

## RMGA Sponsored Apprenticeship Program – Step One: Grandfathering

Take advantage of the RMGA Sponsored HVACR Apprenticeship program, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), and “grandfather”

your key Journey-workers into the apprenticeship program, so

they can start training new HVACR apprentices in your company!

### Step 1: Grandfathering Journey-workers

Go to the RMGA website ([utrmga.org](http://utrmga.org)) and download the three files found under the Apprenticeship tab:

- Department of Labor Registration and Apprenticeship Agreement
- Journey-worker Accreditation Grandfather Form
- Employer Acceptance Agreement

To be grandfathered, a skilled journey-workers must have completed at least 6,000 hours of HVACR related on-the-job experience or its equivalency (1 HVACR Tech College Semester = 1,000 hours), and passed the RMGA



Natural Gas Certification Exam. On the Journey-worker Accreditation Grandfather Form, have your journey-worker list his employment history and any HVACR-relevant training courses and industry certifications received during their career.

### Step 2: Employer attests to Journey-worker's competencies

On the Employer Acceptance Agreement, you provide your recommendation/evaluation of the journey-worker.

### Step 3: Submit forms to RMGA\*

Email forms to [john@utrmga.com](mailto:john@utrmga.com), and after a six month waiting period, the Department of Labor will certify your grandfathered technician and send them an official U.S. Dept of Labor issued Apprentice certification.

\*\$10 fee per grandfathered Journey-worker submission.

### Step 4: Hire an HVACR Apprentice!

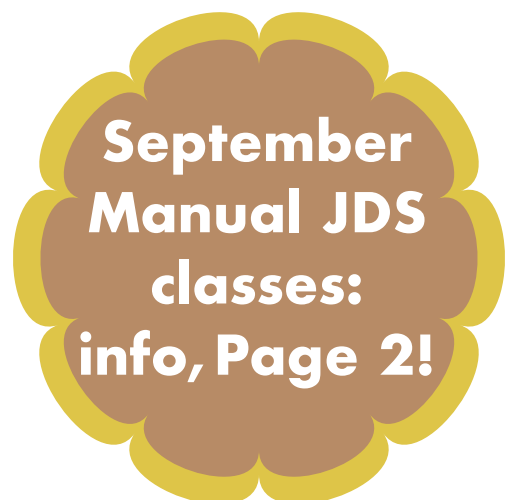
RMGA works with employers and State Technical Colleges to place eager students in the workforce.

Email [john@utrmga.com](mailto:john@utrmga.com) or call with questions: 801-521-8340. ■



## Congratulations and Welcome to our new RMGA President, Jamie Schumacher!

[Pictured with RMGA Immediate Past President Ryan Rentmeister (left) and Executive Director John Hill (right)]



September  
 Manual JDS  
 classes:  
 info, Page 2!

Jamie Schumacher  
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801-756-9683 ext 230

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

JAMIE SCHUMACHER



*Dear RMGA Members & Friends,*

*The summer is almost over, the days are getting shorter, and a lot has changed in the RMGA. We now are incorporated in Wyoming and are holding our first RMGA certification classes there this November. We are pleased with the participation so far of those wanting to elevate this industry by obtaining training and certification.*

*We are also starting to receive and process applications for the "Grandfathering" period of the new Department of Labor sanctioned "Journey-level Technician" as well as the RMGA sponsored HVACR Apprenticeship program. With these changes along with the continued Natural Gas Certification classes, Manuals J, D and S classes, and the spring education summit, the RMGA has a lot to offer! Please take time to get on the website ([utrmga.org](http://utrmga.org)) and review the apprenticeship program details, and upcoming classes and events.*

*I look forward to working with many of you, if you have questions or specific needs that the RMGA can help with please let us know, we all have the same goals of making the HVAC trade even better for the future.*

## RMGA Board Briefing – August 2019

On August 14, the RMGA Apprenticeship Committee reviewed and revised the criteria that RMGA needs to consider for each potential Department of Labor (DOL) grandfathered HVACR Journeyworker. Five candidates were approved and after a six-month waiting period, they will be DOL certified grandfathered journeyworkers, ready to supervise new apprenticeship candidates.

Concerned that building inspectors, code officials and county plan examiners don't understand the application of Manual J, D and S in residential mechanical systems, the RMGA board decided to offer these officials free admission to these classes. There will be a registration fee of \$150 that will be refunded at the end of the 3-class series. No shows forfeit their registration fee.

RMGA now offers training and testing in Wyoming with the first Certification class scheduled for November 6th - 8th at the Dominion Energy conference room in Evanston. Working with Western Wyoming Community College, we will offer testing both in Evanston and Rock Springs. The board also decided to take a look at the RMGA Educator Evaluation Form currently used to see if it needs tweaking.

The next RMGA Board meeting is set for 12 PM on Wednesday, September 18 at Johnstone Supply (2940 S 300 W, 84115), immediately after a one-hour Apprenticeship Committee Meeting (11:00 AM-12:00 PM). Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings; lunch is at noon!

Wednesday, October 16, November 13 and December 11, are additional RMGA meeting dates for 2019. Get on the board email list by sending an email to [john@utrmga.com](mailto:john@utrmga.com).

## WELCOME NEW RMGA MEMBERS!

**Paul Bony**  
**CLEARRESULT**  
124 South 400 East  
Suite 410  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
[paul.bony@clearesult.com](mailto:paul.bony@clearesult.com)  
920-209-0999

**Eldred Jensen**  
**SEVIER HEATING & A/C**  
PO Box 196  
60 South Center  
Elsinore, UT 84724  
[info@sevierheating.com](mailto:info@sevierheating.com)  
435-527-4127

# LEARN MANUAL J, D & S – THIS SEPTEMBER ONLY!

LEARN PRINCIPLES of heat transfer, R-values & U-values to perform load calculations; then apply to duct sizing and system designs, including airflow for constant volume systems and zone applications. You will also learn procedures to select and size residential systems in multi-stage and modulating furnaces and air conditioners.

**Thursday, September 12 - Load Calculations / Manual J**

**Thursday, September 19 - Duct Design / Manual D**

**Thursday, September 26 - Equipment Selection / Manual S**

Classes will be held from 8:00-3:30 PM at **Hercules Industries, 475 Billy Mitchell Road, Salt Lake City, 84116. Cost: \$125\*** per class; includes manuals and lunch, or \$325 for all three classes! \$75 per class if you already own the manuals! \*\$15 fee for 6 hours recorded with DOPL. **Call RMGA to register: 801-521-8340**

Partial funding of this training program has been provided by the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing from the 1% surcharge funds on all building permits.

# RMGA GAS CERTIFICATION CLASSES

**CALL  
801-521-8340  
TO REGISTER**



## **Evanston, WY**

Wednesday, November 6,  
Thursday, November 7 &  
Friday, November 8  
8 am - 5 pm

Classes held at:  
Dominion Energy  
531 Wasatch Road  
Evanston, WY 82930

## **Salt Lake City**

Thursday, November 14  
Friday, November 15 &  
Saturday, November 16  
8 am - 5 pm

Classes held at:  
Dominion Energy  
CTC Training Room  
1000 West 100 South, SLC, UT

## **Salt Lake City**

Thursday, January 9,  
Friday, January 10 &  
Saturday, January 11  
8 am - 5 pm

Classes held at:  
Dominion Energy  
CTC Training Room  
1000 West 100 South, SLC, UT

Gas Certification Classes price: \$400

Price includes the RMGA Study Guide, IFGC Book, online videos, instruction and lunch all 3 days and two attempts at exam\* (if necessary). \*New Pre-test evaluates technician readiness.

## **Important RMGA Certification Class Info**

Effective with the July 2019 RMGA Certification Class, the 3-day class will be taught consecutive days: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and all test vouchers will be pre-paid.

- HVAC technicians will have a 4 hour time limit to complete the RMGA Certification Exam.
- A basic understanding of geometry is very beneficial to succeeding on the exam, as is, our pre-test which is available on our website.
- Free exam retakes are limited to six months from the last date of your class. For example, if the last day of your class is June 16th, you have until December 16th, 2019 to use your retake voucher.
- A technician can Audit the class (bring their RMGA training materials) for \$150. If the RMGA Study Guide is prior to January 2019, the updated tabs and pages are an additional \$25, plus any required testing fees.
- Technicians attending an RMGA Certification class will be issued a test voucher in the class. All test vouchers are pre-paid, so testers not taking an RMGA Class can obtain a voucher by calling or emailing RMGA. Testers are required to pay any proctor fee directly to the testing center they choose. Old test/re-test vouchers will be honored until the stated expiration date (or through the end of 2019).

*Partial funding of RMGA training programs have been provided by the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing from the 1% surcharge funds on all building permits.*

# MECHANICAL CODE DISCUSSION

## International Residential Code – 50 CFM Bath Fans Requirements



BRENT URSEBACH

### BRENT URSEBACH

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EXPERT WITNESS

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In this issue we'll revisit a subject addressed several times. As I've received numerous calls regarding *IRC Table M1506.2, Duct Length*, it may be useful to address the subject in a written discussion. Too often code officials and contractors misunderstand the requirements.

Please be aware, the code refers to the external resistance created by friction in duct work, in terms of inches water column ("wc.), or sometimes inches water gage ("wg.) Some documentation may refer to this friction or resistance in terms of inches static pressure ("SP). Don't be confused, all three terminologies are correct and equal. Let's begin with a review a couple of code sections:

**M1506.2 Duct length.** The length of exhaust and supply ducts used with

we find moving 50 CFM through a 3" flex duct requires an air velocity of 1050 feet per minute and a fan capable of moving 50 CFM against 1.3" wc. The cheap fans are rated at 50 CFM at 0.1" wc. Obviously, they don't work.

Next code section:

**M1507.4 Local exhaust rates.** *Local exhaust systems* shall be designed to have the capacity to exhaust the minimum air flow rate determined in

TABLE M1507.4  
MINIMUM REQUIRED LOCAL EXHAUST RATES FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS

| AREA TO BE EXHAUSTED   | EXHAUST RATES   |
|------------------------|---|
| Kitchens               | 100 cfm intermittent or 25 cfm continuous                               |
| Bathrooms-Toilet Rooms | Mechanical exhaust capacity of 50 cfm intermittent or 20 cfm continuous |

accordance with Table M1507.4.

When we consider this section and Table, it's important to recall, the IRC continues to have exceptions for bath fans (R303.3) and kitchen exhaust (M1503.1-3). **Where Local Exhaust is installed, it must comply with Table M1507.4. Please note, the required exhaust rate for a bathroom is 50 CFM**

**intermittent.** *If an installed bathroom fan is rated at 70 CFM, 80 CFM, or more, the code only requires that fan move a minimum 50 CFM.* Additionally, that 70 or 80 CFM fan is often rated at 0.10" wc. If you look closely at the specifications, the CFM will be lower at 0.25" wc., the static pressure required by Table M1506.2. **As the code requirement is 50 CFM, the correct column to use for bathroom duct sizing is the 50 CFM column. The inspector should not require you to use the 70, or 80 CFM**

*column.*

Let's consider a couple of examples which work. Refer to the specification sheets at these links:

<http://www.airkinglimited.com/specsheets/AS70Spec.pdf>

<http://www.airkinglimited.com/specsheets/BFQ80Spec.pdf>

First, is Model AS70, rated at 70 CFM @ 0.10" wc.

- Notice in the highlighted expanded performance, the air flow at 0.25" wg. is 62 CFM.
- Great, the fan meets, actually slightly exceeds the 50 CFM requirement at 0.25" wg.
- The 3" collar creates a challenge, as the Table tells us only 5' of smooth pipe is allowed. Per footnote 'c', 15' must be deducted for each elbow.
- The duct must immediately increase to 4", and lengths including elbows must meet the 50 CFM lengths to comply.

Second, considering the Model BFQ80, rated at 80 CFM @ 0.10" wc.

- From the highlighted expanded performance, the air flow at 0.25" wg is 66 CFM.
- Also notice the expanded performance shows the air flow drops as the resistance increases. Increasing beyond 0.25" wc. results in a rapid drop in air flow, a drop so great, the manufacturers don't provide the data or recommend high static pressure drops on this type of fan.
- The 4" collar will not require an

TABLE M1506.2  
DUCT LENGTH

| DUCT TYPE<br>(Listed in Table 310.2.6) | FLEX DUCT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | SMOOTH WALL DUCT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | 0         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0                | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9                                      | 0         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

ventilating equipment shall not exceed the lengths determined in accordance with Table M1506.2.

It's common knowledge, the cheap (\$12-\$15) fans installed for decades in homes make more noise than move air. Adding to the issue is the use of 3" flex duct, often in long lengths, with no effort to eliminate numerous sags and bends. Tests show the typical actual CFM on these fans ranges from 5 to 20 CFM. Referring to duct design charts,



# Mobile Distraction is Not Just a Road Problem

WHETHER ON AN ACTIVE construction site, on a fast-paced manufacturing floor, or in any situation where several activities are taking place simultaneously, attention from everyone is key to helping keep a work environment safe.

Distractions on the job can have catastrophic consequences. And while distractions are all around, there is one type that can be easily eliminated: mobile devices.

## The Myth of Multitasking

Safety-minded businesses generally take the necessary step of prohibiting mobile device use while operating machinery or while in areas where potentially hazardous activities are taking place. But without providing context, you run the risk of an employee ignoring the rule and causing an otherwise preventable disaster.

Tell your employees this simple fact: People cannot multitask. Sure, the human brain can switch swiftly from task to task. However, it can't focus on more than one task at a time,

even though it appears that way to an outside observer.

Imagine a forklift moving a heavy load through a warehouse. The driver can be doing everything correctly — sounding the horn at intersections, driving at a reasonable speed, scanning his or her path for obstructions, etc. — but if other people in the area have their heads down, reading a text message or checking the weather, there's no telling what could happen.

## Hands-Free, but Not Worry-Free

With increased awareness of the dangers new technology can present, solutions like hands-free accessories have popped up. But the problem is far from solved. Much of the research on using hands-free technology has focused on use while driving, but the lessons learned are easily transferrable to nearly any situation. Even with a Bluetooth headset in his or her ear, a mobile device user is still distracted.

## Removal: The Best Solution

The best practice is to eliminate the

temptation to use mobile devices altogether and require your employees to either keep their phones in their pockets or, better yet, store them away from the hustle and bustle of the work site.

Practice what you preach. Job site foremen, managers, and other authority figures should model safe behavior, signaling to employees that casual use of mobile devices without a business purpose has no place on the job.

Keeping attention on this important topic is key. Post signs, dedicate a safety meeting to the subject — do whatever you can to let your employees know that mobile devices can be a threat to the safety of everyone on the site.

*This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2019 Federated Mutual Insurance Company. ■*

upsizing if the equivalent length, including elbows, fall within the 50 CFM column.

Summarizing, additional comments:

1. The bathroom requirement is 50 CFM – size bathroom fan ducts using the 50 CFM column.
2. The manufacturer might claim 70 to 80 CFM, but most likely is at a lower static pressure- 0.10" wc. Insure documentation is provided, listing at least 50 CFM at 0.25" wc.

If the fan doesn't meet this, it's non-compliant.

3. If flexible duct is used, it must be installed as straight as possible. Add up all of the angles created by poorly ran flex, adding 15' for each 90-degree bend. Flex duct installation standards do not allow more than 1/2" sag per foot of flex.
4. Flex connector cannot exceed 14', while flex duct does not have a length limit, other than the limits

placed by Table M1506.2.

5. If the home requires mechanical ventilation, due to air tightness verified by blower door testing, there may be a CFM requirement other than the 50 CFM.

*Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or comments on this or other energy/mechanical related subjects. Email or text is always best as I'm not typically available to take a phone call. —Thanks, Brent ■*



# Ask the Expert. . . about Health Insurance

**Dori Phillips**  
**DP Financial Services**

## Q. What is Medical Cost Sharing?

A. Instead of paying monthly premiums to an insurance company, members share a given amount on a monthly basis and draw from community funds as medical needs arise. Through a medical cost sharing model, members may save between 25– 50% of the costs that are typically incurred with health insurance plans.

## Q. Are Share Plans really just another health insurance company?

A. No, Share Plans are NOT Insurance.

Medical cost sharing is an arrangement whereby Members agree to share medical expenses through an act of voluntary giving. Share plans are NOT licensed or registered by any insurance board

or department since they are not practicing the business of insurance. They do not assess applicants' health risks, because neither the client nor Members are assuming financial liability for any other member's risk. Unlike insurance, the focus of Medical Cost Sharing membership is on how Members help one another with their immediate needs. Like minded people share in other people's "needs".

Insurance arrangements are a contract whereby one party agrees to be legally responsible for and accept another party's risk of loss in exchange for a payment—a premium.

## Q. What kinds of needs do Health Members share?

A. In general, needs for illnesses or injuries resulting in visits to licensed medical providers, emergency rooms, diagnostic testing facilities, laboratory or hospitals charges are shared on a per person, per incident basis.

## Q. How do share plans handle medical claims?

A. Members submit proof of their medical expenses to be evaluated in

accordance with the Share Plan's Guidelines. Qualified needs are designated for sharing based on the amount of shares collected from Members each month. Each member's monthly share is voluntary but also a requirement in order to remain an active participant in the membership.

## Q. Do Share plans have deductibles or co-insurance?

A. There are no traditional health insurance deductibles or co-pays, and because there is no "transfer of risk" with Medical Cost Sharing, no "claim" is ever guaranteed. When Members incur an eligible medical expense that exceeds their Initial Unshareable Amount (IUA), any remaining balance relative to that specific need is eligible for sharing, effectively reducing the member's portion to the selected IUA (unshareable amount) for any single need.

## Q. Are any medical conditions excluded or have waiting periods?

A. A look-back period of 36 months applies to all prior medical conditions for most plan applicants. A prior medical condition is a

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801-521-8335  
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# HR Question of the Month: Injured at Another Job – Covered under FMLA?

## Question

We have an employee who was hurt on the job at their other part time job. The employee is asking about FMLA and I'm not sure that is something that applies here. Please let me know if they run concurrently.

## Answer

If an organization has over 50 employees, the employer is considered a "covered employer" under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). This means that if an employee indicates a need for time off due to a medical issue that is or could be a serious health condition, the employer should initiate the FMLA process, regardless of the origin of the medical condition. In this regard, the employer should provide the subject employee here with

requisite FMLA paperwork, including a Certification of Healthcare Provider form for their doctor or other healthcare provider to complete. If it is timely returned within 15 days and supports that the employee has a serious health condition

necessitating leave from work (whether continuously, intermittently or on a reduced schedule basis), then if the employee meets all FMLA

eligibility criteria, the employer must provide up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave to the employee.



The fact that the employee's health condition was sustained in the course and scope of employment at a second job does not exclude it as a serious health condition under the Act if it otherwise qualifies. In other words, the existence of a workers' compensation claim elsewhere does not impact the employer's obligation under the FMLA here. ■



condition in which the applicant has either received medical treatment, taken medications for, or exhibited observable symptoms. Any prior medical condition that has not exhibited symptoms during the 36 continuous months prior to membership effective date is considered cured and (usually) will have no sharing restrictions.

Prior medical conditions will

become eligible for sharing based on the Member's tenure. Not all medical conditions are excluded depending upon the Share company.

## Q. What are membership requirements?

A. Members are eligible through their employment, membership, or participation in a Sponsoring Entity. Members must agree to abide by each Principles of Membership.

Every Share plan has different requirements, some Christian Share plans exclude medical expenses resulting from the use of illegal drugs, and could also include the use of alcohol.

If you are interested in learning more about these plans or any fully insured plans, please contact Dori Phillips, RMGA's Agent at 801-546-1048/ 888-440-3674 Thank you! ■



# PIPELINE

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