Classifications for the Installation, Maintenance, or Service of Heat Pump Water Heaters (HPWH) and HVAC System Heat Pumps

Heat Pump Water Heaters
The CSLB classifications currently licensed for installation/repair of heat pump water heaters are C-20 – Warm-Air Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) or C-36 – Plumbing. The C-20 classification includes “water heating heat pumps.” The C-36 classification includes “any type of equipment to heat water.”

HVAC System Heat Pumps
The CSLB classification currently licensed for an HVAC system heat pump is C-20 – Warm-Air Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning. The C-20 classification includes “warm-air heating systems,” “warm-air appliances” and “air-conditioning systems” and associated mechanisms and controls.

Notes About Other Trades
The B – General Building contractor may take a prime contract for a heat pump water heater or HVAC system heat pump; however, the B – General Building must subcontract the work to a C-20 – Warm-Air Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning or C-36 – Plumbing contractor, unless the prime contract includes two or more unrelated trades other than framing or carpentry.

The C-10 Electrical contractor is licensed to perform an electrical panel upgrade should one be necessary to install the work above (or any other work). A C-10 contractor may not contract for a heat pump water heater or HVAC system heat pump.

Please email classifications@cslb.ca.gov with any questions.