

CHAPTER 17

**ELECTRICAL CODE**  
**(Rep. & Rec. GO 01-12)**

Applicable State Laws

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**Applicable state laws:**      **Wis. Stat. §§ 101.80-101.88**  
   **Wis. Adm. Code Ch. SPS 316**  
   **Wis. Adm. Code §§ SPS 305.40-305.49**  
   **Wis. Adm. Code §§ SPS 305.62 & 305.63**

**NOTE:**      **Until April 1, 2013, any person who holds a city license or a state certification to install, repair, alter, service or maintain electrical wiring or engage in the business of installing, repairing, altering, servicing or maintaining electrical wiring shall be deemed to hold an equivalent state license or registration and comply with this section for as long as the person renews the city license or state certification and pays any applicable renewal fees (see table below). This note and the following table shall expire on April 1, 2013, and shall be removed from the code after said date. See Wis. Stat. § 101.861.**

### **SUBCHAPTER I: LICENSURE**

(1)      **LICENSE OR REGISTRATION REQUIRED.** No person may install, repair, alter, service or maintain electrical wiring or engage in the business of installing, repairing, or maintaining electrical wiring, except as allowed pursuant to § 101.862, Wis. Stats., and this Code.

(2)      **CENSURE EXEMPTIONS.**

(a)      **HOMEOWNER.** Notwithstanding § 101.862(4)(a), Wis. Stats., a residential property owner may install, repair, or maintain electrical wiring on premises that the property owner owns and occupies as a residence without a license, but only if:

1.      The homeowner is reasonably knowledgeable of such work as determined by an electrical inspector.
2.      The homeowner discusses the construction procedures and plans with the electrical inspector.
3.      The premises is a one-family dwelling.
4.      The homeowner signs the permit.
5.      The homeowner or the homeowner's spouse, child or parent performs work.
6.      The homeowner does not perform any work on service entrance equipment.

(b)      **GOVERNMENT.** Any property owned by the federal, state, or county government is exempt from licensure requirements.

(c)      **CERTAIN TYPES OF EQUIPMENT.** Unless the work involves the installation of a service, feeder, or a power supply, no license is required to perform work on:

1.      Traffic signal, railroad, telephone, cable TV, radio and signal equipment.

2. Burglar and fire alarms not required by the Wisconsin Administrative Code operating at 24 volts or less, or

3. Manufacturing machinery and specific processing equipment as defined in §70.11(27), Wis. Stats.

(d) NEC EXEMPTION. No license is required for installations in § 90-2(b), Vol. 2 of the National Electrical Code.

(e) DPW SUPERVISED. No license is required for work performed under the supervision of the Director of Public Works, excluding new buildings, major alterations, and work performed on services, feeders, or a power supply.

(3) ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS. Any person acting as an electrical contractor shall comply with this subsection:

(a) MASTER ELECTRICIAN. The electrical contractor, or at least one full-time employee of the electrical contractor, shall be a licensed master electrician.

(b) OBTAINING PERMITS. Only a master electrician named on the electrical contractor license may sign for electrical permits issued to electrical contractors.

(c) PROOF OF CREDENTIALS. Any master electrician signing for an electrical permit shall produce a copy of his or her license upon request of an electrical inspector.

(d) INSURANCE. Electrical contractors shall maintain public liability insurance, including products-completed operations, with bodily injury and property damage limits of at least \$ 1,000,000 per occurrence and \$ 1,000,000 aggregate. The insurance policy shall be issued by an insurer licensed to do business in Wisconsin, and a certificate of such insurance shall be filed with the Green Bay Risk Management Division. All insurers shall send a copy of any notification of termination required by § 631.36, Wis. Stats., to the Green Bay Risk Management Division at the same time such notice of termination is sent to the insured. Such notice of cancellation or reduction of insurance shall automatically suspend the contractor's certification, and no further permits shall be issued until a new insurance certificate has been filed with the Green Bay Risk Management Division.

(4) ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS. Electrical inspectors shall maintain the following certifications:

(a) Master electrician pursuant to § SPS 305.43, Wis. Adm. Code,

(b) Commercial electrical inspector pursuant to §§ SPS 305.62, Wis. Adm. Code, and

(c) Dwelling contractor pursuant to § SPS 305.63, Wis. Adm. Code.

## **SUBCHAPTER II: ELECTRICAL CODE REGULATIONS**

(5) **ADOPTION BY REFERENCE.** Pursuant to authority granted by § SPS 316.004(2), Wis. Adm. Code, the City hereby adopts in its entirety Ch. SPS 316, Wis. Adm. Code, as it may be amended from time to time, as though fully set forth herein.

(6) **LOCAL REGULATIONS.**

(a) Wiring shall be installed in raceways approved by the City for all service entrance conductors to connect electrical service to a building.

(b) If a new service is installed in an existing dwelling unit, the final construction shall provide not less than:

1. Two appliance circuits serving the kitchen receptacles.
2. One appliance circuit serving the laundry room.
3. One circuit for the heating equipment.

(c) All exposed wiring that does not comply with the current code shall be removed and replaced with wiring approved by the electrical inspector.

(d) If any component of the electrical service, from the service point to the load side of the service disconnect is repaired or replaced, grounding and bonding is required by § SPS 316.250, Wis. Adm. Code.

## **SUBCHAPTER III: CODE ENFORCEMENT**

(7) **DEFINITIONS.**

(a) “Re-inspection fee” means a special charge that may be assessed against a property owner by an inspector who finds the same parcel to not comply with the Code after inspecting it on at least two prior occasions.

1. The first re-inspection fee shall be \$50.
2. The second re-inspection fee shall be \$100.
3. The third and subsequent re-inspection fees shall be \$250.

(8) **ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS.**

(a) **JURISDICTION.** Electrical inspectors shall exercise jurisdiction over inspection of the installation, alteration, repair, servicing or maintenance of electrical wiring in all public or private buildings, including places of employment.

(b) **AUTHORITY.** Electrical inspectors shall ensure all work performed within their jurisdiction complies with this code.

(c) **DUTIES.** Electrical inspectors may issue permits and shall maintain records of permits issued to contractors and homeowners, along with any fees received for such permits.

(9) **PERMITS.** No person may install, repair, alter, service or maintain electrical wiring unless first obtaining a permit under this subsection. The common council shall determine the cost to obtain a permit. The cost to obtain a permit shall double if issued after work has commenced.

(10) **INSPECTION STAGES.** During the process of performing electrical work, the person performing such work shall ensure the following inspections occur, when required by the electrical inspector:

(a) **ROUGH.** An inspection before any electrical wiring is to be hidden from view.

(b) **SERVICE.** An inspection of the service equipment and grounding electrode system prior to energizing.

(c) **FINAL.** An inspection after all work has been completed and wiring concealed.

(11) **COMPLIANCE WITH CODE.** Electrical inspectors may utilize any lawful means to gain compliance with this code, including but not limited to:

(a) Inspecting electrical wiring.

(b) Withholding electrical permits.

(c) Issuing orders to correct violations.

(d) Assessing re-inspection fees.

(e) Denying/removing the connection of power to equipment.

(f) Issuing citations or complaints for violations.

(g) Condemning a building that is not safe for human habitation.

(12) **PENALTIES.** Any person who violates this Code shall forfeit to the city not less than \$25 nor more than \$500 for each violation. Each day a violation exists constitutes a separate offense.