflow Prevention Device Worker

A **Backflow Prevention Device Worker** is an individual who engages in maintenance, repair, testing, or periodic inspection of cross-connection control devices.

These devices include reduced pressure principle backflow preventers, double check-valve assemblies, pressure-type vacuum breakers, and similar equipment.

Purpose: To prevent contamination of potable water by nonpotable liquids, solids, or gases, ensuring water remains safe for consumption.

18 VAC 50-30-25. Application Procedures.

- A.** All applicants seeking licensure or certification must submit an application with the appropriate fee specified in 18VAC50-30-90. Application must be made on forms provided by the board or the board's agent.
 - 1. By submitting the application to the Department, the applicant certifies that the applicant has read and understands the applicable statutes and the board's regulations.
 - 2. The receipt of an application and the deposit of the fees by the board do not indicate approval of the application by the board.
- B.** The board may make further inquiries and investigations with respect to the applicant's qualifications to confirm or amplify information supplied. All applications must be completed in accordance with the instructions contained in this section and on the application. Applications will not be considered complete until all required documents are received by the board.
- C.** The applicant will be notified of receipt of initial application if the application is incomplete. An individual who fails to complete the application process within 12 months of receipt of the application in the board's office must submit a new application.
- D.** The applicant must immediately report all changes in information supplied with the application, if applicable, prior to the issuance of the license or certificate or expiration of the application.

18 VAC 50-30-30. General requirements for licensure or certification. (excerpts)

5. In accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia, each applicant must disclose any conviction, in any jurisdiction, of any felony or non-marijuana misdemeanor. The board, at its discretion, may deny licensure or certification to any applicant in accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia. The applicant has the right to request further review of any such action by the board under the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia).
6. The applicant must report any action taken by any board or administrative body in any jurisdiction against a professional or occupational license, certification, or registration issued to the applicant, to include any suspension, revocation, or surrender of a license, certification, or registration, imposition of a monetary penalty, or requirement to take remedial education or other corrective action. The board in its discretion may deny licensure to any applicant for any prior action taken by any board or administrative body in any jurisdiction. The applicant has the right to request further review of any such action by the board under the Administrative Process Act.

18 VAC 50-30-120. Renewal. (excerpts)

- A.** Licenses issued under this chapter to electricians, gas fitters, liquefied petroleum gas fitters, natural gas fitter providers, HVAC tradesmen, or plumbers will expire three years from the last day of the month in which they were issued as indicated on the license.
- B.** Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all other licenses and certifications issued under this chapter will expire two years from the last day of the month in which they were issued as indicated on the license or certification.

No continuing education, yet!

18 VAC 50-30-120. Renewal. (excerpts)

- H. The board will mail a renewal notice to the regulant outlining procedures for renewal. Failure to receive this notice, however, will not relieve the regulant of the obligation to renew. If the regulant fails to receive the renewal notice, a copy of the license or certification may be submitted with the required fee as an application for renewal within 30 days of the expiration date.
- I. The date on which the renewal fee is received by the department or its agent will determine whether the regulant is eligible for renewal or required to apply for reinstatement.

Backflow prevention device worker certification	\$110.00
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18 VAC 50-30-130. Reinstatement. (excerpts)

- A.** Except as provided in 18VAC50-30-120 F, if all of the applicable requirements for renewal of the license or certification specified in 18VAC50-30-120 are not completed within 30 days of the license or certification expiration date, a reinstatement fee will be required as established in subsection B of this section.

Backflow prevention device worker certification	\$160.00*
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- D.** A license or certification may be reinstated for up to 24 months following the expiration date of the license or certification. An individual who fails to reinstate the license or certification within 24 months after the expiration date must apply for a new license or certification and meet entry requirements in effect at the time of the submittal of the new application. Such individual will be deemed eligible to sit for the examination for the same category and specialty of license as the expired license.

18 VAC 50-30-160. Change of address.

Any change of address must be reported in writing to the board within 30 days of the change. The board will not be responsible for the regulant's failure to receive notices or correspondence due to the regulant's failure to report a change of address. A post office box alone is not acceptable.

18 VAC 50-30-190. Prohibited acts. (excerpts)

4. Negligence or incompetence in the practice of the licensed or certified profession;
5. Misconduct in the practice of the licensed or certified profession;
6. For licensed tradesmen, liquefied petroleum gas fitters, natural gas fitter providers, or gas fitters performing jobs under \$1,000, or backflow prevention device workers, elevator mechanics, accessibility mechanics, or water well systems providers performing jobs of any amount, abandonment, the intentional and unjustified failure to complete work contracted for, or the retention or misapplication of funds paid, for which work is either not performed or performed only in part (unjustified cessation of work under the contract for a period of 30 days or more shall be considered evidence of abandonment);

18 VAC 50-30-190. Prohibited acts. (excerpts)

10. Where the regulant has been convicted or found guilty, after initial licensure or certification, regardless of adjudication, in any jurisdiction of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving lying, cheating or stealing, sexual offense, non-marijuana drug distribution, physical injury, or relating to the practice of the profession, there being no appeal pending therefrom or the time of appeal having elapsed;
11. Having failed to inform the board in writing, within 30 days, that the regulant was convicted of any felony or a misdemeanor involving lying, cheating, stealing, sexual offense, non-marijuana drug distribution, physical injury, or relating to the practice of the profession;
12. Having been disciplined by any county, city, town, or any state or federal governing body for actions relating to the practice of any trade, backflow prevention device work, elevator or accessibility work, or water well systems provider work, which action shall be reviewed by the board before the board takes any disciplinary action of its own;
13. Failure to comply with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code;

Code of Virginia (excerpts)

Included in this booklet are relevant excerpts from the *Code of Virginia*. Please note that the Virginia General Assembly is responsible for creating and amending the *Code*, not the Board for Contractors. The version contained herein contains all changes, if any, that have been made by the General Assembly through the 2025 session. Any changes made during the 2025 session are effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted. It is your responsibility to stay informed of revisions to the regulations and the statutes governing your profession or occupation. Please consult the General Assembly or your local library for annual changes.

Article 3.

Tradesmen, Backflow Prevention Device Workers, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Fitters.

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Tradesmen, Backflow Prevention Device Workers, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Fitters.

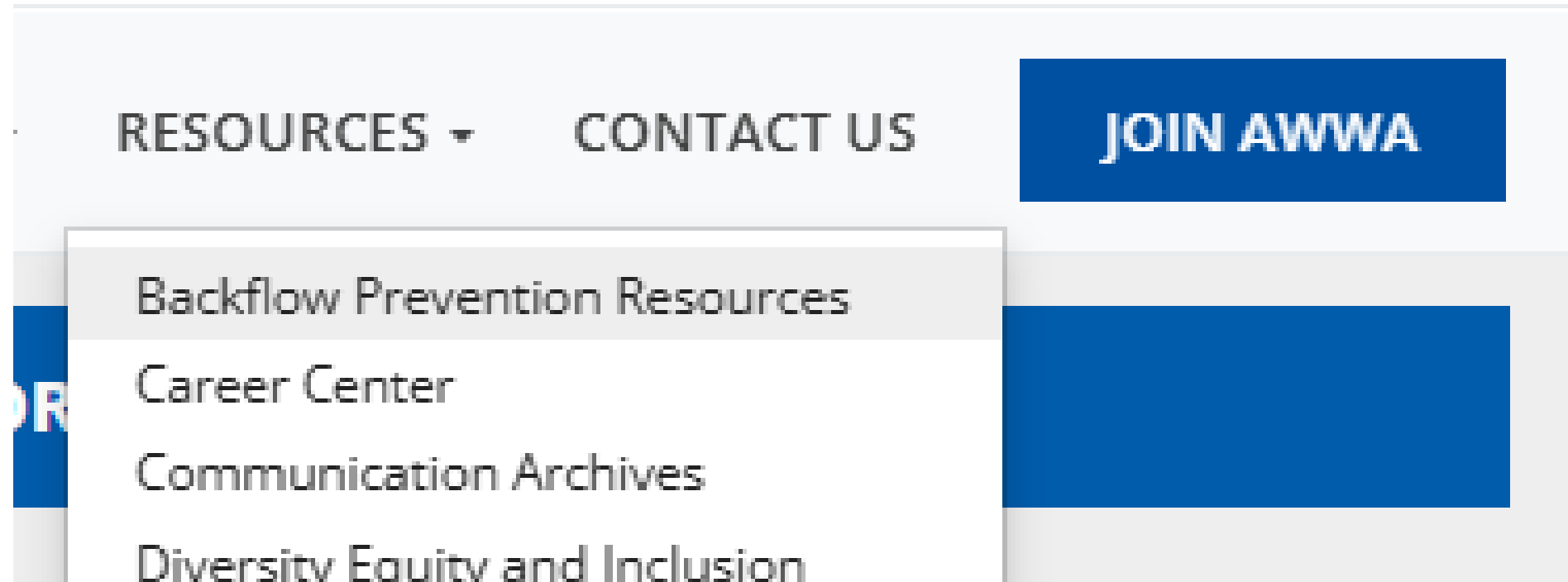
54.1-1135. Prohibited acts. (excerpts)

B. No person shall represent himself as a certified backflow prevention device worker unless he has been certified by the Board. Any person engaging or offering to engage in backflow prevention device worker activities within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead, represents himself as a certified backflow prevention device worker without holding such a certificate from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

C. No person shall be entitled to assert the lack of licensure as required by this article as a defense to any action at law or suit in equity if the party who seeks to recover from such person gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and without actual knowledge of the licensure requirements of this article.

D. In any locality which requires state certification to engage in backflow prevention device worker activities, no person shall be entitled to assert a lack of certification as a defense to any action at law or suit in equity if the party who seeks to recover from such person gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and without actual knowledge of the locality's certification requirements.

<https://vaawwa.org/page/resources-backflow-prevention-tester>





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BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE WORKER RESOURCES

Board for Contractors Universal Licensure Recognition Application



Board for Contractors Individual Licensure and Certification Regulations



Board for Contractors Regulations



Certification Exam Application

Experience Verification Form



PSI Certification Exam Info



Training Required

- Four years of practical experience in water distribution systems and a minimum of 32 hours of training in a school approved by the board
- Seven or more years of experience in water distribution systems and 16 hours of training in a school approved by the board

Forms Required

- Completed Application Form (Exam Eligibility= \$150)
- Completed Experience Verification Form
- A copy of your certificate from a training school approved by the board that includes wet lab instruction

Exam Scheduling

Backflow Prevention Device \$100



PSI Services LLC
<https://test-takers.psiexams.com/vacon>
DPORSupport@psionline.com

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL
REGULATION

INDIVIDUAL LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION
CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN

VA Backflow Prevention Device Worker Certificate

 Onsite (Test Center)  Online Proctored (Live)

[HTTPS://TEST-TAKERS.PSIEXAMS.COM/VACON](https://test-takers.psiexams.com/vacon)

Highlights from the PSI Exam Bulletin

What is on the exam?

The PSI Exams Candidate Information Bulletin also outlines what subject the questions are pulled from. The BPAT exam includes 40 questions and are multiple choice, and you are given 150 minutes to complete. One glaring item that we stress to our students is that 10 out of the 40 questions are based on the DPOR Rules and Regulations packet, so only 75% of the exam actually pertains to backflow prevention testing (all tradesmen exams include these 10 questions, but since BPAT is only 40 questions instead of the normal 100, they are weighted much more heavily). Below is the outline provided by PSI:

- A. Standards of Practice (3 Items)
- B. Standards of Conduct (2 Items)
- C. Renewal and Reinstatement (2 Items)
- D. Definitions (1 Item)
- E. Qualification for Licensure (1 Item)
- F. Revocation of Licensure (1 Item)
- G. Testing/Troubleshooting (16 Items)
- H. Assemblies/Devices (4 Items)
- I. General Subject Knowledge (6 Items)
- J. Maintenance and Repair (2 Items)
- K. Laws and Rules (1 Item)
- L. Safety (1 Item)

Highlights from the PSI Exam Bulletin (p.2)

Recommended Reference Materials- Used to Prepare the Questions

Backflow Prevention Device Worker only:

- ***International Plumbing Code***, 2018, International Code Council, (800) 786-4452, <https://www.psinternational-plumbing-code/> (Effective 1/18/25 you can use the 2018 or 2021 edition. Starting on the 2021 edition only.)
- ***Cross-Connection Control Professional Qualifications Standard***, ASSE/IAPMO/ANSI Standard Series 5000, <http://www.icontractor.net/products/asseiapmoansi-standard-series-5000-2009?sku=ASSE5000>
- ***Backflow Prevention Theory and Practice***, 2004, Center for Training, Research, and Education for the University of Florida, TREEO Center, <http://www.directtextbook.com/isbn/9780757515101>
- ***Manual of Cross-Connection Control***, 2009, 10th edition; Foundation for Cross-Connection Control, University of Southern California, KAP-200 University Park, MC-2531, Los Angeles, California 90089-1606, <http://www.amazon.com/Manual-Cross-Connection-Control-October-Edition/dp/0963891219>

Highlights from the PSI Exam Bulletin



Roll over image to zoom in

NOTE: All examinations are open book. You must bring your own references as they are not provided at the test site. No study guides are permitted.

No loose papers or unbound references are permitted. If you download a reference from the Internet, it must be spiral bound or hole-punched and placed in a binder or stapled in the left-hand corner.

References may be highlighted, underlined, and/or indexed prior to the exam. Reference materials containing any writing will not be allowed into the examination. You may not write in reference materials during the examination session. A candidate caught writing in the references during the examination will have the references confiscated and will be reported to the Department.

References may be tabbed with permanent tabs only. NO REMOVABLE TABS are allowed.

The following list of tabs may be used. These items may be purchased at local office supply stores.

Acceptable Tabs:

- Avery Swift Tabs Self-Adhesive Permanent Plastic Tabs
- Redi-Tag Self-Stick Permanent Adhesive Index Tabs

Unacceptable Tabs:

- Post-It Index Flags
- Post-It Flags