



# Backflow Assembly Testing Requirements

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[WAC 246-290-490 \(7\)\(b\)](#) and [WAC 51-56-0603.4.2](#) require inspection and testing by a Department of Health certified Backflow Assembly Tester (BAT) after installation, reinstallation, relocation, or repair of **all backflow assemblies**. Installation, maintenance, and repair of backflow assemblies installed inside a building require other licenses and registrations issued by the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I). The following table indicates the required licenses, registrations, and certifications required for each scenario found in the field.

	<b>Backflow Assembly Testing, Installation, and Repair Required Certifications and Registrations</b>			
Scope of Work on Backflow Assembly	<b>DOH BAT Certification</b>	<b>RCW18.27 Construction Contractor</b>	<b>RCW18.106 Plumbing Contractor</b>	<b>L &amp; I Plumber Certificate</b>
<b>Testing and Inspection of All Backflow Assemblies</b>	Yes	No	No	No
<b>Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Outside Buildings</b>	Advised	RCW 18.27 or RCW18.106	RCW 18.27 or RCW18.106	No
<b>Repair and Maintenance Inside Residential Buildings</b>	Advised	No	Yes	PL01 or PL02 or PL30
<b>Repair and Maintenance Inside Commercial Buildings</b>	Advised	No	Yes	PL01 or PL30
<b>Installation Inside Residential Buildings</b>	Advised	No	Yes	PL01 or PL02
<b>Installation Inside Commercial Buildings</b>	Advised	No	Yes	PL01

- It's recommended that individuals installing, maintaining, or repairing backflow assemblies possess a DOH issued BAT certification (or consult a BAT certified person) to ensure compliance with current industry standards.
- If more than one certification/registration is marked in this table, the individual must possess all indicated certifications/registrations to comply with RCW 18.106 RCW, 18.27 RCW & 70.119 RCW.
- L&I Plumber Certifications: Journey Level Plumber (PL01), Residential Plumber (PL02), Backflow Specialty Plumber (PL30).

- ◆ If a BAT provides installation, maintenance, or repair services for her/his employer only, and the employer owns the premises in which the assembly is located, neither contractor registration, plumbing contractor registration, nor plumber certification is required.

## For questions on L&I rules and regulations

Contact Bruce Springer

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## For more information

Our publications are online at [doh.wa.gov/drinkingwater](http://doh.wa.gov/drinkingwater).

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