

Overview

- 2018 Electrical Code
- Electrical Planning Basics
- When are Electrical Plans Required?
- Required Electrical Information
- Required Emergency Systems
- Sign Permits
- Electrical Application (required for now)





2018 Electrical Code

- 2018 Chicago Electrical Code (Title 14E) effective March 1, 2018
- Aligned with 2017 National Electrical Code
- Removed or reduced some Chicago-specific requirements
- Code modernization, Phase 1

















Checking Electrical Requirements

- 1. General electrical requirements
- 2. Specialized electrical requirements
- 3. Lighting requirements
- 4. Distribution



General Electrical Requirements

Receptacle Outlets

- Dwelling Units (210.52)
- Guest Rooms, Guest Suites, Dormitories, etc. (210.60)
- [Retail] Show Windows (210.62)
- HVAC Equipment Servicing (210.63)
- Electrical Service Areas (210.64)
- Meeting Rooms (210.71)



General Electrical Requirements (continued)

- Check receptacle outlet spacing requirements
 - Walls/partitions
 - Kitchen worksurfaces
 - Meeting rooms
- GFCI requirements
- AFCI requirements
 - But see Chicago exception for new/compliant installations
- Tamper-resistant receptacles



Specialized Electrical Requirements

- Specialized equipment may require:
 - Dedicated circuit(s)
 - Special grounding methods
- Specialized equipment can include:
 - Computer servers / network equipment
 - Photocopiers
 - Microwaves and breakroom appliances
 - Vending machines
 - Industrial equipment



Lighting Requirements

Lighting Outlets (210.70)

- Dwelling Units (210.70(A))
- Guest Rooms or Guest Suites (210.70(B))
- Storage/Utility Areas—All Occupancies (210.70(C))

Lighting also required for means of egress per *Building Code*.



Distribution

- Ensure adequate space/working room for distribution equipment
- Dedicated electrical closet/room where required
- Technology equipment areas
- As of 2019, in other than single-family dwellings, service disconnecting means may be outside





Electrical Plans Required

- Dwelling occupancies in buildings greater than two stories in height.
- Non-dwelling occupancies in buildings greater than one story in height or greater than 10,000 ft².
- New or replacement services or feeders rated 400 Amps or greater.
- Service switchboards and motor control centers rated in excess of 1,200 amperes or 600 volts.





Electrical Information Required on Plans

- Single line drawing of the service and distribution.
- Schedule of conduits, wire, switches, circuit breakers, over current devices, transformers, motors and luminaires.
- Load calculations to verify sizes of services, feeders and panel boards indicating available fault-current and withstand ratings.
- Grounding detail, including grounding electrode conductor or common grounding electrode conductor system.
- Equipment layout in switchboard rooms and electrical closets indicating the working space required by 110.26.

Electrical Information Required on Plans (continued)

Special Services Switchboard

- Switchboard with a single disconnecting means having a frame rating in excess of 1,200 amperes or a sequence service switchboard where the sum of the frame size exceeds 1,200 amperes.
- Drawing submittal requirements.
- Review and approval.



Required Emergency Systems (14E-7-700)

- Location of all exit and emergency lights on scaled floor plans.
- Review of single line drawing of emergency service and distribution showing sizes of conduit, conductors, switches and over current devices.
- Detail all loads and locations of emergency lighting equipment.
- If applicable, generators must comply with Article 701, Section 18-27-701.6.

Fire Alarm Systems

- This is a separate submittal of shop drawings by the FA contractor AFTER the building permit has been issued.
- Two complete raceway diagrams showing all horizontal and lateral sections and two corresponding circuit diagrams.
- Show the circuits of the control panel, alarm sending stations, automatic detectors, alarm sounding devices, supervisory test switches, trouble sounding device, trouble sounding device test switch, pilot light and switch.

Fire Alarm Systems (continued)

- Submit two one-line wiring diagrams showing the service entrance conductors, equipment and fire alarm supply source.
- Full load calculations for all initiating and signaling circuits.



Sign Permits

A separate sign permit is required for:

- Building-mounted flat and projecting signs as well as billboard signs, free-standing signs, printed awnings, and monument signs.
 - Includes electric and non-electric signs
 - Sign permit application must be started online by the contractor
 - Zoning review is required
 - Site plan and construction details required
 - May require structural calculations
 - Use of public way is required for signs located in or projecting into the public way

Sign Permits (continued)

For more information, see *Business Owner's Guide to On-Premise Signs,* available on DOB's web site.

- Some window signs do not require a permit
- New fast-track business signs program, run by BACP, will allow up to 16 ft² inside window signs as part of business license



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Electrical Permit Application

- For now, an electrical permit application is still required (upload to ProjectDox) when scope of work includes electrical
- Must be signed by supervising electrician employed by electrical contractor





Summary

- Make sure to complete both the DOB Permit Application and the Electrical Application.
- Provide for required receptacle and lighting outlets.
- Follow the requirements for providing single line drawings, load calculations, grounding detail, and equipment layouts.



