What are the requirements to become an inspector or plans examiner?

In order to take the examination for an inspector or plans examiner license, you must be at least 18 years of age and be of good moral character. You must also comply with one of the following eligibility requirements:

a) Demonstrates five (5) years combined experience in the field of construction or a related field, building code inspection, or plans review corresponding to the certification category sought. 468.609(2)(c)(1), F.S.

b) Demonstrates a combination of postsecondary education in the field of construction, building experience which totals four (4) years, with at least one (1) year of such total being experience in construction, building code inspection, or plans review. 468.609(2)(c)(2), F.S.

c) Demonstrates a combination of technical education in the field of construction or a related field and experience which totals four (4) years, with at least one (1) year of such total being experience in construction, building code inspection, or plans review. 468.609(2)(c)(3), F.S.

d) Currently holds a standard certificate issued by the board or a firesafety inspector license issued pursuant to Chapter 633, F.S., has a minimum of three (3) years of verifiable experience in inspection or plan review, and satisfactorily completes a building code inspector or plans examiner cross-training program that provides at least two hundred (200) hours of training in the certification category sought. 468.609(2)(c)(4), F.S. [cross-training program]

e) Demonstrates a combination of the completion of an approved training program of at least three hundred (300) hours of training in the field of building code inspection or plan review and a minimum of two (2) years’ experience in the field of building code inspection, plan review, fire code inspection and fire plans review of new buildings as a firesafety inspector certified under Section 633.081(2), F.S., or construction. 468.609(2)(c)(5), F.S., [training program]

f) Currently holds a standard certificate issued by the board or a firesafety inspector license issued pursuant to Chapter 633, F.S., has at least five (5) years of verifiable experience as an inspector or plans examiner in a standard certification category currently held or has a minimum of five (5) years verifiable experience as a firesafety inspector licensed pursuant to Chapter 633, F.S., and has completed a building code inspector or plans examiner classroom training course or program that provides at least three (300) hours in the certification category sought, except for one and two family dwelling training programs which must provide at least five hundred (500) hours, but not more than eight (800) hours of training as prescribed by the board. 468.609(2)(c)(6), F.S. [training program] or

g) Completes a 4-year internship certification program as a building code inspector or plans examiner while employed full-time by a municipality, county, or other governmental jurisdiction, under the direct supervision of a certified building official (Proof of graduation with a related vocational degree or college degree or of verifiable work experience may be exchanged for the internship experience requirement year-for-year, but may reduce the requirement to no less than 1 year); has passed an examination administered by the International Code Council in the certification category sought. Such examination must be passed before beginning the internship certification program; has passed the principles and practice examination before completing the internship certification program; has passed a board-approved 40-hour code training course in the certification category sought before completing the internship certification program; and has obtained a favorable recommendation from the supervising building official after completion of the internship certification program. 468.609(2)(c)(7), F.S. [internship certification program]