

City of Harrisburg

Bureau of Codes Administration - Minimum electrical requirements

The electrical Inspector shall view plans and verify work is done per plans.

Only the Electrical Inspector shall place inspection stickers on the job site.

Completed electrical inspection reports must be sent to City of Harrisburg Codes Office.

New Construction & Commercial Fit-outs – All articles of the current Pa UCC adopted NEC apply.

New residential construction & substantial rehabilitation (IEBC Level 3 Alteration) Complete rehabilitation, Complete re-wire or remodel (51% to 100% of the building) must meet current Pa UCC adopted NEC compliance.

Existing Dwellings –The following minimums shall apply to:

Specified work area – level 2 alteration or less (remodel or rehabilitated area)

1. Two separate 20-amp branch circuits (for appliances) shall be installed to serve each kitchen.
2. All existing receptacles within 6 feet of a kitchen sink or wet bar shall have ground fault protection.
3. General lighting circuits to provide a minimum of 3 watt per square foot of floor space shall be installed.
4. Every room shall have a wall switch at point of entry. Each habitable room shall have a minimum of one switch operated light fixture or one switch operated duplex receptacle.
5. Below grade unfinished basement or crawl space shall have a ground fault protected branch circuit. Exception: Laundry, sump pump and appliance circuits.
6. One separate 20-amp branch circuit for the laundry area.
7. All grounding type receptacles shall be grounded.
8. Bathrooms: All existing receptacles shall be grounded and ground fault protection to duplex receptacle adjacent to bathroom sink.
9. Floor mounted receptacles to have proper floor boxes installed or moved to the wall or baseboard.
10. Basement to have one branch circuit in addition to a laundry circuit.
11. Outside receptacles must be ground fault protected and weather protected.
12. All fixtures to have proper junction boxes and grounding.

13. Stationary appliance branch circuits must be grounded.
14. Any exposed knob and tube wiring shall be removed and replaced with wiring meeting code.
15. All other wiring methods must comply with current NEC except for repair or replacement.
16. Electrical panels must have the breakers labeled (circuit ID).
17. Electrical panels must have clear space in front of the panel 6'6" height, 30" wide and 36" in front of the panel.
18. Panel box cannot be located in bathrooms, closets, over steps in a stairway.
19. Residential (single family dwelling, semi-detached, row or townhouse) if adding to existing circuit without new panel does not require change in breaker type.
20. Residential Electrical work to exterior portion of the system due to weather or other damage does not require a complete electrical system upgrade.

100-year flood plain properties:

Should any portion of the electrical service require replacement, the distribution panel shall be installed 3 feet above the 100-year flood plain elevation.

Should replacement of a service or repairs to the major components of the electrical system not be necessary and the distribution panel exists below the 100-year flood plain elevation, a disconnect shall be installed 3 feet above the 100-year flood plain elevation. The existing distribution panel may then be re-fed to as a sub-panel to meet the intent of the Federal Mandate relative to 100-year flood plain installation.