

## Sprinkler Fitter FAQs

1. Why does my Sprinkler Fitter Certificate expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018?

Per [California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 5.5, Section 939\(d\)](#) states: *“An original certification shall be valid from the date of issuance through June 30th. Thereafter, each certification shall be renewed annually and is valid from July 1st through June 30th.”*

2. Does the individual C-16 holder have to obtain Sprinkler Fitter Certification also?

The C-16 license is a company license and the Sprinkler Fitter Certification is an individual certification. Therefore, if the individual C-16 license holder will personally be doing installation, alteration, and/or repair work on water-based fire protection systems then he/she will be required to be certified also.

3. If I apply for Commercial Certification will I be able to do both Commercial and Multi-Family Residential installations?

Yes, Commercial Certification will allow the individual to do both commercial and multi-family residential installation while Multi-Family Certification only allows the individual to do installations in residential structures with three (3) or more dwelling units up to, and including, four (4) stories in height.

4. Now that it is past the “Implementation Period,” what are the requirements for certification?

An individual applying for Commercial Certification must be at least 16 years of age and either:

- 1) Provide documentation he/she has completed a minimum 5 year 7,000 hours California State or federally-approved Sprinkler Fitter Apprenticeship Program;
- 2) Possess a valid CSLB C-16 license; or
- 3) Documentation that an out-of-state applicant possesses at least 5 years and 7,000 hours of verified work experience with the scope of the regulations.

An individual applying for Multi-Family Residential Certification must be at least 16 years of age and either:

- 1) Provide documentation he/she has completed a minimum 2 year 3,500 hours California State or federally-approved Sprinkler Fitter Apprenticeship Program;
- 2) Possess a valid CSLB C-16 license; or

3) Documentation that an out-of-state applicant possesses at least 2 years and 3,500 hours of verified work experience with the scope of the regulations.

5. What should I put on my resume?

The resume should state your experience and scope of work (i.e. installation of overhead piping, installation of controlling valves, repair, inspection, testing, drawings, plans, safety training, etc.) as it relates to sprinkler systems.

Below are the important dates to keep in mind:

**July 1, 2017** – Regulations became effective. No certification cards for Sprinkler Fitters are required until July 1, 2018 (at least one per jobsite). No registration cards are required for Apprentices and Trainees until January 1, 2019.

**December 31, 2017** – Deadline for Journeyman Fire Sprinkler Fitters, those who possess an active C-16, or those employed by a C-16 who meet the minimum qualifications to certify without taking the certification examination.

**January 1, 2018** – All applicants for certification must either hold a valid CSLB C-16 license or complete a California State or Federally-approved Fire Sprinkler Fitter Apprenticeship Program (Journeyman) and pass a written examination.

**July 1, 2018** – Requires at least one certified sprinkler fitter per job site.

**January 1, 2019** – All fitters shall possess a certification card, all trainees and apprentices shall possess a registration card on jobsites.

[California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 5.5](#), Section 947(b)-(d) states: *“No certification card shall be required within one (1) year, (365 days) of the effective date (July 1, 2017) of this Chapter.*

*(c) Commencing on the second (2nd) year (366th day) of the effective date of this Chapter there shall be a minimum of one (1) certified sprinkler fitter on each job site.*

*(d) Commencing on the 18th month (545th day) of the effective date of this Chapter all persons on the jobsite performing installation, alteration or repair of water-based fire protection systems shall possess a certification or registration card.”*