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Landscaper Certification Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: John Arthur

Senate Sponsor:

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LONG TITLE

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General Description:

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This bill amends provisions relating to landscape work.

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Highlighted Provisions:

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This bill:

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- ▶ requires that the Division of Professional Licensing (division) define landscape work;
- ▶ requires that the division specify the licensees that may engage in landscape work;
- ▶ provides continuing education requirements for a licensee that engages in landscape work; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

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Money Appropriated in this Bill:

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None

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Other Special Clauses:

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None

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Utah Code Sections Affected:

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AMENDS:

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58-55-302.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 201

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

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Section 1. Section **58-55-302.5** is amended to read:

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58-55-302.5 . Continuing education requirements for contractor licensees --

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Continuing education courses.

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(1)(a) [Each] A contractor licensee under a license issued under this chapter shall

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complete six hours of approved continuing education during each two-year renewal cycle established by rule under Subsection 58-55-303(1).

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(b) [Each] A contractor licensee who has a renewal cycle that ends on or after January 1, 2020, may complete one hour of approved continuing education on energy conservation as part of the six required hours.

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31 (2)(a) The commission shall, with the concurrence of the division, establish by rule
32 made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,
33 a program of approved continuing education for contractor licensees.

34 (b) Except as provided in Subsections (2)(c) and (e), only courses offered by any of the
35 following may be included in the program of approved continuing education for
36 contractor licensees:

37 (i) the Associated General Contractors of Utah;
38 (ii) Associated Builders and Contractors, Utah Chapter;
39 (iii) the Utah Home Builders Association;
40 (iv) the National Electrical Contractors Association Intermountain Chapter;
41 (v) the Utah Plumbing & Heating Contractors Association;
42 (vi) the Independent Electrical Contractors of Utah;
43 (vii) the Rocky Mountain Gas Association;
44 (viii) the Utah Mechanical Contractors Association;
45 (ix) the Sheet Metal Contractors Association;
46 (x) the Intermountain Electrical Association;
47 (xi) the American Subcontractors Association, Utah Chapter; or
48 (xii) Utah Roofing Contractors Association.

49 (c) An approved continuing education program for a contractor licensee may include a
50 course approved by an entity described in Subsections (2)(b)(i) through (2)(b)(iii).

51 (d)(i) Except as provided in Subsections (2)(d)(ii) and (iii), an entity listed in
52 Subsections (2)(b)(iv) through (2)(b)(xii) may only offer and market continuing
53 education courses to a licensee who is a member of the entity.

54 (ii) An entity described in Subsection (2)(b)(iv), (vi), or (x) may offer and market a
55 continuing education course that the entity offers to satisfy the continuing
56 education requirement described in Subsection 58-55-302.7(2)(a) to a contractor
57 in the electrical trade.

58 (iii) An entity described in Subsection (2)(b)(v) or (viii) may offer and market a
59 continuing education course that the entity offers to satisfy:
60 (A) the continuing education requirement described in Subsection
61 58-55-302.7(2)(b) to a contractor in the plumbing trade; or
62 (B) the continuing education requirement described in Subsection (1) for a
63 contractor licensee that is licensed in the specialty contractor classification of
64 HVAC contractor.

65 (e) An approved continuing education program for a contractor licensee may include a
66 course offered and taught by:
67 (i) a state executive branch agency;
68 (ii) the workers' compensation insurance carrier that provides workers' compensation
69 insurance under Section 31A-22-1001; or
70 (iii) a nationally or regionally accredited college or university that has a physical
71 campus in the state.

72 (f) For a contractor licensee that is licensed in the specialty contractor classification of
73 HVAC contractor, at least three of the six hours described in Subsection (1) shall
74 include continuing education directly related to the installation, repair, or
75 replacement of a heating, ventilation, or air conditioning system.

76 (3)(a) The division shall, by rule:

77 (i) define landscape work; and
78 (ii) identify the licensees that may engage in landscape work.

79 (b) In addition to the six hours of continuing education described in Subsection (1),
80 during each two-year renewal cycle, a licensee described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii) shall
81 complete at least three hours of additional continuing education that cover the
82 following topics:

83 (i) water conservation landscaping principles, including:
84 (A) understanding water scarcity in this state;
85 (B) selecting drought tolerant plants that are native to this state;
86 (C) efficient irrigation design; and
87 (D) soil amendment techniques for soil retention; and
88 (ii) fire risk management landscaping principles, including:
89 (A) designing a landscape to prevent the spread of fire; and
90 (B) incorporating rocks, concrete, and other materials to prevent the spread of fire.

91 [3] (4) The division may contract with a person to establish and maintain a continuing
92 education registry to include:

93 (a) a list of courses that the division has approved for inclusion in the program of
94 approved continuing education; and
95 (b) a list of courses that:
96 (i) a contractor licensee has completed under the program of approved continuing
97 education; and
98 (ii) the licensee may access to monitor the licensee's compliance with the continuing

99 education requirement established under Subsection (1).

100 [4] (5) The division may charge a fee, as established by the division under Section
101 63J-1-504, to administer the requirements of this section.

102 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

103 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.