

ELECTRICAL SERVICE UPDATE CODE

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1: SHORT TITLE: This chapter shall be known as the *ELECTRICAL SERVICE UPDATE CODE*, and may be cited as such.

2: PURPOSE: It is the purpose of this chapter to require architects, builders, contractors, property owners, their agents, and others to meet their responsibilities with respect to proper electrical installation, material selection, installation methods, and premises safety, and to provide for inspection as a means of compelling compliance therewith. It is not the purpose of this chapter to create any duty on the part of the local authority having jurisdiction, its officers, agents, or employees, owing to any individual member of the public or to protect any particular or circumscribed class of persons. Specifically, it is not the intent of this chapter to create any duty or liability by the local authority having jurisdiction, its officers, agents, or employees, to premises occupants, owners, tenants, or any other person.

3: WARNING: No person shall place reliance upon this chapter, any inspections performed, or certificates issued pursuant to this chapter as indicating the safety of or quality of construction of any particular premises. Neither this chapter nor inspections made pursuant thereto nor certificates issued are intended to assume the duty of any person to adequately construct and maintain a premises or provide a safe premises or to, in any way, indicate a decrease in the risk associated with the use or occupancy of any premises. A certification that a premise has been inspected pursuant to this chapter shall not in any way constitute a warranty or guarantee of the safety or quality of that premises.

4: INTERPRETATION: The foregoing statements of legislative intent shall govern and take precedence over any other language contained in this chapter.

5: ADOPTION: Pursuant to state published notice and public hearing, as required by state law, this code shall be in effect until such a time as a new adoption process has been adopted and implemented.

6: SCOPE: The provisions of this electrical service update code shall apply to existing residential buildings when:

1. A new service replaces an old service.
2. The code official, upon substantial evidence, determines the existing service is, or existing installations are, unsafe and pose(s) a risk to property or life.
* A repair to an existing service or panelboard that has been damaged by natural cause may not require a complete update. This will be at the discretion of the Construction Services Administrator.

7: INDEMNIFICATION: The applicant for any permit under this code, by making such application, assumes and agrees to pay for all loss or damage to property whatsoever, and injury to or death of any person or persons whomsoever, including all costs and expenses incident thereto, however arising from or in connection with or related to the issuance of such permit or the doing of anything there under, or the failure of such applicant, or the agents, employees or servants of such applicant, to abide by or comply with any of the provisions of this code or any other ordinance of the local authority having jurisdiction; and such applicant, by making such application, forever indemnifies the local authority having jurisdiction, its officers and employees and agrees to save it and them harmless from any and all claims, demands, lawsuits, or liability whatsoever for any loss, damage, injury or death, costs and expenses, by reason of the foregoing even though acts or omissions of the local authority having jurisdiction, its officers or employees may have caused or contributed thereto. The foregoing provisions shall be deemed to be a part of any permit issued under this code whether expressly recited therein or not.

8: PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, CONDITIONS, and FEES:

A. Required: Any owner or authorized agent who intends to change out a residential service, of which is regulated by this electrical service update code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall not do so without first securing a permit from the local authority having jurisdiction.

B. Issuance: Permits shall be issued in the name of the property owner or of a firm or corporation registered with the Iowa Division of Labor Services, according to their rules and standards. The property owner or authorized representative of the firm or corporation named on the registration shall sign all applications for permits. Permits are not transferable.

C. Fees: There shall be a fee paid for the issuance of permits. Permit fees and fees for other inspections shall be set forth in a fee schedule established and approved from time to time by the board or council.

D. Expiration:

1. All permits shall expire after three hundred sixty five (365) days unless an extension is requested in writing to the local authority having jurisdiction fourteen (14) days prior to expiration of said permit. The local authority having jurisdiction may refuse any extension, but shall do so in writing within seven (7) days of receipt of the extension request.

E. Revocation: Any permit required by the provisions of this code may be summarily revoked by the local authority having jurisdiction upon the violation of any provision of this code.

F. Outstanding Permits: If a permit is outstanding on the effective date hereof, the provisions of this chapter and the National Electrical Code, adopted by the state of Iowa, shall apply to the work authorized by such permit, except to the extent that the local authority having jurisdiction shall determine that the application of such provisions to said work would be unreasonable. The burden shall be upon the holder of such permit to show the unreasonableness of such provisions.

9: ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LICENSE: Except as otherwise provided herein, no person shall engage or represent himself or herself to the public as engaging in the activity or business of installing, altering, or repairing any electrical systems or apparatus for which permits are required by this electrical code unless such person shall have first obtained from the state of Iowa, Department of Public Safety, State Fire Marshal Division, an Electrical Contractors License, as provided for in chapter 100C of the state code.

10: CONNECTION TO SYSTEM: It is unlawful for any person(s) to generate or distribute electrical current for private use or commercial use within the city without first acquiring proper permits and inspections. Permission shall also be granted by the utility provider if such current is back fed to the commercial grid. This permission shall be available to the Construction Services Administrator before any inspections are conducted. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon written notice from the Construction Services Administrator, immediately remove such connection and cut off such current.

11: INSPECTION: Except as otherwise provided in this code, no person shall cover or conceal or cause to be covered or concealed any electrical wiring or electrical apparatus for which a permit has been issued, until such wiring or electrical apparatus has been inspected and approved as required by this code. The local authority having jurisdiction shall have authority to remove or cause the removal of any obstructions which may prevent the proper inspection of the electrical wiring or electrical apparatus. Upon the completion of any wiring or electrical installation in any building, it shall be the duty of the company, firm or individual doing the same to notify the local authority having jurisdiction, who shall inspect the same on receipt of such notice for conformance to the provisions of this code. Certificates of occupancy shall not be issued unless all the electrical installations are in conformity with the rules and regulations set forth in this code.

12: STOP WORK ORDER:

Authority: Whenever the local authority having jurisdiction finds any work regulated by this code being performed in a manner either contrary to the provisions of this code or dangerous or unsafe, the local authority having jurisdiction shall be authorized to issue a stop work order.

Issuance: The stop work order shall be in writing and shall state the reason for the order and the conditions under which the work will be permitted to resume. The stop work order shall be given to the owner of the property involved, or to the owner's agent, or to the person doing the work. Upon issuance of a stop work order, all work shall immediately cease. All other persons shall vacate the job site immediately or be subject to penalties as prescribed by law.

Unlawful Continuance: Upon issuance of a stop work order, all work shall immediately cease and all persons shall vacate the job site immediately. Any work on the premise shall be limited to the removal or correction of the violation or unsafe condition.

13: CODE PROVISIONS: The following provision, along with the National Electrical Code, as adopted by the State of Iowa, shall be applied for all updates:

Residential Dwellings

Service Upgrade (Increase in capacity)

1. In addition to the requirements in Section 1 through Section 10 below a service upgrade requires that the minimum number of circuits required by the Electrical Code shall be provided within
 - a. Kitchens
 - b. Bathrooms
 - c. Laundry Rooms

Panel Change Out (No change in capacity)

1. A panel or service entrance equipment that is replaced with new equipment with the same or less capacity will not be required to meet the requirements of section 5, section 7, or section 8.

Section 1 - Services

1. Load calculations shall be provided.
2. The installation of the service entrance equipment and service entrance conductors shall comply with the current adopted Electrical Code.
3. A minimum of an 100 amp service panel shall be installed.
4. The electrical system shall be grounded in accordance with the current adopted Electrical Code.

Section 2 - Kitchens

1. All new and existing countertop receptacle outlets, including those installed in an island or peninsula, and receptacle outlets within six feet of the outside edge of a sink shall be ground fault circuit interceptor (GFCI) protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 3 - Bathrooms

1. All new and existing receptacle outlets shall be ground fault circuit interrupter protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 4 - Laundry rooms

1. All new and existing receptacle outlets shall be ground fault circuit interrupter protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 5 - Bedrooms and other habitable rooms

1. All bedrooms and habitable rooms shall be provided with a minimum of two receptacle outlets.

Section 6 - Unfinished basements

1. All new and existing receptacle outlets shall be ground fault circuit interrupter protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 7 - Exterior

1. All new and existing exterior receptacle outlets shall be ground fault circuit interrupter protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 8 - Furnaces, A/C units, and corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST)

1. There shall be a means to disconnect the furnace per the Electrical Code.
2. The A/C condenser or equipment shall have a disconnect installed per the Electrical Code.
3. Corrugated stainless steel tubing shall be bonded to the electrical grounding system or panelboard utilized by the existing electrical service. This shall be done according to the tubing manufacturer recommendations.

Section 9 - Garages and accessory buildings

1. All new and existing receptacle outlets installed in garages and accessory buildings shall be ground fault circuit interrupter protected. If no equipment ground is available within these specific receptacle outlets, the GFCI shall be labeled (No equipment ground).

Section 10 – General

1. New receptacles shall be tamper resistant where required by the Electrical Code.

14: CONFLICTING PROVISIONS: In any case where the provisions of this chapter, or the electrical code adopted hereby, are found to be in conflict with a provision of the code of Iowa or a provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the local authority having jurisdiction, the provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people shall prevail.

15: VIOLATIONS: Violations of the provisions of this chapter, or failure to comply with any of its requirements, shall constitute a violation of this code of ordinances punishable per set violations of the local authority having jurisdiction.