

**TITLE 14 HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION**  
**CHAPTER 9 MECHANICAL CODES**  
**PART 5 MEDICAL GAS INSTALLATION AND CERTIFICATION**

**14.9.5.1 ISSUING AGENCY:** The Construction Industries Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department.  
[14.9.5.1 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.1 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.2 SCOPE:** This rule shall apply to all individuals installing, altering, repairing, servicing and maintaining medical gas and vacuum systems in level I, level II, and level III installations. These systems shall include compressed air, piped gas, and piped vacuum systems in dental office installations.  
[14.9.5.2 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.2 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Sections 60-13-9 and 60-13-44 NMSA 1978.  
[14.9.5.3 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.3 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.4 DURATION:** Permanent.  
[14.9.5.4 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.4 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 1, 2014, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.  
[14.9.5.5 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.5 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.6 OBJECTIVE:** The objective of 14.9.5 NMAC is to promote the general welfare of the people of New Mexico by providing for the protection of life and property through the adoption and enforcement of construction codes.  
[14.9.5.6 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.6 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.7 DEFINITIONS:**

**A.** Unregistered apprentice means a person who, for the purpose of learning a trade of journeyman and is not registered in an apprenticeship program recognized by the New Mexico state apprenticeship council.

**B.** Direct supervision means reasonable oversight, inspection and evaluation of the work of a person by constant on the jobsite supervision by a certified journeyman.  
[14.9.5.7 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.7 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.8 JOURNEYMAN CERTIFICATION AND ENDORSEMENT**

**A.** Medical gas and vacuum systems installations, alterations, repairs, service and maintenance shall be performed by a properly certified JP, JG, JPG or JPF that meet the requirements of American society of sanitary engineers; standard 6010 professional qualification standard for medical gas and vacuum system installers.

**B.** The New Mexico medical gas endorsement shall be issued by the division to a properly certified journeyman upon successful completion of an approved minimum 32 hour medical gas and vacuum systems course that meets the requirements of American society of sanitary engineers; standard 6010 professional qualification standard for medical gas and vacuum system installers.

**C.** The minimum 32-hour approved medical gas training course shall consist of a minimum of two parts: (1) installer training and proctored exam, and (2) a brazing coupon sent to an independent third-party laboratory for testing as per American society of sanitary engineers; standard 6010 professional qualification standard for medical gas and vacuum system installers, and Chapter 13 of the current adopted New Mexico plumbing code.  
[14.9.5.8 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.8 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.9 QUALIFYING FOR THE MEDICAL GAS ENDORSEMENT:** [RESERVED]

[14.9.5.9 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.9 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.10 RECERTIFICATION**

**A.** Journeymen carrying a medical gas endorsement shall maintain a current journeyman certification pursuant to Section D, 14.6.4 NMAC. The journeyman shall take an approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training course every three (3) years.

**B.** Approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training courses shall be as per American society sanitary engineers, standard 6010.

**C.** All New Mexico approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training courses shall meet the requirements of American society sanitary engineers, standard 6000 professional qualifications standard for medical gas systems, personnel certification and Chapter 13 of the current adopted New Mexico plumbing code. The approved course shall be a minimum of eight (8) hours and be followed by a proctored exam with a passing score.  
[14.9.5.10 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.10 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.11 APPRENTICES:** A journeyman certificate of competence in the appropriate trade classification for the work to be performed is required of all individuals performing mechanical and plumbing work; provided however, that an apprentice, as that term is defined in CILA Section 60-13-2, may work under the direct supervision of a validly certified journeyman, as that term is defined in CILA Section 60-13-2, who is employed by a validly licensed person, as that term is defined in CILA Section 60-13-2, or a holder of a valid annual permit. Journeyman certifications shall be issued such that the certificates parallel the mechanical and plumbing license classification numbers and scopes. The ratio of certified journeyman to unregistered apprentices must not exceed: (1) one journeyman to two unregistered apprentices on commercial or industrial work, and (2) one journeyman to three unregistered apprentices on residential work.

[14.9.5.11 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.11 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.12 PERMITTING OF MEDICAL GAS WORK:**

- A. Permits required for medical gas and vacuum systems shall be pursuant to 14.5.2 NMAC.
- B. Plans and document submittals for medical gas and vacuum systems shall be pursuant to Section 10 of 14.5.2

NMAC.

[14.9.5.12 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.12 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.13 VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION OF MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS:**

- A. Qualifications for medical gas and vacuum system verifiers:

(1) Medical gas and vacuum systems shall be verified by third-party verifiers who meet the requirements of American society of sanitary engineers, standard 6030 professional qualification standard for medical gas and vacuum system verifiers and Chapter 13 of the current adopted New Mexico plumbing code;

(2) Medical gas and vacuum system verifiers shall not be, or work for, the installing contractor, design professional or manufacturer;

(3) Medical gas and vacuum system verifiers shall meet the inspection standards and requirements of the health care facility in which the medical gas and vacuum system is being verified;

(4) Re-certification of medical gas and vacuum system verifiers inspecting projects containing medical gas and vacuum systems shall meet the requirements of American society of sanitary engineers, standard 6030 professional qualification standard for medical gas and vacuum system verifiers;

(5) Approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training courses shall be a minimum of eight (8) hours and be followed by a proctored exam with a passing score;

B. State and local building inspectors shall inspect medical gas and vacuum systems pursuant to Chapter 13 of the current adopted NMPC and Section 9, Subsection E of 14.5.3.9 NMAC;

C. No state or local building shall issue a final inspection for (mechanical/plumbing final and general construction final) a medical gas and vacuum system project without first receiving proper and complete documentation from the medical gas and vacuum system verifier;

D. If there is a dispute regarding code compliance between a medical gas and vacuum system verifier and a state or local inspector, the mechanical bureau chief of the construction industries division shall make the final determination, subject to the appeal rights currently in effect under the construction industries division rules.

[14.9.5.13 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.13 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.14 APPLICABLE CODES:**

A. All construction industries division systems shall be installed in compliance with Chapter 13 of the NMPC; provided, however, that a dental office, as defined in Section 3.3.108 of the NFPA 99-C, 2005 edition, in which nitrous oxide will be administered without a halogenated agent shall comply with the NFPA's level three (3) piped gas and vacuum systems standard for waste anesthetic gas disposal systems.

B. All medical gas and vacuum systems shall be installed in compliance with Chapter 13 health care facilities and medical gas and vacuum systems and the applicable referenced standards in table 14-1 of the currently adopted New Mexico plumbing code.

C. All individuals installing a medical gas and vacuum system shall comply with all applicable codes, standards, rules and regulations adopted by the construction industries division, or the division's and shall be subject to possible revocation or suspension of their licenses and certificates of competence, and assessment of an administrative penalty pursuant to the CILA Section 60-13-23 and Section 23.1, NMSA 1978.

[14.9.5.14 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.14 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.15 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CODE STANDARDS OR REQUIREMENTS: [RESERVED]**

[14.9.5.15 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.15 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**14.9.5.16 STATE AND LOCAL INSPECTORS:**

A. State and local building inspectors inspecting projects containing medical gas and vacuum systems shall be certified and shall meet the requirements of American society sanitary engineers, standard 6020, professional qualification standard for

medical gas and vacuum system inspectors;

**B.** Re-certification of state and local inspectors inspecting projects containing medical gas and vacuum systems shall meet the requirements of American society of sanitary engineers, standard 6020.

**C.** Approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training courses shall be a minimum of eight (8) hours and be followed by a proctored exam with a passing score.

[14.9.5.16 NMAC - Rp, 14.9.5.16 NMAC, 05/01/14]

**HISTORY OF 14.9.5 NMAC:**

**Pre NMAC History:** None.

**History of Repealed Material:**

14.9.5 NMAC, Medical Gas Installation and Certification (filed 05/08/2007) repealed 5/01/14.

**NMAC History:**

14 NMAC 9.5, Medical Gas Installation and Certification (filed 05/15/2000) was also renumbered, reformatted and amended to 14.9.5 NMAC, Medical Gas Installation and Certification, effective 6/06/07.

14.9.5 NMAC, Medical Gas Installation and Certification (filed 05/08/2007) was replaced by 14.9.5 NMAC, Medical Gas Installation and Certification, effective 05/01/14.