



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Electrical Board

BRAD LITTLE
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RUSSELL BARRON
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Draft Minutes of 04/29/2026

Board	Rick Stark, Chair	Division	Amy Lorenzo, Executive Officer
Members	Jim Marchetti, Vice-Chair	Staff	Gabe Arroyo, Legal Counsel
Present:	Chad Fields	Present:	Steve Greene, Electrical Program Mgr.
	Josh Madsen		Melissa Ferguson, Education Prog. Sup.
	Jeff Bradley		Ashlee Boyle, Licensing Supervisor
	Alex Owens		Liz McClung, Investigations Supervisor
	Paul Cook		Charlotte Kovac, Board Support Spc.
	Casey Wilson		

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM MT by Chair Rick Stark.

Approval of 01/28/2026 Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 28, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Financial Report: Executive Officer (EO) Amy Lorenzo presented the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Quarter 3 financial report.

Legislative Update: EO Lorenzo provided an update on legislation affecting DOPL and the Board. [House Bill 585](#) was passed, establishing the electrical, plumbing and mechanical inspection timelines and the refund policies for inspections requested by permit holders. EO Lorenzo and the Board also discussed [Senate Bill 1415](#), which proposed a transition from a state-run inspection model to a system utilizing state certified private inspectors. This bill was introduced but did not pass. [House Bill 612](#), which proposed amendments to Idaho Public Utility Law to allow for the use of “portable solar generation devices” was introduced but did not pass. Finally, [House Bill 703](#), the Executive Agency Legislation for Universal Discipline, was passed.

BOARD BUSINESS

License Base Report: Licensing Supervisor Ashlee Boyle presented the License Base Report from January 28, 2026, to April 23, 2026. Since January 28, 2026, more than 1,500 licenses have been issued including 250 licenses for Electrical Apprentice Registrations. Total active license count rose to over 22,000.

NOV Report: Investigation Supervisor (IS) Liz McClung presented the Notice of Violation (NOV) report from July 1, 2025, to April 14, 2026, noting that of the 38 cases received, 27 violations have been issued.

Exam Vouchers and Pass Rates: Education Program Supervisor (EPS) Melissa Ferguson presented the pass rates for the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) and the State of Idaho Journeyman and Master electrical exams from December 1, 2025, to April 25, 2026. EPS Ferguson fielded questions from the Board and the public on ideal pass rates, the process used to analyze questions with high fail rates, and exam costs.

EPS Ferguson detailed the procurement and utilization of the exam voucher program. In total, 193 exam vouchers have been issued and 115 of those vouchers have been used so far. 72 vouchers have been used for the State of Idaho exams, and 43 vouchers have been used to retake the NASCLA Idaho exams.

Pump Installer Exam Update: A preliminary Pump Installer Exam is being established but has seen low involvement in testing the exam. EO Lorenzo invited participants to take the preliminary exam for feedback. EO Lorenzo will provide an update at the next meeting.

Electrical Exam(s): A motion was made and seconded to continue offering the NASCLA Journeyman and Master exam until the end of FY2026. Beginning FY2027, the NASCLA exams will no longer be offered through PSI for Idaho applicants; Idaho will administer only the exam developed by PSI. Interested applicants can continue to schedule and take the exam directly through NASCLA. Passing NASCLA exam scores will continue to be accepted. The motion carried unanimously.

IDOC Apprenticeship Program: Vice-Chair Marchetti and Board Member Bradley attended a guided tour of the Idaho Department of Corrections (IDOC) facility to learn more about the electrical apprenticeship program. Crystal Robles, Mike DiNardo, and Kevin Green from IDOC answered questions about the IDOC electrical apprenticeship program and education curriculum for the Board. A motion was made and seconded to approve the electrical apprenticeship training program for Year 1 & Year 2 conducted by IDOC. IDOC can request future approval for Years 3 & 4, if and when it is developed. The motion carried unanimously.

Waiver Request Delegated Authority: A motion was made and seconded to authorize DOPL staff to deny waiver requests if the licensing applicant had never met the minimum requirements. The motion carried unanimously.

Residential Electrician License: EPS Ferguson discussed the various avenues to set the standards for a residential electrician program. EPS Ferguson suggested creating a Job Task Analysis workgroup, utilizing subject matter experts from education programs and the industry, to determine necessary baseline knowledge for the residential electrician exam. A motion was made and seconded to establish a Job Task Analysis group to assess standards for a residential electrician exam. The motion carried unanimously.

Negotiated Rulemaking: A motion was made and seconded to enter into Negotiated Rulemaking for the 2027 Legislative Session, subject to authorization by the Division of Financial Management and the Office of the Governor as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: There were public comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to enter into executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss documents relating to the fitness of an applicant to obtain a license or registration. Roll call: Chair Stark – Aye; Vice-Chair Jim Marchetti – Aye; Board Member Chad Fields – Aye; Board Member Josh Madsen – Aye; Board Member Jeff Bradley – Aye; Board Member Alex Owens – Aye; Board Member Paul Cook – Aye; Board Member Casey Wilson – Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to Exit Executive Session: A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION(S) RESULTING FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion(s) re: Application(s): A motion was made and seconded to approve waiver request number 000131252-34. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 AM.



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TO: Idaho Electrical Board
 FROM: Melissa Ferguson - Education, Curriculum and Exam Program Supervisor
 DATE: April 29, 2026
 RE: Exams Report

An overview of the projects and activities of the Exam and Education Department since the previous meeting.

Examination Statistics

In accordance with the direction from the Board, DOPL issued 193 exam vouchers to candidates who initially failed the NASCLA exams.

The following reports summarize the information gathered regarding voucher usage, overall pass rates for each of the four journeyman and master exams. The data distinguishes between initial attempts (candidates taking the new Idaho or NASCLA exam for the first time since the December 1 transition) and repeat attempts (candidates who failed their first attempt at the new exams and tested again.)

The first time and retake data captured here only addresses exams occurring after December 1. Candidate attempts prior to December 1 using the previous NASCLA exams are not captured in this reporting.

The final chart shows how many candidates who have taken the exam since December 1, broken out by how many attempts have been made at the journeyman exams from December 1, 2025, to April 25, 2026, and a calculation of how many of those candidates have been successful at ultimately passing the exam.

Voucher Usage Data

Vouchers Issued	Usage		Usage by Exam Type				
	Count	Percent	Idaho	Percent	NASCLA	Percent	
Journeyman Electrician	188	112	60%	70	63%	42	38%
Master Electrician	5	3	60%	2	67%	1	33%

Journeyman Exam Administration 12/1/2025 – 4/25/2026

	Total	Absent	Pass	Fail	Pass Percent*
All Journeyman Exams	806	48	319	439	42%
NASCLA Journeyman	192	17	61	114	35%
Idaho Journeyman	614	31	258	325	44%

*This chart represents the pass rate for all exam attempts during the studied period.

Master Exam Administration 12/1/2025 – 4/25/2026

	Total	Absent	Pass	Fail	Pass Percent*
All Master Exams	44	7	15	22	41%
NASCLA Master	29	2	12	15	44%
Idaho Master	15	5	3	7	30%

*This chart represents the pass rate for all exam attempts during the studied period.

Exams Administered between 12/1/2025 – 4/25/2026

	Attempted Once				Repeated Multiple Times			
	Total	Pass	Fail	Pass Percent	Total	Pass	Fail	Pass Percent
NASCLA Journeyman	100	49	51	49%	77	12	65	16%
Idaho Journeyman	275	170	105	62%	306	85	221	28%

Progressive Candidate Success Between 12/1/2025 – 4/25/2026

Number of Attempts	Journeyman				Master			
	Total	Failed	Passed	Pass Percent**	Total	Failed	Passed	Pass Percent**
One	352	133	219	62%	24	14	10	58%
Two	117	51	66	56%	6	3	3	50%
Three	43	16	27	63%	2	2	0	0%
Four	10	5	5	50%	2	1	1	50%
Five	2	1	1	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eight	1	0	1	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Candidates	525	206	319	61%	37	22	15	41%

**This chart represents the pass rate for the unique candidates who have eventually passed the exam since December 1, 2025.

Analysis of Performance Trends:

Journeyman Exam

Candidates are performing much better on the Idaho specific journeyman exam which has an overall pass rate of 44% compared with 35% for the NASCLA exam.

The number of absences on the exam may be at least partially attributed to candidates who scheduled both exams to ensure they had a slot to take the second type of exam and then failed to cancel the exam or decided they were unprepared to retake the exam by their appointment date.

As shown in the **Number of Attempts** table, there is a diminishing rate of returns for candidates who failed on their first attempt at the exam after the new Idaho exams were introduced. For journeymen candidates, this is especially true for those taking the NASCLA exam, which shows that candidates who are taking the exam for the first time after December 1, and those who have never taken the exam previously have a pass rate of 49%, which drops to 16% after the first attempt.

In comparison, candidates taking the Idaho journeyman exam for the first time, regardless of whether they previously took the NASCLA exam have a success rate of 62% on the first attempt which plummets to 28% on their second and subsequent attempts.

Retake data on the journeyman exam indicates that candidates may be less prepared or less committed when the time comes to take their exam. This is supported by the candidate who took the journeyman exam 8 times before passing.

Master Exam

Candidates are scoring better on their initial attempt at NASCLA master exam which has an overall pass rate of 44% compared with the Idaho specific pass rate of 30%. However limited sample size means that this data is much less statistically reliable than the data for the journeyman exam.

The absentee rate for the Idaho master exam is 33%, which represents a significant waste of proctoring resources and testing seats. We will be watching this trend carefully so that interventions can be planned if absenteeism does not improve significantly in the next few months.

As with the journeyman exams, the master exams show that candidates tend to do best in their early attempts. Retake data on the master exam suggests that perhaps candidates are utilizing a strategy of testing into the license by persistence rather than increased competency.

Conclusion

While the overall pass rate across all attempts sits at 42%, our candidate success tracking shows that 61% of unique individuals who entered the testing pool since December 1 have successfully passed the exam and are ready for the next step in the licensure process. The data clearly shows that the first attempt is the most critical, as success rates drop by more than half for those entering the retake cycle.

Further, the higher success rates on the Idaho specific exams suggest a stronger alignment with local training and field experience compared to the national NASCLA standard.

NASCLA Exam Fiscal Impact

The cost per candidate for administration of the NASCLA exam is \$135. Because this exceeds the statutory exam fee of \$75, the Board voted in 2024 to pay the \$60 difference per candidate per exam.

The cost per voucher is \$75, regardless of exam administration. The following chart lays out the fees paid on behalf of candidates through March 31, 2026.

Expenses for the NASCLA Electrical Journeyman and Master Exam Administration

Period	Journeyman		Master		Total	
	Number	Cost	Number	Cost	Number	Cost
FY 2025 Exam Fees	1,323	\$79,380	95	\$5,700	1,418	\$85,080
FY 2026 Exam Fees*	954	\$57,240	55	\$3,300	1,009	\$60,540
Vouchers**	112	\$8,400	3	\$225	115	\$8,625
Total		\$145,020		\$9,225		\$154,245

* Includes invoices from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026 only.

**Includes only vouchers that have been used, not all vouchers that have been issued.

Alternative for Offsetting the Cost Difference

The cost to take the NASCLA exam through NASCLA rather than going through Idaho to take the Idaho version of the NASCLA exam is \$190. This includes the \$65 NASCLA application fee and a \$125 exam administration fee. The candidate then has one year from the NASCLA approval or three attempts (whichever occurs first) to take the NASCLA exam.