

General—Electrical work permits and fees.

General.

(1) When an electrical work permit is required by chapter 19.28 RCW or this chapter, inspections may not be made, equipment must not be energized, or services connected unless:

- (a) A valid electrical work permit is obtained and posted per subsection (5) of this section;
- (b) The classification or type of facility to be inspected and the exact scope and location of the electrical work to be performed are clearly shown on the electrical work permit;
- (c) The address where the inspection is to be made is clearly identifiable from the street, road or highway that serves the premises; and
- (d) Driving directions are provided for the inspectors' use.

(2) Except as allowed for annual permits and two-family dwellings, an electrical work permit is valid for only one specific job site address.

Permit - Responsibility for.

(3) Each person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity must furnish a valid electrical work permit for the installation, alteration, or other electrical work performed or to be performed solely by that entity. When the original purchaser is replaced, another entity may request, in writing, written approval from the chief electrical inspector to take responsibility for the work of the original installing entity under the original permit. If permission is not granted the entity must obtain a new permit for the remaining work.

Two or more entities may never work under the same permit. Each electrical work permit application must be signed by the electrical contractor's administrator (or designee) or the person, or authorized representative of the firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity that is performing the electrical installation or alteration. Permits purchased electronically do not require a handwritten signature. An entity designated to sign electrical permits must provide written authorization of the purchaser's designation when requested by the department or city that is authorized to do electrical inspections.

(4) Permits to be obtained by customers. Whenever a serving electrical utility performs work for a customer under one of the exemptions in WAC 296-46B-925 and the work is subject to inspection, the customer is responsible for obtaining all required permits.

(5) Except as allowed for Class B permits, where an electrical work permit is required, the work permit must be obtained and posted at the job site or the electrical work permit number must be conspicuously posted and identified as the electrical work permit number on or adjacent to the electrical service or feeder panel supplying power to the work prior to beginning any electrical work and at all times until the electrical inspection process is completed.

Exceptions:

(a) For an owner, an electrical work permit for emergency like-in-kind repairs to an existing electrical system(s) must be obtained no later than the next business day after the work is begun.

(b) For an electrical contractor, in a city's jurisdiction where the city is authorized to do electrical inspections and does not have a provisional permit system, an electrical work permit for emergency like-in-kind repairs to an existing electrical system(s) must be obtained and posted, per the city's requirements at the job site no later than the next business day after the work is begun.

(6) Fees must be paid in accordance with the inspection fee schedule in Part C of this chapter. The amount of the fee due is calculated based on the fee effective at the date payment is made. If the project is required to have an electrical plan review, the plan review fees will be based on the fees effective at the date the plans are received by the department for review. In a city where the department is doing inspections as the city's contractor, a supplemental fee may apply.

Permit - Requirements for.

(7) As required by chapter 19.28 RCW or this chapter, an electrical work permit is required for the installation, alteration, or maintenance of all electrical systems or equipment except for:

(a) Travel trailers;

(b) Class A basic electrical work which includes:

(i) **The like-in-kind replacement** of lamps; a single set of fuses; a single battery smaller than 150 amp hour; contactors, relays, timers, starters, circuit boards, or similar control components; one household appliance; circuit breakers; single-family residential luminaires and line voltage smoke or carbon monoxide alarms; a maximum of five snap switches, dimmers, receptacle outlets, thermostats, heating elements, luminaire ballasts or drivers/power supplies for single LED luminaires with an exact same ballast or driver/power supply; component(s) of electric signs, outline lighting, or skeleton neon tubing when replaced on-site by an appropriate electrical contractor and when the sign, outline lighting or skeleton neon tubing electrical system is not modified; one ten horsepower or smaller motor.

For the purposes of this section, "circuit breaker" means a circuit breaker that is used to provide overcurrent protection only for a branch circuit, as defined in NEC 100.

(ii) Induction detection loops described in WAC 296-46B-300(2) and used to control gate access devices;

(iii) Heat cable repair; and

(iv) Embedding premanufactured heat mats in tile grout where the mat is listed by an approved testing laboratory and comes from the manufacturer with preconnected lead-in conductors. All listing marks and lead-in conductor labels must be left intact and visible for evaluation and inspection by the installing electrician and the electrical inspector.

(v) The disconnection of electrical circuits from their overcurrent protection device for the specific purpose of removing the electrical wiring or equipment for disposal.

Unless specifically noted, the exemptions listed do not include: The replacement of an equipment unit, assembly, or enclosure that contains an exempted component or combination of components (e.g., an electrical furnace/heat pump, industrial milling machine, etc.) or any appliance/equipment described in this section for Class B permits.

In the department's jurisdiction, a provisional electrical work permit label may be posted in lieu of an electrical work permit. If a provisional electrical work permit label is used, an electrical work permit must be obtained within two working days after posting the provisional electrical work permit label. See WAC 296-46B-907(2) for provisional label requirements.

(c) The following types of systems and circuits are considered exempt from the requirements for licensing and permitting described in chapter 19.28 RCW. The electrical failure of these systems does not inherently or functionally compromise safety to life or property.

(i) Low-voltage thermocouple derived circuits;

(ii) Low-voltage circuits for residential: Garage doors and built-in vacuum systems;

(iii) Low-voltage circuits for underground: Landscape sprinkler systems, landscape lighting, and antennas for wireless animal containment fences.

For these types of systems and circuits to be considered exempt, the following conditions must be met:

(A) The power supplying the installation must be derived from a listed Class 2 power supply;

(B) The installation and termination of line voltage equipment and conductors supplying these systems is performed by appropriately licensed and certified electrical contractors and electricians;

(C) The conductors of these systems do not pass through fire-rated walls, fire-rated ceilings or fire-rated floors in other than residential units; and

(D) Conductors or luminaires are not installed in installations covered by the scope of Article 680 NEC (swimming pools, fountains, and similar installations).

(8) An electrical work permit is required for all installations of telecommunications systems on the customer side of the network demarcation point for projects greater than ten telecommunications outlets. All backbone installations regardless of size and all telecommunications cable or equipment installations