

Draft Rule Language – Version 1
Chapter 296-46B WAC
Electrical Rule Updates
June 16, 2025

WAC 296-46B-010 General. Adopted standards.

(1) The 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70 - 2023) ~~published September, 2023~~ including Annex A, B, C, and subsequent Errata and Tentative Interim Amendments issued by the National Fire Protection Association; the latest published versions of Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standard (ANSI/TIA-568); Commercial Building Standard for Telecommunications Pathway and Spaces (ANSI/TIA-569); Commercial Building Grounding and Bonding Requirements for Telecommunications (ANSI/TIA-607); Residential Telecommunications Cable Standard (ANSI/TIA-570); and the latest published version of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC excluding Appendixes A and B) are hereby adopted by reference as part of this chapter.

Effective December 31, 2026, the 2026 edition of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70-2026) including Annex A, B, and C is adopted in this chapter by reference and replaces the 2023 edition of the NFPA 70.

Commented [CAR(1): Removes unnecessary language.

Commented [CAR(2): Adds new language to replace the 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC) with the 2026 edition. The 2026 edition would take effect in rule on December 31, 2026.

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This chapter will be followed where there is any conflict between this chapter and the above adopted standards.

The National Electrical Code will be followed where there is any conflict between the National Electrical Code and, ANSI/TIA 568, ANSI/TIA 569, ANSI/TIA 607, ANSI/TIA/570, or the NESC.

Adopted standards apply to installations when issue dates of electrical permits are on and after adoption dates of standards except for:

- (a) New one- and two-family dwellings, or multifamily dwellings where the issue date of building permits for the premises is before the adoption date of standards; or
- (b) New installations where plan review is required by WAC 296-46B-900 when plans are received and accepted for review before the adoption date of standards.

Inspections - General.

(2) Electrical inspectors will give information as to the interpretation or application of the standards in this chapter, but will not lay out work or act as consultants for contractors, owners, or users.

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(3) A variance from the electrical installation requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW or this chapter may be granted by the department or the city that has electrical inspection jurisdiction when it is assured that equivalent objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective safety.

(a) Any electrical permit holder may request a variance.

(b) The permit holder must make the request in writing, using a form provided by the department, to the chief electrical inspector or to the city that has electrical inspection jurisdiction. The request must include:

- (i) A description of the installation as installed or proposed;
- (ii) A detailed list of the applicable code violations;
- (iii) A detailed list of safety violations;
- (iv) A description of the proposal for meeting equivalent objectives for code and/or safety violations; and
- (v) Appropriate variance application fee as listed in chapter 296-46B WAC, Part C.

(4) Electrical wiring or equipment subject to this chapter must be sufficiently accessible, at the time of inspection, to

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allow the inspector to visually inspect the installation to verify conformance with the NEC and any other electrical requirements of this chapter with the exception of not more than eight feet of electrical conduit in a foundation of a one- or two-family dwelling or residential outbuilding for use as service entrance raceway.

(5) All required equipment grounding conductors installed in concealed cable or flexible conduit systems must be completely installed and made up at the time of the rough-in cover inspection.

(6) The installation of all structural elements and mechanical systems (e.g., framing, plumbing, ducting, etc.) must be complete in the area(s) where electrical inspection is requested. Prior to completion of an exterior wall cover inspection, either:

(a) The exterior shear panel/sheathing nail inspection must be completed by the building code inspector and, where siding nails or fasteners which penetrate into the wall cavity are to be used, all siding must be installed; or

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(b) All wiring and device boxes must be a minimum of 2 1/2 inches from the exterior surface of the framing member; or

(c) All wiring and device boxes must be protected by a steel plate a minimum of 1/16 inch thick and of appropriate width and height installed to cover the area of the wiring or box.

(7) In order to meet the minimum electrical safety standards for installations, all materials, devices, appliances, and equipment, not exempted in chapter 19.28 RCW, must conform to applicable electrical product standards recognized by the department, be listed, or field evaluated. For any equipment that requires an amusement operating permit under chapter 67.42 RCW, the operating permit is prima facie evidence of an appropriate standard. Other than as authorized by the chief electrical inspector or a city authorized to do electrical inspection, equipment must not be energized until such standards are met.

(8) The state department of transportation is recognized as the inspection authority for telecommunications systems installations within the rights of way of state highways

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provided the department of transportation maintains and enforces an equal, higher or better standard of construction, and of materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than is required for telecommunications systems installations by chapter 19.28 RCW and this chapter.

Inspection move on buildings and structures.

(9) All buildings or structures relocated into or within the state:

(a) Other than residential, wired inside the United States (U.S.) must be inspected to ensure compliance with current requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW and the rules developed by the department.

(b) Wired outside the U.S. or Canada must be inspected to ensure compliance with all current requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW and the rules developed by the department.

(10) Residential buildings or structures wired in the U.S., to NEC requirements, and moved into or within a county, city, or town must be inspected to ensure compliance with the NEC requirements in effect at the time and place the original wiring was made. The building or structure must be inspected to ensure

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compliance with all current requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW and the rules developed by the department if:

(a) The original occupancy classification of the building or structure is changed as a result of the move; or

(b) The building or structure has been substantially remodeled or rehabilitated as a result of the move.

(11) Residential buildings or structures wired in Canada to Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) standards and moved into or within a county, city, or town, must be inspected to ensure compliance with the following minimum safety requirements:

(a) Service, service grounding, and service bonding must comply with the current chapter 19.28 RCW and rules adopted by the department.

(b) Canadian Standards Association (CSA) listed Type NMD cable is allowed with the following qualifications:

(i) CSA listed Type NMD cable, American Wire Gauge #10 and smaller installed after 1964 utilizing an equipment grounding conductor smaller than the phase conductors, must be:

(A) Replaced with a cable utilizing a full-size equipment grounding conductor; or

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(B) Protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter protection device.

(ii) CSA listed Type NMD cable, #8 AWG and larger, must:

(A) Utilize an equipment grounding conductor sized according to the requirements of the NEC in effect at the time of the installation;

(B) Be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter protection device; or

(C) Be replaced.

(c) Other types of wiring and cable must be:

(i) Replaced with wiring listed or field evaluated in accordance with U.S. standards by a laboratory approved by the department; or

(ii) Protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter protection device and arc fault circuit protection device.

(d) Equipment, other than wiring or panelboards, manufactured and installed prior to 1997 must be listed and identified by laboratory labels approved by the department or CSA labels.

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(e) All panelboards must be listed and identified by testing laboratory labels approved by the department with the following qualifications:

(i) CSA listed panelboards labeled "suitable for use as service equipment" will be considered to be approved as "suitable for use only as service equipment."

(ii) CSA listed panelboards used as panelboards as described in the NEC, must meet all current requirements of the NEC and this chapter.

(f) Any wiring or panelboards replaced or changed as a result of the move must meet current requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW and this chapter.

(g) The location, type, and ground fault circuit interrupter protection of receptacles and equipment in a bathroom, kitchen, basement, garage, or outdoor area must meet the Washington requirements in effect at the time the wiring was installed.

(h) 4, 15-ampere, kitchen small appliance circuits will be accepted in lieu of two, 20-ampere, kitchen small appliance

circuits. Receptacles will not be required to be added on kitchen peninsular or island counters.

(i) Spacing requirements for all other receptacles must meet the Washington requirements in effect at the time the wiring was installed.

(j) Receptacles installed above baseboard or fixed wall space heaters must be removed and the outlet box covered with a blank cover. The receptacle is required to be relocated as closely as possible to the existing location.

(k) Lighting outlet and switch locations must meet the Washington requirements in effect at the time the wiring was installed.

(l) Dedicated 20-ampere small appliance circuits are not required in dining rooms.

(m) Electric water heater branch circuits must be adequate for the load.

(n) The location, type, and circuit protection of feeders must meet the Washington requirements in effect at the time the wiring was installed.

Wiring methods for designated building occupancies.

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(12) Wiring methods in educational or institutional facilities as defined in this chapter must be metallic or nonmetallic raceways, MI, MC, or AC cable. Places of assembly located within these facilities must comply with NEC 518.4(A) and (B).

(13) Assisted living facility generator systems may be wired and installed per NEC 517.

(14) Lawfully installed existing electrical installations that do not comply with the provisions of this chapter and remain in compliance with the code at the time of the installation, will be permitted to be continued without change (i.e., without circuitry or occupancy change). Additions, alterations, modifications, or repairs to the electrical system must conform to the current requirements of this chapter.

Traffic management systems.

(15) The department or city authorized to do electrical inspections will perform the electrical inspection and acceptance of traffic management systems within its jurisdiction. A traffic management system includes:

(a) Traffic illumination systems;

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(b) Traffic signal systems;

(c) Traffic monitoring systems;

(d) The electrical service cabinet and all related components and equipment installed on the load side of the service cabinet supplying electrical power to the traffic management system; and

(e) Signalization system(s) necessary for the operation of a light rail system.

A traffic management system can provide signalization for controlling vehicular traffic, pedestrian traffic, or rolling stock.

(16) The department or city authorized to do electrical inspections recognizes that traffic signal conductors, pole and bracket cables, signal displays, traffic signal controllers/cabinets and associated components used in traffic management systems are acceptable for the purpose of meeting the requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW provided they conform with the following standards or are listed on the Washington state department of transportation (WSDOT) qualified products list.

(a) WSDOT/APWA standard specifications and plans;

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(b) WSDOT *Design Manual*;

(c) International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA);

(d) National Electrical Manufacturer's Association (NEMA);

(e) Federal Standards 170/Controller Cabinets;

(f) Manual for *Uniform Road, Bridge, and Municipal Construction*;

(g) Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE); or

(h) Manual of *Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*.

(17) Associated induction detection loop or similar circuits will be accepted by the department or city authorized to do electrical inspections without inspection.

(18) For the licensing requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW, jurisdictions will be considered owners of traffic management systems when doing electrical work for another jurisdiction(s) under a valid interlocal agreement, as permitted by chapter 39.34 RCW. Interlocal agreements for traffic management systems must be filed with the department or city authorized to do electrical inspections prior to work being performed for this provision to apply.

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(19) Jurisdictions, with an established electrical inspection authority, and WSDOT may perform electrical inspection on their rights of way for each other by interlocal agreement. They may not perform electrical inspection on other rights of way except as allowed in chapter 19.28 or 39.34 RCW.

(20) Underground installations.

(a) In other than open trenching, raceways will be considered "fished" according to the NEC and do not require visual inspection.

(b) The department or city authorized to do electrical inspections will conduct inspections in open trenching within its jurisdiction. The electrical work permit purchaser must coordinate the electrical inspection. A written request (e.g., letter, email, fax, etc.) for inspection, made to the department or city authorized to do electrical inspections office having the responsibility to perform the inspection, must be made a minimum of two working days prior to the day inspection is needed (e.g., two working days 10:00 a.m. Tuesday request for a 10:00 a.m. Thursday inspection, excluding holidays and weekends).

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If, after proper written request, the department or city authorized to do electrical inspections fails to make an electrical inspection at the time requested, underground conduit may be covered after inspection by the local government jurisdiction's project inspector/designee. Written documentation of a local government jurisdiction inspection must be provided to the department or city authorized to do electrical inspections when requested. Written documentation will include:

- (i) Date and time of inspection;
- (ii) Location;
- (iii) Installing firm;
- (iv) Owner;
- (v) Type of conduit;
- (vi) Size of conduit;
- (vii) Depth of conduit; and
- (viii) Project inspector/designee name and contact

information.

(21) Identification of traffic management system components. Local government jurisdictions or WSDOT may act as

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the certifying authority for the safety evaluation of all components.

(a) An electrical service cabinet must contain only listed components. The electrical service cabinet enclosure is not required to be listed but will conform to the standards in subsection (16) of this section.

(b) The local government jurisdiction must identify, as acceptable, the controller cabinet or system component(s) with an identification plate. The identification plate must be located inside the cabinet and may be attached with adhesive.

(22) Conductors of different circuits in same cable, enclosure, or raceway. All traffic management system circuits will be permitted to occupy the same cable, enclosure, or raceway without regard to voltage characteristics, provided all conductors are insulated for the maximum voltage of any conductor in the cable, enclosure, or raceway.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251. WSR 24-05-085, § 296-46B-010, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24; WSR 20-11-053 and 20-14-083, § 296-46B-010, filed 5/19/20 and 6/30/20, effective 10/29/20; WSR 19-15-117, § 296-46B-010, filed 7/23/19, effective 8/23/19. Statutory

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Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.010 and 19.28.031. WSR 17-12-021, § 296-46B-010, filed 5/30/17, effective 7/1/17.

Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW. WSR 14-11-075, § 296-46B-010, filed 5/20/14, effective 7/1/14; WSR 13-03-128, § 296-46B-010, filed 1/22/13, effective 3/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.281, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551. WSR 08-24-048, § 296-46B-010, filed 11/25/08, effective 12/31/08; WSR 06-24-041, § 296-46B-010, filed 11/30/06, effective 12/31/06; WSR 06-05-028, § 296-46B-010, filed 2/7/06, effective 5/1/06; WSR 05-10-024, § 296-46B-010, filed 4/26/05, effective 6/30/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2003 c 399, 2003 c 211, 2003 c 78, and 2003 c 242. WSR 04-12-049, § 296-46B-010, filed 5/28/04, effective 6/30/04.

Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2002 c 249, chapters 34.05 and 19.28 RCW. WSR 03-09-111, § 296-46B-010, filed 4/22/03, effective 5/23/03.]

WAC 296-46B-334 Nonmetallic-sheathed cable. 010

Nonmetallic-sheathed cable.

(1) The building classification, for subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, will be as determined by the building official. For the purposes of this section, Type III, IV-HT and V may be as defined in the International Building Code adopted in the state of Washington. The installer must provide the inspector documentation substantiating the type of building construction and finish material rating(s) prior to any electrical inspection.

(2) This section replaces NEC 334.10(2). In multifamily dwellings, Type NM, Type NMC, and Type NMS cable(s) may be used in structures of Types III, IV-HT, and V construction except as prohibited in NEC 334.12.

(3) This section replaces NEC 334.10(3). In all other structures, Type NM, Type NMC, and Type NMS cable(s) may be used in structures of Types III, IV-HT, and V construction except as prohibited in NEC 334.12. All cable(s) must be concealed within walls, floors, or ceilings that provide a thermal barrier of

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material that has at least a 15-minute finish rating as identified in listings of fire-rated assemblies.

(4) This section replaces NEC 334.10(4). Cable trays in structures of Types III, IV-HT, and V construction, where the cable(s) is identified for the use, except as prohibited in NEC 334.12.

015 Exposed work.

(5) Where Type NMC cable is installed in shallow chases in plaster, masonry, concrete, adobe or similar material, the cable must be protected against nails or screws by:

(a) A steel plate at least 1/16 inch thick and covered with plaster, adobe, or similar finish; or

(b) Being recessed in a chase at least 2 3/4 inches deep, as measured from the finished surface, and covered with plaster, adobe, or similar finish. The cable(s) must be at least 2 1/2 inches from the finished surface.

(6) The requirements for nonmetallic sheathed cable protection in NEC 334.15(C) do not apply in crawl spaces.

(7) Wet or damp locations prohibited in NEC 334.12(B)(4) do not include the interior of conduits installed outdoors used for physical protection of NM cables under the following conditions:

(a) Cables emerging from a building interior, attic, or crawlspace remain unbroken until terminated; and

(b) Flexible metal conduits are not used; and

(c) No conduit systems are longer than 10 feet or below grade; and

(d) Conduits are sealed to prevent air movement and are arranged to naturally drain.

080 Ampacity of Types NM and NMC cable carrying suffix letter "-B".

(8) (a) The ampacity of Types NM and NMC cable carrying suffix letter "-B" shall be determined in accordance with NEC 310.14.

(b) The ampacity of #10 AWG and smaller ungrounded conductors shall not exceed that of a 60°C (140°F) rated conductor.

(c) The ampacity of ungrounded conductors larger than #10 AWG shall not exceed that of a 75°C (167°F) rated conductor.

(d) The 90°C (194°F) rating shall be permitted to be used for ampacity adjustment and correction calculations, provided the final calculated ampacity for #10 AWG and smaller ungrounded conductors does not exceed that of a 60°C (140°F) rated conductor or exceed that of a 75°C (167°F) rated conductor for ungrounded conductors larger than #10 AWG.

(e) The ampacity of Types NM and NMC cable carrying suffix letter "-B" installed in cable trays shall be determined in accordance with NEC 392.80(A).

(f) Where more than two NM cables carrying suffix letter "-B" containing two or more current-carrying conductors are installed, without maintaining spacing between the cables, through the same opening in wood framing that is to be sealed with thermal insulation, caulk, or sealing foam, the ampacity of each conductor shall be adjusted in accordance with NEC Table 310.15(C)(1) and NEC 310.14(A)(2), Exception, shall not apply.

(g) Where more than two NM cables carrying suffix letter "-B" containing two or more current-carrying conductors are installed in contact with thermal insulation without maintaining spacing between cables, the ampacity of each conductor shall be

adjusted in accordance with NEC Table 310.15(C) (1) and NEC

310.14(A) (2), Exception, shall not apply.

Commented [CAR(3):Adds a new subsection to amend the adopted NEC restriction for non-metallic sheathed cable and allow calculations for minimum conductor sizes to be calculated at a higher temperature rating.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251. WSR 24-05-085, § 296-46B-334, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24; WSR 20-11-053 and 20-14-083, § 296-46B-334, filed 5/19/20 and 6/30/20, effective 10/29/20. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.010 and 19.28.031. WSR 17-12-021, § 296-46B-334, filed 5/30/17, effective 7/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.281, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551. WSR 08-24-048, § 296-46B-334, filed 11/25/08, effective 12/31/08; WSR 05-10-024, § 296-46B-334, filed 4/26/05, effective 6/30/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400, 19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2003 c 399, 2003 c 211, 2003 c 78, and 2003 c 242. WSR 04-12-049, § 296-46B-334, filed 5/28/04, effective 6/30/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.28.006, 19.28.010, 19.28.031, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.101, 19.28.131, 19.28.161, 19.28.171, 19.28.191, 19.28.201, 19.28.211, 19.28.241, 19.28.251, 19.28.271, 19.28.311, 19.28.321, 19.28.400,

19.28.420, 19.28.490, 19.28.551, 2002 c 249, chapters 34.05 and 19.28 RCW. WSR 03-09-111, § 296-46B-334, filed 4/22/03, effective 5/23/03.]

WAC 296-46B-942 Training certificate required. General.

(1) To work in the electrical construction trade as an electrical trainee, an individual must possess, wear, and visibly display a current valid electrical training certificate, learning the trade in the proper ratio, per RCW 19.28.161, under the supervision of a certified master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in their specialty, or specialty electrician working in their specialty.

The trainee must meet all the requirements of WAC 296-46B-940 related to visibly displaying a current certificate and having a valid photo identification on his/her person.

Unless working in a specialty, apprentices and individuals learning the electrical construction trade must have in their possession proof of apprenticeship or journey level training program registration. They must show their apprenticeship or training program registration documents to an authorized

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representative of the department at the representative's request.

(2) An active training certificate is required for all individuals throughout the individual's enrollment and matriculation in an approved construction electrician training school program described in RCW 19.28.191. A training certificate is required to work in the electrical construction trade if an individual does not:

(a) Possess a current journey level certificate of competency issued by the department;

(b) Possess a current specialty electrician certificate of competency issued by the department while working in that specialty's scope of work; or

(c) Is not working in exempt status as allowed by chapter 19.28 RCW.

(3) Trainees who have had their training certificates revoked or suspended (during the duration of the revocation or suspension) will not be issued a training certificate.

Original training certificates.

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(4) The department will issue an original training certificate when the trainee applicant submits a complete training certificate application including:

(a) Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number; and

(b) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

All applicants for an electrical training certificate must be at least 16 years of age. The original training certificate will be valid for two years. If an individual has previously held an electrical training certificate, then that individual is not eligible for a subsequent original training certificate.

Specialty specific - Zero percent and 75 percent supervision modified training certificates.

(5) For specialties as allowed in Table 945-1 (i.e., specialties with 720 minimum hours of work experience required to be eligible for examination):

(a) The department will approve the trainee to take the appropriate specialty competency examination necessary to qualify for a zero percent supervision modified training certificate. To qualify, the trainee applicant must submit a

complete zero percent supervision modified training certificate application including:

(i) Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number;

(ii) Affidavit of experience fulfilling the minimum work experience hours required to qualify for the specialty examination described in Table 945-1; and

(iii) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

Upon successful completion of the appropriate examination, the trainee will be issued a nonrenewable zero percent supervision modified training certificate for the appropriate specialty. The zero percent supervision modified training certificate will be restricted in duration to the time allowed in Table 945-1, note 2.

(b) Prior to the expiration of the zero percent supervision modified training certificate, the individual must submit a complete application for a 75 percent supervision modified training certificate for the appropriate specialty including:

(i) Seventy-five percent supervision training certificate application including: Date of birth, mailing address, Social Security number; and

(ii) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

(c) A trainee may possess multiple (i.e., in different specialties) modified supervision training certificates for specialties where reduced supervision is allowed in Table 945-1. Combination training certificates will not be issued.

Renewal of training certificates.

(6) An individual must apply for renewal of their training certificate on or before the expiration date of the certificate. The individual may not apply for renewal more than 90 days prior to the expiration date. Renewed certificates are valid for two years.

(7) An individual may renew their training certificate after the expiration date if the individual pays the late renewal fee listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

(8) All applicants for training certificate renewal must:

(a) Submit a complete renewal application;

(b) Pay all appropriate fees; and

(c) Complete the approved basic trainee classes required by WAC 296-46B-970. Basic trainee classes are only valid when all the requirements of WAC 296-46B-970 are completed.

(d) ~~Within 180 days after the expiration date of an~~

~~electrical training certificate, the individual, if not enrolled in a department approved apprenticeship program, must submit a completed, signed, and notarized affidavit(s) of experience for all hours of experience gained since the individual's last training certificate was effective. Affidavits must be received by the department within 180 days after the expiration date of an electrical training certificate.~~

(d) (i) Deadline for affidavits of experience for hours worked by an individual while not registered in a department approved apprenticeship program:

(A) Affidavits of experience for the prior two years must be received by the department within 180 days after every electrical training certificate expiration date.

(B) Affidavits must be complete, signed, and notarized.

(C) Hours claimed from affidavits of experience received after the 180 day deadline described in (8) (d) (i) (A) of this subsection, shall not count towards hours required to qualify for electrician certification examinations or unsupervised electrical training certificates.

Commented [CAR(4): Amends language to clarify the existing requirements for submittal of trainee hours of experience.

Renumbers subsections for formatting.

Employers are required to provide the necessary documentation and signed affidavit of experience to the trainee within 20 days after the trainee requests the affidavit. See WAC 296-46B-942(12). See WAC 296-46B-985(4) for the penalty for providing a false or inaccurate affidavit of experience. If the individual is enrolled in a department approved apprenticeship program, the program may submit the required affidavit(s) of experience upon the individual's completion of the required experience hours without cost to the individual. The affidavit of experience must accurately attest to:

(~~iii~~ii) The electrical installation work performed for each employer the individual worked for in the electrical trade during the previous period;

(~~iii~~iii) The correct electrical category the individual worked in; and

(~~iii~~iv) The actual number of hours worked in each category under the proper supervision of a Washington certified, master journey level electrician, journey level electrician or appropriate master specialty electrician or specialty electrician under that specific training certificate. If a

trainee possesses multiple training certificates, an affidavit must be submitted for each training certificate for the hours worked under that specific training certificate.

If the individual is enrolled in a department approved apprenticeship program, the program may submit the required affidavit(s) of experience upon the individual's completion of the required experience hours without cost to the individual.

(9) An individual may not renew a training certificate until the required hours of basic classroom education have been completed.

(10) An individual may renew a suspended training certificate by submitting a complete renewal application including obtaining and submitting the basic trainee class education required for renewal. However, the certificate will remain in a suspended status for the duration of the suspension period.

(11) An individual will not be issued a renewed or reinstated training certificate if the individual owes the department money as a result of an outstanding final judgment under chapter 19.28 RCW.

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(12) The individual should ask each employer and/or apprenticeship training director for an accurately completed, signed, and notarized affidavit of experience for the previous certification period. The employer(s) or apprenticeship training director(s) must provide the previous period's affidavit of experience to the individual within 20 days of the request. If an individual is enrolled in an approved electrical construction trade apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW, the individual and their apprenticeship training director and/or each employer must give the department an accurately completed, signed, and notarized affidavit of experience accurately attesting to:

(a) The electrical installation work the individual performed in the electrical trade during the previous certification period;

(b) The correct electrical category the individual worked in; and

(c) The actual number of hours worked in each category under the proper supervision of a Washington certified master journey level electrician, journey level electrician or

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appropriate master specialty or specialty electrician for each employer. For apprentices enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program, the training director or their designated authorized signer are the only authorized signatures the department will accept on affidavits of experience.

(13) The employer(s) and/or apprenticeship training director(s) or their designated authorized signer must sign and have notarized the affidavit of experience attesting to the accuracy of all information contained in the affidavit.

(14) The trainee, supervising electrician, contractor, and assigned administrator or master electrician are responsible for ensuring compliance with subsection (13) of this section. See WAC 296-46B-985 and 296-46B-990 (3) (c) and (f) for information about failing to submit or submitting false/fraudulent documents. Falsifying documents may be considered perjury and might result in criminal prosecution, civil penalty, or certificate revocation or suspension.

Trainees without supervision present on the job site.

(15) When the supervising electrician is found to not be present on the job site, the trainee may be given a form by the

inspector that must be fully completed and returned or postmarked within 24 hours to the inspector. The supervising electrician must sign the statement for the trainee if appropriate supervision was provided. If the supervising electrician fails or refuses to assist the trainee in completing the form, the trainee must return the form with a signed and dated statement stating the supervising electrician's name and saying that the supervising electrician refused to assist.

Trainees seeking a journey level electrician certificate - Working with no supervision.

(16) Trainee seeking a general (01) journey level electrician certificate of competency. After review by the department, a trainee may be issued a six-month, nonrenewable unsupervised electrical training certificate that will allow the individual to work without supervision if the trainee:

(a) Has submitted a complete application for an unsupervised electrical training certificate;

(b) Has worked over 7,000 hours properly supervised not to include more than 4,000 of specialty experience;

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(c) Has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program or an electrical construction trade program in a school approved by the board of community and technical colleges;

(d) Has paid all appropriate training certificate fees listed in WAC 296-46B-909;

(e) Is currently working for and continues to work for a licensed electrical contractor that employs at least one certified journey level or specialty electrician in the appropriate specialty; and

(f) Has not previously failed a journey level electrician certificate of competency examination (see WAC 296-46B-960(11)).

Trainees seeking certain specialty electrician certificates

- Working with reduced or no supervision.

(17) After review by the department, a trainee may be issued a nonrenewable zero percent supervision training certificate that will allow the individual to work without supervision if the trainee meets the requirements in subsection (5) of this section.

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(18) Electrical trainees may work unsupervised when installing HVAC/R thermostat cable when the HVAC/R system consists of a single thermostat in one- and two-family dwelling units where line voltage power has not been connected to the dwelling's electrical system.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251. WSR 24-05-085, § 296-46B-942, filed 2/21/24, effective 4/1/24; WSR 19-15-117, § 296-46B-942, filed 7/23/19, effective 8/23/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW, RCW 19.28.010 and 19.28.031. WSR 17-12-021, § 296-46B-942, filed 5/30/17, effective 7/1/17. Statutory Authority: Chapter 19.28 RCW. WSR 14-11-075, § 296-46B-942, filed 5/20/14, effective 7/1/14; WSR 13-03-128, § 296-46B-942, filed 1/22/13, effective 3/1/13.]