02 DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION

318 ELECTRICIANS' EXAMINING BOARD

Chapter 120: ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION STANDARDS

SUMMARY: Pursuant to authority in 32 M.R.S. §§ 1153 and 1153-A, this chapter adopts the current edition of the *National Electrical Code* to which all installations must conform.

SECTION 1. All installations of electrical equipment commencing on or after July 1, 2026 must comply with the 2026 National Electrical Code as adopted by the Board in this Chapter, as well as with all applicable statutes or rules of the State and this Board and all applicable ordinances, orders, rules and regulations of local municipalities.

SECTION 2. The Board hereby adopts and incorporates into this chapter by reference the NFPA standard 70, National Electrical Code (2026 edition), Copyright © 2025 National Fire Protection Association, effective September 9, 2025, subject to the following amendments and exclusions:

1. The Board adopts Article 90.4(D) as amended below:

   (D) New Products, Constructions or Materials. This code may require new products, constructions, or materials that may not yet be available at the time the code is adopted. In such event, the authority having jurisdiction may permit the use of the products, constructions, or materials that comply with the previous two (2) editions of this code adopted by the jurisdiction.

2. The Board adopts Article 100, excepting the definition of Dormitory, which the Board adopts as amended below:

   ARTICLE 100
   Definitions . . .

   Dormitory. A building or a space in a building in which group sleeping accommodations are provided for any number of persons who are not members of the same family in one room, or a series of closely associated rooms, under joint occupancy and single management, with or without meals, but without individual cooking facilities.

3. The Board does not adopt Article 110.16, and adopts Article 110.16 of the 2023 National Electrical Code as specified below:

   110.16 Arc-Flash Hazard Warning.

   (A) General. Electrical equipment, such as switchboards, switchgear, enclosed panelboards, industrial control panels, meter socket enclosures, and motor control centers, that is in other than dwelling units, and is likely to require examination, adjustment, servicing, or maintenance while energized, shall be field or factory

marked to warn qualified persons of potential electric arc flash hazards. The marking shall meet the requirements in 110.21(B) and shall be located so as to be clearly visible to qualified persons before examination, adjustment, servicing, or maintenance of the equipment.

(B) Service Equipment and Feeder Supplied Equipment. In other than dwelling units, in addition to the requirements in 110.16(A), a permanent arc flash label shall be field or factory applied to service equipment and feeder supplied equipment rated 1000 amperes or more. The arc flash label shall be in accordance with applicable industry practice and include the date the label was applied. The label shall meet the requirements of 110.21(B).

Informational Note No. 1: See ANSI Z535.4-2011 (R2017), *Product Safety Signs and Labels,* for guidelines for the design of safety signs and labels for application to products.

Information Note No. 2: See *NFPA 70E-2021, Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace,* for applicable industry practices for equipment labeling. This standard provides specific criteria for developing arc-flash labels for equipment that provides nominal system voltage, incident energy levels, arc-flash boundaries, minimum required levels of personal protective equipment, and so forth.

4. The Board adopts Article 210.8(A)(7) as amended below:

(A) Dwelling Units. All 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles installed in the following locations and supplied by single-phase branch circuits raised 150 volts or less to ground shall have GFCI protection for personnel:

* * *

(7) Kitchens, except for those specific appliances listed in 210.8(D)(8), (9) and (10).

5. The Board adopts Article 210.8(B)(2) as amended below:

(B) Other than Dwelling Units. All 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground, 50 amperes or less, and all receptacles supplied by three-phrase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground, 50 amperes or less, installed in the following locations shall be provided with GFCI protection:

* * *

(2) Kitchens, except for those specific appliances listed in 210.8(D)(8), (9) and (10).

6. The Board adopts Article 210.8(F) as amended below:

210.8 Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection for Personnel . . .

(F) Outdoor Outlets. For dwellings, all outdoor outlets, other than those covered in 210.8(A) Exception No. 1, including outdoor outlets installed at the following

locations and supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground, 60 amperes or less, shall be GFCI protected:

(1) Garages that have floors located at or below grade level
(2) Accessory buildings
(3) Boathouses

If equipment supplied by an outlet covered under the requirements of this section is replaced, the outlet shall be supplied with GFCI protection.

Exception No. 1: GFCI protection shall not be required on lighting outlets other than those covered in 210.8(C).

Exception No. 2: GFCI protection shall not be required for listed HVAC equipment. This exception shall expire September 1, 2026.

Exception No. 3: Listed Class C SPGFCI protection shall be permitted for listed HVAC equipment. If a Class C SPGFCI is provided, the disconnect serving the HVAC equipment shall be marked "Warning: Class C SPGFCI Protection Provided for HVAC Unit."

Exception No. 4: GFCI protection shall not be required for water pumps.

Exception No. 5: GFCI protection shall not be required for sewer pumps.

7. The Board adopts Article 230.4(E) as amended below:

230.4 Number of Services . . .

(E) Identification. Where a building or structure is supplied by more than one service, or any combination of branch circuits, feeders, and services, a permanent plaque or directory shall be installed at each service disconnect location and at each outside electrical meter location denoting all other services, feeders, and branch circuits supplying that building or structure and the area served by each. See 225.37.

8. The Board adopts Article 334.10(3) as amended below:

334.10 Uses Permitted. . .

(3) Other structures permitted to be of Types III, IV, and V construction. In buildings or structures with interior finished walls and/or ceilings, cables shall be installed within walls, floors, or ceilings that provide a thermal barrier of material that has at least a 15-minute finish rating as identified in listings of fire-rated assemblies.

Exception to (3): Nonhabitable grade level storage garages and storage buildings less than 1500 sq feet with Type V construction shall be permitted to have Type NM and Type NMC installed without a 15-minute thermal barrier.

9. The Board does not adopt Article 334.12(2).

10. The Board adopts Article 338.12(B) as amended below:

338.12 Uses Not Permitted. . .

(B) Underground Service-Entrance Cable. Type USE cable shall not be used under the following conditions or in the following locations:

(1) For interior wiring

(2) For aboveground installations except where USE cable emerges from the ground and is terminated in an enclosure at an outdoor location and the cable is protected in accordance with 300.7(D)

(3) As aerial cable unless it is a multiconductor cable identified for use aboveground and installed as messenger-supported wiring in accordance with 225.10 and Article 396 Part II

Exception: This provision does not apply to USE cable that is dual-rated for interior wiring.

11. The Board adopts Article 400.12(4) as amended below:

400.12 Uses Not Permitted. Unless specifically permitted in 400.10, flexible cords, flexible cables, cord sets, and power supply cords shall not be used for the following:

* * *

(4) Where attached to building surfaces

Exception to (4): Flexible cord and flexible cable shall be permitted to be attached to building surfaces in accordance with 368.56(B) and 590.4. Flexible cord and cable shall also be permitted to have one connection to the building surface for a suitable tension take-up device. Length of the cord or cable from the supply termination to the take-up device shall be limited to 6' (1.83 m). Strain relief cable grips shall be provided for the cord or cable at the equipment terminations.

12. The Board adopts Article 406.9(C)(1) as amended below:

406.9 Wiring Devices in Damp or Wet Locations. . .

(C) Wiring Devices in Bathtub and Shower Spaces.

(1) Receptacles. Receptacles shall not be installed within or directly over a bathtub or shower stall.

13. The Board does not adopt Article 625.43(D)(1)(2).

14. The Board adopts Article 702.4(A)(2)(a) as amended below:

702.4 Capacity and Rating. . .

(A) System Capacity. . .

(2) Automatic Load Connection. For other than single-family dwellings, if the connection of load is automatic, an optional standby system shall comply with 702.4(A)(2)(a) or (A)(2)(b) in accordance with Article 120 Parts I through IV or by another approved method.

(a) *Full Load*. The standby source shall be capable of supplying the full load that is automatically connected.

SECTION 3. Copies of the *National Electrical Code*, *National Fire Protection Association* standard *#70* (2026 Edition) may be purchased from:

National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101
Quincy, MA 02269-9101
Telephone: 1-800-344-3555
www.nfpa.org

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 1153 and 1153-A

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July 19, 2011 – filing 2011-239
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