



J. Kevin Stitt
Office of the Governor
State of Oklahoma

**NOTIFICATION FROM GOVERNOR J. KEVIN STITT
REGARDING SUBMITTED AGENCY RULES**

On July 23, 2026, the Construction Industries Board, pursuant to its legal authority to adopt rules codified at 59 O.S. §§ 858-625, 858-627, 1000.4, 1000.4a, 1000.5, 1002, 1151.2a, 1151.4, 1032, 1681 and 1850.3, submitted proposed permanent rule amendments to the Office of the Governor for approval or disapproval.

On August 20, 2026, I hereby approve all rules changes in Docket Numbers: 26-643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649 and 650.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Stitt", is written over a horizontal line.

J. KEVIN STITT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

TITLE 158. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD CHAPTER 60. INSPECTORS REGULATIONS

1. **STATEMENT OF NEED, LEGAL BASIS AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PURPOSE OF PROPOSED RULE:** The statement of need is mainly to update rules to reflect recent legislation, SB1732, as supported by 59 O.S. §§ 1000.4 and 1032. The purpose of proposed amendments to 158:60-1-1 is to add statutory authority to assist with legislative rule requirements and legislative analysis and review during session; the purpose of proposed amendments to 158:60-1-2 also adds statutory authority to assist with legislative rule requirements and legislative analysis; the purpose of the proposed amendment to 158:60-3-1 updates language to allow for digital transformation in licensing database system; the purpose of proposed amendments to 158:60-5-2 and 158:60-5-4 are for SB1732 requiring a fee increase effective 7-1-2028. The rule is not mandated by federal law or required for participation or implementation of a federal program. There are no existing or proposed federal regulations intended to address activities regulated by the proposed rules.
2. **CLASSIFICATION OF THE RULE AS MAJOR OR NONMAJOR:** The proposed rule amendments that are required due to law changes created in SB1732 do not make this a major rule. Although SB1732 does begin to change fees starting in FY29, the fee increases do not meet the statutory dollar amount threshold over the first five years to make it a major rule.

For the purpose of making calculations as accurate as reasonably possible using current licensing data, FY26 licensing numbers are provided below followed by the methodology used to obtain a practical forecast of economic impact and why the agency does not believe this will be a major rule.

Here is a breakdown of the fee changes and the number of licensees (FY26) that could be affected:

Title 158, CH 60 Breakdown of FY29 Fee Changes			
License Type	Number of Licensees or Registrants in FY26	Current Fee	Fee after change from SB1732
Inspectors License - Initial and Renewal	530	\$35.00	\$55.00

The methodology focuses on direct, measurable impact, primarily concerning fee increases and not negligible, secondary impacts on administrative costs (no new functions, just different amount of current function), the state economy, and local government. The analysis was conducted under the assumption that the costs (increased license/registration

fees) are ongoing direct costs and does not induce market wide behavioral changes that would significantly affect the larger economy. Averages are being used in calculations below based on FY26 licensing numbers to project costs.

Calculation of the fee increase using stated methodology is:

530 Inspector Licenses x \$20.00 fee increase = \$10,600.00

Total annually per FY: \$10,600.00 x 5 years = \$53,000.00

3. **DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASSES OF PERSONS AFFECTED:** The agency, members of industry and the public who are involved in or wish to be involved in the building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, energy code inspector industry/trade licensed and regulated by the Construction Industries Board ("CIB"), continuing education providers, and citizens of Oklahoma.
4. **CLASSES OF PERSONS BENEFITTED:** The agency, members of industry and the public who are involved in or wish to be involved in the building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, energy code inspector industry/trade licensed and regulated by the Construction Industries Board ("CIB"), continuing education providers, and citizens of Oklahoma.
5. **ECONOMIC IMPACT UPON AFFECTED CLASSES OF PERSONS:** From an economic perspective there has been no increase to fees since 2009, and higher licensing fees act as an increase in the cost of doing business. Inspectors could absorb the added expense, pass some or all of it on to customers through higher prices, or reduce costs elsewhere to comply with the new fees.

The potential economic impact includes increase in license fees as calculated above. However, it is difficult to accurately estimate any additional potential economic impact on the affected class of persons because some license holders may not be responsible for paying a license fee because the fee is covered by their employer or passed on to the consumer.

Besides whatever verbal or email communications were provided to legislators and the Governor's office by industry members during the 2026 legislative session, industry also provided four letters of support for SB1732 (copied to the agency) acknowledging: additional fee costs are never preferred, however there has not been a fee increase in almost 20 years, the board has demonstrated a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and stewardship of license holder funds, inflationary pressures over time have increased costs and reduced purchasing power, SB1732 represents a practical step toward maintaining a stable and well-regulated environment for contractors across the state, the increases in SB1732 are a reasonable adjustment, fair, necessary and in the best long-term interest of licensed trade members and the construction industry across Oklahoma so that the Construction Industries Board has the resources necessary to maintain professional licensing standards, enforce compliance, and protect public safety.

6. **COSTS AND BENEFITS TO THE AGENCY:** Implementation of the proposed amendments related to the fee change created in SB1732 will require only routine administrative activities, including: drafting proposed rules, updating licensing forms;

revising instructional materials; updating electronic licensing systems; updating website references; notifying regulated licensees/registrants of rule changes; providing staff training where necessary. The CIB anticipates these activities can be completed using existing personnel and resources. The benefit is to have clear, unambiguous rules in place to assist those impacted by the statutory changes.

7. **ECONOMIC IMPACT ON POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:** The proposed amendments are not expected to create any economic impact upon political subdivisions or other public agencies.

Political subdivisions have benefitted from no fee increase for over 17 years. Not all political subdivisions pay to have an Inspector(s) licensed but if they do pay to license an inspector(s) the economic impact to that political subdivision would be nominal. Municipalities and counties responsible for permitting or inspection activities may benefit from improved consistency between these proposed administrative rules and current statutory requirements, resulting in greater administrative efficiency.

8. **ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS:** Where increased fee obligations exist, those obligations arise directly from statutory changes enacted by the Legislature in SB1732 rather than from discretionary rulemaking by the Board.

From an economic perspective there has been no increase in fees since 2009, and higher licensing fees act as an increase in the cost of doing business. Businesses have benefitted from no fee increase for over 17 years. Inspectors could absorb the added expense, pass some or all of it on to customers through higher prices, or reduce costs elsewhere to comply with the new fees. While employers might cover the cost of an employee's license, not all do.

The potential economic impact includes increase in inspector license fees. However, it is difficult to accurately estimate any additional potential economic impact from SB 1732 on small businesses because some employers could be paying their employees license fees, but not all do.

9. **MEASURES TAKEN TO MINIMIZE COMPLIANCE COSTS:** The proposed amendments are the least costly or least intrusive method of achieving the purpose of the proposed rules and required statutory changes. There are no non-regulatory methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule changes.

10. **EFFECT OF THE PROPOSED RULE ON PUBLIC HEALTH:** The proposed amendments promote public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that Oklahoma Inspector licensing regulations remain current, consistent, and fully aligned with statutory authority. Clear administrative rules support effective licensing, enforcement, examination, continuing education and licensee accountability, thereby helping ensure that inspector work through the state continues to be performed by qualified individuals meeting statewide standards which should have a positive effect on public health.

11. **DETRIMENTS TO PUBLIC HEALTH IF THE RULE IS NOT ADOPTED:** Failure to adopt the proposed amendments would leave portions of the inspectors industry regulations and rules inconsistent with current statutes, create avoidable administrative uncertainty, increase the potential for inconsistent interpretation, and reduce the efficiency of licensing and enforcement activities. Maintaining outdated regulatory language could also create confusion for applicants, licensees, local jurisdictions and the public. Any alternative to adopting the rules would leave portions of the rules inconsistent with current statutes.
11. **DATE IMPACT STATEMENT PREPARED:** August 31, 2026

TITLE 158. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD CHAPTER 60. INSPECTORS REGULATIONS

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

158:60-1-1. Purpose

The rules of this Chapter set forth definitions, provide for categories of licenses, establish examination guidelines, determine continuing education requirements, and determine violations, which are grounds for suspension or revocation of any license issued pursuant to the Oklahoma Inspectors Act, 59 O.S. § 1031, et seq., per 59 O.S. § 1000.1, et seq., specifically 59 O.S. §§ 1032 and 1000.4.

158:60-1-2. Definitions

The following words or terms, when used in this Chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Act" means the Oklahoma Inspectors Act as found at 59 O.S. § 1031, *et seq.*

"Administrator" means the Administrator of the Board as described in the Construction Industries Board Act found at 59 O.S. § 1000.1, *et seq.*

"Authorized Provider" means one who is not a governmental employee but an independent contractor who is recognized by a Political Subdivision that issues building permits and who meets the requirements under the Oklahoma Inspectors Act and rules promulgated on the requirements of such licensure.

"Board" means the Construction Industries Board, 59 O.S. § 1000.4.

"Building and Construction inspection" means the inspection of plumbing, electrical, mechanical or structural aspects of building and construction, for the purpose of enforcing compliance with the applicable building codes or standards.

"Building and Construction Inspector" means any person actively engaged in the inspection of any phase of building and construction for the purpose of enforcing and having the authority to enforce compliance with the applicable building codes or standards and includes, but is not limited to, plumbing inspectors, electrical inspectors, mechanical inspectors and structural building inspectors.

"Building Official" means the licensed employee code official having the duty to administer and the authority to enforce building codes in the Political Subdivision.

"Certification" means successful passage of an examination by a Committee-approved national certification program in a license category pursuant to the Oklahoma Inspectors Act.

"Category" means one of the following areas of inspector licensure: electrical, mechanical, plumbing, building, or energy.

"Circuit Rider Inspector" means a person who acts as a Building and Construction Inspector for two or more municipalities or other political subdivisions and is certified and licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Inspectors Act.

"Classification" means Unlimited or Residential, Circuit Rider, Provisional, or Authorized Provider in a license Category. Only Unlimited and Residential classification may be renewed inactive.

"C.E.U." or "CEU" means a continuing education unit that is either one (1) credit hour of Committee approved instruction or its equivalent as determined by the Committee.

"Committee" means the Oklahoma Inspector Examiners Committee, 59 O.S. § 1034.

"Credit Hour" means fifty (50) minutes, or more, of instruction with a ten (10) minute break.

"Designated Code Official" means an employee of a Political Subdivision with a population over 10,000 who is licensed, who approves the Report Writer or reviews and accepts the Report Writer's report in the same category as the official is licensed.

"Direction and Control" means when the licensed Authorized Provider is responsible to the recognizing Political Subdivision when performing building and construction inspections as an independent contractor separate and free from any influence or control on an inspection by any entity or business that performs industrial, commercial, or residential construction within the Political Subdivision where the Authorized Provider is providing inspection services.

"Inactive Building and Construction Inspector" means a previously licensed Building and Construction Inspector, having successfully passed an examination by a Committee-approved national certification program, does not meet all requirements of the Oklahoma Inspectors Act to perform building and construction inspections pursuant to the Oklahoma Inspectors Act until all requirements are met.

"OUBCC" means the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission.

"Political Subdivision" means a municipality, city, town, village, county, or public trust where a city or town is a beneficiary.

"Provisional License" means a license issued to a Building and Construction Inspector who is an employee of a Political Subdivision on a provisional basis and limited to a maximum of one (1) year in each license category for the purpose of enabling an applicant to meet the certification requirements.

"Recognized" means when a Political Subdivision, having managerial and superintending control over building codes, determines for the Political Subdivision that a licensee is qualified to perform inspections within the Political Subdivision, is aware the licensee is free of direction and control of any person, entity or performing or designing contractor requesting the inspection, and can notify the Construction Industries Board of the same upon request.

"Regular work place" means the immediate individual office including desk, chair, computer and office telephone wherein the inspector is expected to be reached and to conduct day-to-day office business.

"Report Writer" means any person recognized by a Political Subdivision having managerial and superintending control over building codes as a report writer for purposes of furnishing report-writing services on behalf of the Building Official. This person must be approved by the Building Official or designated code official, provided he or she has no conflict of interest and satisfies the requirements of the Political Subdivision as to qualifications, ethical standards and reliability in the process and services. The individual's furnished written reports shall be provided and acceptable to the Building Official, designated code official or Political Subdivision for final code evaluation. A report writer must be an employee of or recognized by the Political Subdivision.

"Residential" means the classification of inspector license which authorizes an individual to conduct electrical, mechanical, plumbing or building inspections of only those structures designated as use group R3 or R4 in the most current Residential code adopted by the "OUBCC".

"Unlimited" means the classification of inspector license which authorizes an individual to conduct electrical, mechanical, plumbing or building inspections of all structures or installations.

SUBCHAPTER 3. PROCEDURES OF THE COMMITTEE

158:60-3-1. Procedures of the Committee

- (a) The Committee shall serve the Construction Industries Board in an advisory capacity, assist and advise on all matters pertaining to the formation of rules pursuant to the Act, and assist and advised the Administrator, as needed, on the national certification and examination, by contract or otherwise, and licensing of applicants for Building and Construction Inspector license, and shall act as advisor on all matters related to the licensing of building and construction inspectors, in accordance with these rules and the Act.
- (b) Committee meetings will be held in the principal offices of the Construction Industries Board referenced at OAC 158:1-3-1, unless posted otherwise according to the Open Meeting Act. The Committee shall meet as often as is necessary, but at least once each quarter when applications are pending.
- (c) The public may communicate with the Committee, in person or by mail, through the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board.
- (d) Application for licensure shall be done by submitting an application to the Construction Industries Board ~~on a form~~ provided by the Construction Industries Board.

SUBCHAPTER 5. CATEGORIES AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF INSPECTOR LICENSES, QUALIFICATIONS FOR INSPECTOR LICENSURE, LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR INSPECTORS, FEES, CERTIFICATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR INSPECTORS, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

158:60-5-2. Qualifications for inspector licensure

- (a) Initial application must be made on the form provided by the Administrator and the licensure must be approved by the employing or recognizing Political Subdivision.
- (b) The proper fees must accompany any application, including the late fee if application for renewal is made after expiration of the initial license.
- (c) Be employed by a Political Subdivision with a population over 10,000 unless acting as a circuit rider or Authorized Provider then the person must be licensed regardless of Political Subdivision population size.
- (d) The applicant must submit, as soon as is practicable after application for initial license is made, proof of certification by successful completion of a national examination approved by the Committee.
- (e) No license shall be issued for longer than one (1) year and all licenses shall expire on the end of the birth month of the licensee.
- (f) Before an application for license renewal can be approved, the Board must receive proof of completion of the required C.E.U.'s.
- (g) OAC 158:60-5-4 sets forth the licensing qualifications for the license categories and classifications provided in OAC 158:60-5-1. Additional certifications or exams may be recognized by approval of the Committee and the Construction Industries Board on a case by

case basis. However, no person shall be required to meet the continuing education requirements for the licensing year the certification requirements of subsection (d) of this Section are met.

(h) A provisional license is issued to allow a person to work as an inspector even though all the license requirements have not been met. This provisional license will provide the licensee with adequate time and motivation to become educated and meet all licensure requirements within one (1) year after being issued the provisional license. No person shall be issued more than one provisional license in any license category. At the end of the one (1) year, the provisional license for the specified category and classification will expire. To continue performing inspections in the same category and classification as the expired provisional license an individual must meet the certification requirements to be a licensed inspector. A person cannot renew a provisional license in the category and classification previously held, but may obtain a provisional license in a different classification or category to perform work in that classification and category. The fee for the provisional license shall be ~~\$35.00~~ as stated in 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5).

158:60-5-4. Fees, certification and continuing education for inspectors

(a) **Requirements.** The fees for an individual holding more than one inspector license category is capped at the cost for one category thereby the total cost for all license categories is the same total cost as the cost for one license category if application is made at the same time for multiple categories. The same fee structure for the inspector license classifications applies to the Authorized provider and provisional classifications. Fees, certification and continuing education requirements for inspectors are as follows:

- (1) Building inspectors (both unlimited and residential licenses):
 - (A) ~~\$35.00~~ Fee for initial license and renewal, see 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5);
 - (B) \$35.00 Late fee, if applicable;
 - (C) Approved Certification; and
 - (D) Completion of six (6) C.E.U.'s for renewal license.
- (2) Electrical inspectors (both unlimited and residential licenses):
 - (A) ~~\$35.00~~ Fee for initial license and renewal, see 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5);
 - (B) \$35.00 Late fee, if applicable;
 - (C) Approved Certification; and
 - (D) Completion of six (6) C.E.U.'s for renewal license.
- (3) Mechanical inspectors (both unlimited and residential licenses):
 - (A) ~~\$35.00~~ Fee for initial license and renewal, see 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5);
 - (B) \$35.00 Late fee, if applicable;
 - (C) Approved Certification; and
 - (D) Completion of six (6) C.E.U.'s for renewal license.
- (4) Plumbing inspectors (both unlimited and residential licenses):
 - (A) ~~\$35.00~~ Fee for initial license and renewal, see 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5);
 - (B) \$35.00 Late fee, if applicable;
 - (C) Approved Certification; and
 - (D) Completion of six (6) C.E.U.'s for renewal license.
- (5) Energy Code inspector (both unlimited and residential licenses):
 - (A) ~~\$35.00~~ Fee for initial license and renewal, see 59 O.S. § 1000.5(A)(5);
 - (B) \$35.00 Late fee, if applicable;
 - (C) Approved Certification;
 - (D) Completion of six (6) C.E.U.'s for renewal license.

(b) **One time low-income fee waiver.** See OAC 158:1-3-13(c) regarding eligibility on a one-time, one-year fee waiver.