14.9.5.1 ISSUING AGENCY: The Construction Industries Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.1 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.1, 6-06-07]

14.9.5.2 SCOPE: This rule shall apply to all individuals installing, maintaining, repairing, or otherwise working on medical gas systems. 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.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.2 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.2, 6-06-07]

14.9.5.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: NMSA 1978 Sections 60-13-9 and 60-13-44.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.3 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.3, 6-06-07, A, 01-01-08]

14.9.5.4 DURATION: Permanent, until later amended, repealed or replaced.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.4 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.4, 6-06-07]

14.9.5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2000, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.5 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.5, 6-06-07]

14.9.5.6 OBJECTIVE: The objective of 14 NMAC 9.5 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.
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.6 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.6, 6-06-07]

14.9.5.7 DEFINITIONS: This section is reserved. [RESERVED]
[6-30-00; 14.9.5.7 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.7, 6-06-07]

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.

14.9.5.8 MEDICAL GAS ENDORSEMENT REQUIRED:

A. Medical gas installations, maintenance and repair work may be performed only by JP, JG, JPF, and/or JPG journeymen who carry the medical gas endorsement, and who work under a properly licensed MM-98, MM-1, MM-2, and/or MM-4 contractor.

B. The licensed MM-98, MM-1, MM-2, and/or MM-4 contractor does not need to personally carry a medical gas endorsement, unless the contractor holds the required journeyman certificate, AND intends to personally perform hands-on work on a medical gas system.

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 ASSE 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 ASSE Standard 6010.

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 ASSE Standard 6010 and Chapter 13 of the current adopted New Mexico Plumbing Code.
14.9.5.9 QUALIFYING FOR THE MEDICAL GAS ENDORSEMENT:

A. The medical gas endorsement shall be issued by the construction industries division to a JP, JG, JPF, and/or JPG journeyman after successful completion of a medical gas course that is a minimum of 32 hours.

B. The minimum 32-hour medical gas course shall meet with the curriculum requirements established by the mechanical bureau with the approval of the construction industries commission.

C. The minimum 32-hour medical gas course shall consist of at least two parts: (1) installer training, and (2) brazing. The brazing aspect of the course must be hands-on, and the final course product must be sent to an independent third-party laboratory for testing before a passing score is granted.

14.9.5.10 RENEWAL OF ENDORSEMENT REQUIRED:

A. Journeymen carrying a medical gas endorsement must take an approval re-certification course every 3 years in order to renew their journeyman’s certificate WITH a medical gas endorsement.

B. The re-certification course must be a minimum of 32 hours, and the re-certification course curriculum requirements shall be established by the mechanical bureau with the approval of the construction industries commission.

C. The re-certification course must, at a minimum, address those portions of the NMPC, and any other applicable state codes, that regulate medical gas system installations, maintenance or repair work.

14.9.5.11 LABORERS WORKING ON MEDICAL GAS SYSTEMS:

A. A properly certified journeyman carrying a medical gas endorsement may have laborers (apprentices) working under him. The ratio may not be greater than three laborers/apprentices to every one journeyman.

B. At no time may a laborer/apprentice perform work relating to the brazing and/or physical connections on a medical gas systems.

APPRENTICES:

A. 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 Section 60-13-2 of the act, may work under the direct supervision of a validly certified journeyman, as that term is defined in Section 60-13-2 of the act, who is employed by a validly licensed person, as that term is defined in Section 60-13-2 of the act, 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. Ratio of unregistered apprentices: The ratio of certified journeyman to unregistered apprentices must not exceed:

(a) one journeyman to two unregistered apprentices on commercial or industrial work;

(b) one journeyman to three unregistered apprentices on residential work.
14.9.5.12 PERMITTING OF MEDICAL GAS WORK:

A. The permitting requirements and procedures for medical gas work shall be consistent with the permitting requirements currently in effect for all other mechanical and plumbing work.

B. The permits fee for medical gas work shall $10.00.

14.9.5.13 INSPECTION(S) MEDICAL GAS WORK:

A. Medical gas systems shall be inspected by third-party inspectors who meet the following qualifications and requirements:
   1. Successful completion of a medical gas certification course that is approved by the mechanical bureau; and
   2. Have a minimum of two years hands-on experience in medical gas systems verification, as required by the NMPC; and
   3. Shall not be, or work for, the installing contractor or manufacturer; and
   4. Shall meet the inspection standards and requirements of the health care facility in which the system is being installed.

B. All inspections (systems verifications) done by a third-party inspector shall be done in accordance with, and in such a manner as to verify compliance with, the requirements of the NMPC.

C. No state or local building inspector shall issue a final (mechanical/plumbing final and general construction final) a project that includes medical gas system without first receiving proper and complete documentation from the third-party inspector regarding the installation’s code compliance.

D. If there is a dispute regarding code compliance between a third-party inspector 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 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 ASSE 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 ASSE Standard 6030.
   5. Approved medical gas and vacuum systems re-certification training courses shall be a minimum 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 NMAC 14.5.3.9 Inspections E.

C. No state or local building inspector 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.
14.9.5.14 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 3.3.801 of the NFPA 99-C, 2002 edition, in which nitrous oxide will be administered without a halogenated agent shall comply with the NFPA’s level three piped gas and vacuum systems standard for waste anesthetic gas disposal systems.

B. 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 piped gas and vacuum systems standard for waste anesthetic gas disposal systems.

B. If the code standards differ in any regard, the more restrictive provision shall apply.

C. 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 Construction Industries Licensing Act, Sections 60-13-23 and 23.1, NMSA 1978.

[6-30-00; 14.9.5.14 NMAC - Rn & A, 14 NMAC 9.5.14, 6-06-07, A, 01-01-08]

14.9.5.15 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CODE STANDARDS OR REQUIREMENTS: All contractors and/or journeymen failing to install a medical gas system in compliance with all applicable codes, standards, rules and regulations adopted by the construction industries division, or the division’s enabling act, shall be subject to possible revocation or suspension of their licenses and/or certificates of competence, and/or assessment of an administrative penalty pursuant to the Construction Industries Licensing Act, Sections 60-13-23 and 23.1, NMSA 1978.

[6-30-00; 14.9.5.15 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.15, 6-06-07, A, 01-01-08]

14.9.5.16 TRAINING FOR STATE AND LOCAL INSPECTORS:

A. State and local building inspectors inspecting projects containing medical gas systems will attend a 32-hour training course such as that required for the medical gas endorsement. This 32-hour medical gas course for inspector certification shall meet the curriculum requirements established by the mechanical bureau with the approval of the construction industries commission.

B. Re-certification of state and local inspectors inspecting projects containing medical gas systems shall consist of a minimum 8-hour course. This 8-hour medical gas course for inspector re-certification shall meet the curriculum requirements established by the mechanical bureau with the approval of the construction industries commission.

[6-30-00; 14.9.5.16 NMAC - Rn, 14 NMAC 9.5.16, 6-06-07]

HISTORY OF 14.9.5 NMAC:

Pre NMAC History: None.
History of Repealed Material: [RESERVED]

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.