

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

BUILDING INSPECTOR - OBJECTIVE

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of This Classification Specification

This classification specification is the basic authority under ER 2.04, Wis. Adm. Code, for making classification decisions relative to present and future positions that have responsibilities within a statewide building inspection program in the Division of Safety and Buildings, Department of Commerce. Positions allocated to this series are included in the Technical Bargaining Unit. This classification specification will not specifically identify every eventuality or combination of duties and responsibilities of positions that currently exist, or those that result from changing program emphasis in the future. Rather, it is designed to serve as a framework for classification decision-making in this occupational area.

Classification decisions must be based on the “best fit” of the duties within the existing classification structure. The “best fit” is determined by the majority (i.e., more than 50%) of the work assigned to and performed by the position when compared to the class concepts and definition of this specification or through other methods of position analysis. Position analysis defines the nature and character of the work through the use of any or all of the following: definition statements; listing of areas of specialization; representative examples of work performed; allocation patterns of representative positions; job evaluation guide charts, standards or factors; statements of inclusion and exclusion; licensure or certification requirements; and other such information necessary to facilitate the assignment of positions to the appropriate classification.

B. Inclusions

These technical positions provide skilled compliance inspection work located within the Division of Safety and Buildings, Department of Commerce. These positions devote the majority of their time and are primarily responsible for the inspection of commercial buildings during construction, enforcement, and the inspection of existing buildings within the statewide inspection program. Positions included in this series must meet the qualifications prescribed under Section III.

C. Exclusions

Excluded from this series are the following types of positions:

1. Positions not in the Department of Commerce, Division of Safety and Buildings.
2. Supervisory and management positions as defined in ss. 111.81(19) and (13), Wis. Stats., and administered by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission.
3. Positions that spend the majority of time (more than 50%) with responsibility for review of commercial building, HVAC, fire suppression and alarm, and structural building plans

to determine compliance with relevant safety codes and are more appropriately classified as Engineering Consultant.

4. All other positions that are more appropriately identified by other classification specifications.

D. Entrance and Progression Through This Series

Employees enter Building Inspector – Entry positions by competitive examination. Progression to the Building Inspector – Objective level will occur through reclassification.

II. DEFINITIONS

This is the objective level for positions in this classification that are responsible for assuring that commercial buildings under construction comply with approved building plans and the building safety code by performing on-site inspections. Positions in this class perform the following combination of duties for a majority of time, under general supervision: Inspect existing buildings and buildings under construction to determine their conformity with the required “conditional plan approval” and Wisconsin Building Regulations. Follow-up to ensure corrective actions are taken to meet the conditions of the approval. Prepare reports to document inspections and changes required. Write orders with a compliance date if code violations are noted. Consult with proper officials such as building owners, engineers, architects, contractors and attorneys to ensure proper construction in accordance with the Wisconsin Administrative Building, Heating and Ventilating Code. Evaluate reports prepared by consulting architects/engineers on code related problems. Consult with architects and engineers in the field and advise on construction matters including options available to achieve code compliance based on knowledge of sound construction design principles to meet the building codes. Resolve conflicts between the local building inspectors, building owners, contractors and/or designers. Investigate structural failures to determine the cause of the failures. Provide expert testimony as required for legal proceedings involving code related construction problems. Perform building inspections that are generated by public inquiries concerning public health and life-safety issues. Conduct on-site field evaluations of erosion control plans and related construction for projects that disturb less than 5 acres of land.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

Certification as a Building Inspector is required at the Objective level. Qualifications required for these positions will be the education, training, work or other life experience that would provide reasonable assurance that the knowledge and skills required upon appointment have been acquired. These knowledge and skills include: certification as a Commercial Inspector and certification as a Uniform Dwelling Code Inspector in the 5 disciplines of Construction, Heating and Ventilating, Electrical, Energy and Plumbing; construction principles; related materials, component systems and methods of fabrication; knowledge of the Wisconsin Administrative Building and Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Code; skill in understanding blueprints, construction sketches and drawing; knowledge of Wisconsin State Statute 101.11; skill in communications and organization; and some knowledge of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, American Society of Testing Materials, American Gas Association listings, International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical official codes, Hardwood Plywood Manufacturers Association, and National Electrical Code NFPA-1987.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

This series was created as Building Inspector 1 and 2 on May 15, 1994 and announced in Bulletin CC/SC-14, as a result of the DILHR Division of Safety & Buildings Survey. The specification and the classification titles were modified effective December 14, 2003 and announced in Bulletin OSER-0006-MRS-SC to eliminate references to functions no longer performed by the Building Inspector positions and to convert the series to a progression series in which employees may reasonably expect to achieve the objective level with satisfactory performance of increasingly complex duties or the attainment of specified, training, education or experience.

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