

NASCLA ACCREDITED ELECTRICAL EXAMINATION PROGRAM



Who is NASCLA



The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) was formed in 1962 for the mutual assistance of its members striving for the better regulation of the construction industry to protect the health, welfare and safety of the general public. It has since grown to a membership of 41 contractor licensing agencies in 28 states, Washington, D.C., Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

What is the **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program**?

The **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program** was developed to meet the needs of regulatory agencies across the country and to improve the overall quality and validity of trade licensing examinations to allow for contractor mobility. These examinations were developed with the support of national trade associations, union and non-union, along with NASCLA State Regulatory Members from across the country.

The **NASCLA Accredited Examination for Commercial General Building Contractors** was launched for state agency adoption in 2009 with now 18 /21 possible state regulatory agencies with this classification utilizing the program.

More information on these participating regulatory agencies for the commercial general building contractor classification can be found by visiting:

nascla.org/page/ParticipatingAgencies

In 2018, the **NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program** was launched with trade examinations for Electrical Contractors (Master/Unlimited Electricians), Journeyman Electricians, and Residential Electrical Contractors (Residential Electricians). Since its launch, program participation continues to grow through regulatory agencies across the country utilizing one (1) or more examinations within the program.

More information on these participating regulatory agencies for the electrical classification can be found by visiting:

nascla.org/page/ParticipatingAgencies_Electrical

What are the benefits of the **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program**?

The **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program** offers the potential for greater mobility—allowing contractors and tradespeople to move quickly between participating states to provide assistance during natural disasters, or to help meet demand in states with a high need but limited supply of qualified contractors. The shared examinations also reduce the need for contractors and tradespeople to spend time, money and stress traveling to different states to take multiple exams. NASCLA's Accredited Examinations allow for contractors and tradespeople to pass one (1) trade examination that will be accepted in lieu of the state specific trade examination, allowing for mobility.

What are the key regulatory agency benefits for utilizing the **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program**?

- **Occupational Analysis** was developed by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from across the country to define the scope of trade work in terms of tasks that contractors within each classification must perform and the knowledge they must master to work safely and competently.
- **Examination Content** for each examination is based on a current occupational analysis utilizing SMEs throughout the United States, linking the job content to the test questions to establish the validity of the examinations.
- All items are **psychometrically pretested** before use in the examination; the examination item pool is periodically being updated with new items to ensure the item content is current and not exposed.
- **Examination Statistics** are continually monitored to ensure that questions are performing effectively.



Who created the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program?

The **NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program** was initiated by NASCLA in cooperation with the following associations:

-  **NECA** National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)
-  **IEC** Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC)
-  **NEMA** National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
-  **IAEI** International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI)
-  **WECA** Western Electrical Contractors Association (WECA)

Is the NASCLA Accredited Examination Program considered a "National License"?

No. The **NASCLA Accredited Examination Program** provides a shared standard for examinations, but it is not intended to create a "National License". Each regulatory agency will maintain its sovereignty and will be in control of its agency's licensing requirements and applications including requiring, in addition to the NASCLA Accredited Trade Examination transcript/waiver, a business & law exam, proof of experience, certifications, character/criminal background checks, financial statements, etc.

Who can take the examinations?

The **NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program** consists of three (3) open book examinations, one (1) for each of the following job types:

Electrical Contractors (Master/Unlimited Electricians):

One who conducts business in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical work conforming to applicable standards and codes.

Journeyman Electricians: An individual who has demonstrated competency in the knowledge and skills needed to properly perform the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical work conforming to applicable standards and codes.

Residential Electrical Contractors (Residential Electricians):

One who demonstrates competency in performing electrical installations, service, repair and maintenance typically encountered in a permanent dwelling unit.

How is the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program administered or delivered?

The examinations must be administered and delivered through a NASCLA Approved Provider if using a 3rd party testing provider. For a list of NASCLA Approved Providers, please refer to the NASCLA website. The examinations are computer based and must be taken in a secure testing location. When a regulatory agency chooses to administer the exam(s), the candidate fees for the examination are negotiated between the regulatory agency and the testing provider. From that fee, NASCLA receives \$25 per examination administered under a regulatory agency, quarterly, from the testing provider.

Does a regulatory agency have to utilize all the examination classifications within the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program?

No. There are two (2) options to participate in the program, utilizing one or more of the examinations, Acceptance and/or Administration:

- Agencies can accept an examination(s) as a waiver in lieu of their required agency specific trade portion.
- Agencies can also administer the examination(s) in addition to or to replace their own agency's specific trade examination through their preferred testing provider.

What the examinations cover:

Electrical Contractors (Master/Unlimited Electricians)

Content Domains	# of Items
Project Design and Management	8
Safety	9
Electrical Theory	11
General Code Requirements	17
Wiring and Protection	17
Wiring Methods and Materials	16
Equipment for General Use	13
Special Occupancies, Equipment and Conditions	8
Communication Systems	1

Journeyman Electricians

Content Domains	# of Items
Interpreting Plans and Specifications	8
Basic Electrical Safety	6
Electrical Theory and Principles	10
Testing and Troubleshooting	7
General Code Requirements	15
Wiring and Protection	18
Wiring Methods and Materials	16
Equipment for General Use	10
Special Occupancies and Equipment	8
Special Conditions and Communication Systems	2

Residential Electrician/Residential Electrical Contractors

Content Domains	# of Items
Theory	9
Personal/Job Safety (OSHA, NFPA70E)	8
Project Design, Estimating and Management	8
Grounding and Bonding	14
Special System and Equipment Installations	7
Tools and Test Equipment	7
Circuit Protection and Installation	16
Wiring Methods and Practices	17
Equipment for General Use	13
Energy Efficiency/Management	1

Will candidates need to apply to take an examination within the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program?

Yes. Candidates must follow the rules for administering regulatory agencies for application procedures. If not under an administering regulatory agency, candidates will need to apply through NASCLA to be approved. After passing, candidates will then follow the same application guidelines that are set forth with the regulatory agency for licensure.

How many times can a candidate take an examination within the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program?

Candidates must follow the same retake policies set forth by the administering regulatory agency. Through NASCLA, candidates may take the exam up to three (3) times within one (1) year of eligibility.

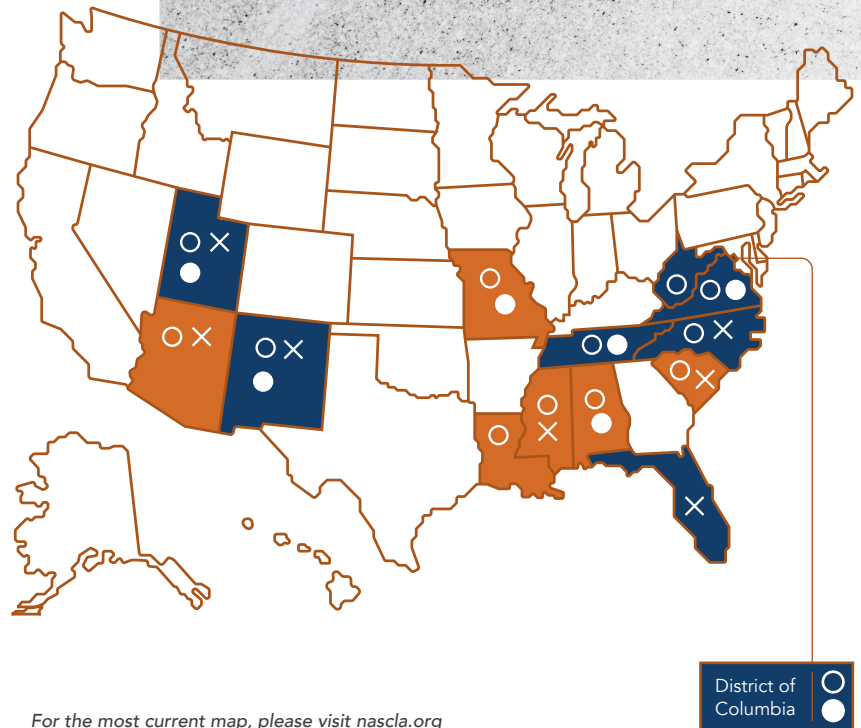
How does a candidate notify a regulatory agency of their passed scoring information?

Candidates must electronically send their transcript to the regulatory agency through the NASCLA National Examination Database (NED) located on ned.nascla.org. Regulatory agency staff members will get an email notification when the transcript has been sent for them to review in the database. Candidates are typically required to also provide a copy of their passed score sheet from the testing provider.

How do other participating regulatory agencies utilize the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program?

The map to the right includes the participating regulatory agencies and which examination classifications that they have adopted. **Accepting** means they accept the examinations for waivers for their regulatory agency specific trade portion. **Administering** means that they choose to offer examinations within the program either as their sole examination for that classification or as an option for their candidates; they also will accept the examination scores for examination waivers.

Participating Agencies within the NASCLA Accredited Electrical Examination Program:



- Confirmed Administering Regulatory Agencies
- Confirmed Accepting Regulatory Agencies
- Electrical Contractor/Master Electrician
- Journeyman Electrician
- Residential Electrical Contractor



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