



**PSI Services LLC**  
3210 E Tropicana  
Las Vegas, NV 89121  
Phone: (855) 746-8173  
Fax: (702) 932-2666  
E-mail: [examschedule@psionline.com](mailto:examschedule@psionline.com)  
[www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com)



# Montana Department of **LABOR & INDUSTRY**

## **Montana State Electrical Board**

### **ELECTRICIAN EXAMINATIONS CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN**

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Please refer to our website to check for the most updated information at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com)

## GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINATION QUALIFICATION

### HOW TO OBTAIN A LICENSE

1. Request the license application instructions from:

Department of Labor and Industry  
Montana State Electrical Board  
301 South Park, 4th Floor  
P. O. Box 200513  
Helena, Montana 59620  
(406) 444-5711  
Email: [dlibsdlhelp@mt.gov](mailto:dlibsdlhelp@mt.gov)  
[www.electrician.mt.gov](http://www.electrician.mt.gov)

2. Once the Board has made you eligible to take the examination, you will receive an admission letter. This notification will also be submitted to PSI.

### EXAMINATION PAYMENT AND SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

Upon approval of licensure eligibility, the Board will mail or e-mail an admission letter. It is your responsibility to contact PSI to pay and schedule for the examination.

- Candidates who have failed an exam for the first time will be allowed to reschedule an exam without awaiting period.
- Upon a second exam failure, you will be required to provide proof of having completed at least one eight-hour electrical code seminar approved by the board to be made eligible to exam a third time.
- Upon three or more exam failures you will be required to attend at least two eight-hour electrical code seminars approved by the board to be made eligible to exam again.

Exam	Fee
Master Electrician	\$85.00
Journeyman Electrician	\$75.00
Residential Electrician	\$75.00

**NOTE: EXAMINATION FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE. THE EXAMINATION FEE IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PAYMENT.**

#### ON-LINE ([WWW.PSIEXAMS.COM](http://WWW.PSIEXAMS.COM))

For the fastest and most convenient examination scheduling process, PSI recommends that you register for your examinations using the Internet. You register online by accessing PSI's registration website at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com). Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.

1. Log onto PSI's website and create an account. Please enter your email address and first and last name. This information must match exactly with the information the Board has on file. Be sure to **check the box next to "Check here to attempt to locate existing records for you in the system"**.
2. You will be asked to select the examination and enter your social security number. Your record will be found and you will now be ready to pay and schedule for the exam. Enter your zip code and a list of the testing sites closest to you will appear. Once you select the desired test site, available dates will appear. If you have problems, contact PSI at (855) 746-8173 for help.

#### TELEPHONE

Call (855) 746-8173, PSI registrars are available to receive payment and to schedule your appointment for the examination.

To register by phone, you need a valid credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.)

	Monday-Friday	Saturday-Sunday
Eastern Time	8:00am - 8:00pm	9:00am - 5:30pm
Central Time	7:00am - 7:00pm	8:00am - 4:30pm
Mountain Time	6:00am - 6:00pm	7:00am - 3:30pm
Pacific Time	5:00am - 5:00pm	6:00am - 2:30pm

#### RESCHEDULING/CANCELING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your *cancellation notice is received 2 days before the scheduled examination date*. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on the previous Saturday. You may reschedule online at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com) or call PSI at (855) 746-8173.

**Note: A voice mail message is not an acceptable form of cancellation. Please use the PSI Website or call PSI and speak directly to a Customer Service Representative**

#### MISSED APPOINTMENT OR LATE CANCELLATION

If you miss your appointment, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, further you will forfeit your examination fee, if you:

- Do not cancel your appointment 2 days before the scheduled examination date;
- Do not appear for your examination appointment;
- Arrive after examination start time;
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

#### SPECIAL EXAMINATION ARRANGEMENTS (ADA)

All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and every reasonable accommodation will be made in meeting a candidate's needs. Candidates who require special accommodations will need to complete the necessary forms prior to registering for an exam with PSI. Please contact the board office for more information or



download the ADA form at [www.electrician.mt.gov](http://www.electrician.mt.gov) under the "Forms" tab. You will need to have your care provider complete this form in order to be approved for your accommodation.

#### EXAMINATION SITE CLOSING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. PSI personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation via telephone and email. However, you may check the status of your examination schedule by calling (855) 746-8173. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible. You will not be penalized. You will be rescheduled at no additional charge.

### EXAMINATION SITE LOCATIONS

There are nationwide examination centers. You will be provided with the locations upon scheduling for your examination.

### REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION SITE

On the day of the examination, you should arrive 30 minutes before your appointment. This extra time is for sign-in, identification, and familiarizing you with the examination process. *If you arrive late, you may not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination registration fee.*

#### REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION

Candidates need to provide one (1) form of identification.

Candidates must register for the exam with their LEGAL first and last name as it appears on their government issued identification. The required identification below must match the first and last name under which the candidate is registered. Candidates are required to bring one (1) form of a valid (non-expired) signature bearing identification to the test site.

#### **REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION (with photo) - Choose One**

- State issued driver's license
  - State issued identification card
  - US Government Issued Passport
  - US Government Issued Military Identification Card
  - US Government Issued Alien Registration Card
  - Canadian Government Issued ID
- NOTE: ID must contain candidate's photo, be valid and unexpired.

#### **YOU MUST ALSO PROVIDE THE ADMISSION LETTER FROM THE BOARD.**

If the candidate fails to bring proper identification or the candidate names do not match, the candidates will not be allowed to test and their examination fee will not be refunded.

#### SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following security procedures apply during examinations:

- You will have access to an online calculator.  
or
- A non-programmable calculator that is silent, battery-operated, does not have paper tape printing capabilities, and does not have a keyboard containing the alphabet will be allowed in the examination site.
- You will be given a piece of scratch paper and a pencil. These will be returned to the proctor at the end of your examination.
- No children, notes, briefcases, backpacks, hats, cellular telephones, or pagers are allowed in the examination area (and examination centers have no space to store your items). Small purses (size of a wallet) will be permitted. Larger purses cannot be taken to the candidate's seat.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- Once you have been seated and the examination begins, you may leave the examination center only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. You will not receive extra time to complete the examination.
- Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulation will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination center. All such instances will be reported to the Montana State Electrical Board and you may be denied licensure.
- Copying or communicating examination content is a violation of Montana law and PSI security regulations and may result in the cancellation of your examination, nullification of examination results, forfeiture of examination fees or legal action.

### TAKING THE EXAMINATION BY COMPUTER

The examination will be administered via computer. You will be using a mouse and computer keyboard.

#### IDENTIFICATION SCREEN

You will be directed to a semiprivate testing station to take the examination. When you are seated at the testing station, you will be prompted to confirm your name, identification number, and the examination for which you are registered.

#### TUTORIAL

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial is provided on the computer screen. The time you spend on this tutorial, up to 15 minutes, DOES NOT count as part of your examination time. Sample questions are included following the tutorial so that you may practice answering questions, and reviewing your answers.

#### TEST QUESTION SCREEN

The "function bar" at the top of the test question screen provides mouse-click access to the features available while taking the examination.





One question appears on the screen at a time. During the examination, minutes remaining will be displayed at the top of the screen and updated as you record your answers.

**IMPORTANT:** After you have entered your responses, you will later be able to return to any question(s) and change your response, provided the examination time has not run out.

### EXAMINATION REVIEW

PSI, in cooperation with the Board, will be consistently evaluating the examinations being administered to ensure that the examinations accurately measure competency in the required knowledge areas. While taking the examination, examinees will have the opportunity to provide comments on any questions, by using the clicking the Comments link on the function bar of the test question screen.

These comments will be analyzed by PSI examination development staff. PSI does not respond to individuals regarding these comments, all substantive comments are reviewed. **This is the only review of examination materials available to candidates.**

## SCORE REPORTING

Your score will be given to you immediately following completion of the examination. The following summary describes the score reporting process:

- If you **pass**, you will receive a successful score report.
- If you **do not pass**, you will receive a diagnostic report indicating your strengths and weaknesses by examination type on the score report.

### DUPLICATE SCORE REPORTS

You may request a duplicate score report after your examination by emailing [scorereport@psionline.com](mailto:scorereport@psionline.com) or by calling (855) 746-8173.

## EXAMINATION REFERENCE MATERIAL AND CONTENT OUTLINES

**The examinations are OPEN BOOK. The following material is allowed for the Residential, Journeyman, and Master exams:**

- National Electrical Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2020 Edition (tabs and/or indexes may be used).
- Montana Building Codes Amendments.
- “Printreading Based on the 2020 NEC”
- A silent, nonprinting, nonprogrammable calculator that is not designed for preprogrammed electrical calculations (e.g., “Electrical Estimate Pal” is not allowed)
- Note: Candidates are allowed to have personal highlights, underlining, and notes in the approved material.

Candidates are responsible for bringing their own references to the examination center. Any candidate caught writing, highlighting, underlining and/or indexing in the references during the examination will be reported to the Montana State Electrical Board. Furthermore, candidates are not permitted to bring in any additional papers (loose or attached) with their approved references.

### RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICIAN 2020

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
50	75% correct	150 Minutes

Description of the Examination:

- 1 National Electrical Code
- 2 General Trade Knowledge & Theory

### JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN 2020

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
60	75% correct	180 Minutes

Description of the Examination:

- 1 National Electrical Code
- 2 General Trade Knowledge & Theory

### MASTER ELECTRICIAN 2020

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
80	75% correct	240 Minutes

Description of the Examination:

- 1 National Electrical Code
- 2 General Trade Knowledge & Theory
- 3 Major Load Calculations



## **Building Codes Electrical Amendments and Requirements**

Website: <https://rules.mt.gov/gateway/Subchapterhome.asp?scn=24%2E301%2E4>

### **24.301.401 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE**

(1) The department adopts and incorporates by reference the National Fire Protection Association Standard NFPA 70, National Electrical Code, 2020 edition referred to as the National Electrical Code, unless another edition date is specifically stated. The National Electrical Code is a nationally recognized model code setting forth minimum standards and requirements for electrical installations.

(2) Subsection 210.12, Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection, is amended to delete all references to "kitchen" or "kitchens."

(3) A copy of the National Electrical Code may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association at [www.nfpa.org/NEC](http://www.nfpa.org/NEC).

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-601](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 3/25/78; [AMD](#), 1981 MAR p. 519, Eff. 5/29/81; [AMD](#), 1984 MAR p. 1024, Eff. 7/13/84; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1987 MAR p. 2237, Eff. 12/11/87; [AMD](#), 1990 MAR p. 2041, Eff. 11/16/90; [AMD](#), 1994 MAR p. 299, Eff. 2/11/94; [AMD](#), 1997 MAR p. 44, Eff. 1/17/97; [AMD](#), 1999 MAR p. 1885, Eff. 10/1/99; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2002 MAR p. 3627, Eff. 12/27/02; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10; [AMD](#), 2013 MAR p. 52, Eff. 1/18/13; [AMD](#), 2014 MAR p. 2655, Eff. 10/24/14; [AMD](#), 2019 MAR p. 2242, Eff. 12/7/19; [AMD](#), 2022 MAR p. 911, Eff. 6/11/22.

### **24.301.402 DEFINITIONS**

(1) For the purposes of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Maintenance Work" means ordinary and customary in-plant or onsite installations, modification, additions, or repairs, which shall be limited to: relamping fixtures, replacing ballasts, trouble-shooting, motor controls, replacing motors, breakers, magnetic starters, in a kind-for-kind manner. "Maintenance Work" will also include the connection of listed factory-assembled equipment that can be directly connected to an existing branch-circuit or panelboard by means of a factory-installed lead. If a new circuit is required to operate the equipment, or if the size of the supply conductors needs to be increased, this will be considered new work and not "Maintenance Work."

(b) "Permittee" means the property owner that is responsible for the installation of electrical wiring and equipment authorized by an electrical permit, or the license holder named as the "Responsible Licensed Electrician" for an "Electrical Contractor," who is responsible for the installation of electrical wiring and equipment authorized by an electrical permit. On farm and ranch installations used in conjunction with an agricultural or livestock raising operation, the term "Permittee" will mean the owner, owner's agent, and/or person(s) employed by the owner on a full-time basis as a farm or ranch employee(s) at the farm or ranch involved.

(c) "Provisional Power" means the connection of electrical power to any part of a premises wiring system from any source of energy, prior to the final inspection and approval of the installation by the electrical inspector.

(d) "Rental Property" means any property utilized by any person(s) for other than the owner's personal use with or without the consideration of compensation for the use.

(e) "State Electrical Code" means the edition of the National Electrical Code or any other model electrical code, which is adopted, and as it may be modified by the department for use as a construction standard in and by Montana's electrical industry.

History: [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 2007 MAR p. 112, Eff. 1/26/07; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10.

#### **24.301.411 WIRING STANDARDS**

(1) The National Electrical Code is amended as follows:

(a) NEC ARTICLE 110.2 (SUPPLEMENTARY). When requested, complete wiring diagrams shall be provided prior to installation of conductors and equipment indicating the conductor's and equipment's intended use.

(b) NEC Article 550.32(A): The allowable distance for service equipment from the exterior wall of a manufactured or mobile home is increased from 30 ft (9.14 m) to 50 ft (15.24 m).

(c) NEC Article 550.33(A): Add the following: It shall be permissible to feed a manufactured (mobile) home with type SER cable when the service equipment is mounted on the exterior of the home. Physical protection of the cable is required by enclosing the cable in an approved raceway where the cable is run on the outside of the home. The cable is to be properly supported and attached per Article 338 where installed under the home.

(d) NEC Article 760.1 (SUPPLEMENTARY). Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in any building or structure as required under the currently adopted International Building Code or International Residential Code, whichever applies, regardless of whether or not the building or structure is exempt by [50-60-102](#), MCA

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 3/25/78; [AMD](#), 1979 MAR p. 1665, Eff. 12/28/79; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1989 MAR p. 476, Eff. 4/28/89; [AMD](#), 1994 MAR p. 299, Eff. 2/11/94; [AMD](#), 1997 MAR p. 44, Eff. 1/17/97; [AMD](#), 1999 MAR p. 1885, Eff. 10/1/99; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, & [AMD](#), 2001 MAR p. 2293, Eff. 11/22/01; [AMD](#), 2002 MAR p. 3627, Eff. 12/27/02; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10; [AMD](#), 2022 MAR p. 911, Eff. 6/11/22.

#### **24.301.421 ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS**

(1) Only persons appointed by the department shall act as electrical inspectors to represent the state of Montana.

(2) Inspectors shall give information as to the meaning or application of the code to contractors, electricians, or owners for whom the inspectors perform compliance inspections. The inspector shall not design circuitry or perform engineering tasks for the permittee.

(3) State electrical inspectors shall not inspect any electrical work in which they have any financial or personal interest, or which they have installed or repaired.

(4) State electrical inspectors shall have powers as are vested in them by the department, including but not limited to the power to make inspections and to ascertain that none of the provisions of Title 50, chapter 60, part 6, MCA, the National Electrical Code, as amended from time to time, or the Administrative Rules of Montana, Title 24, chapter 301, subchapter 4, Electrical Requirements are being violated.

(5) A state electrical inspector has the right, during reasonable hours while showing proper identification, to enter any building or premise in the discharge of the inspector's official duties to make any inspection or test of electrical equipment that is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [2-2-101](#), [50-60-103](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 3/25/78; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10.

### **24.301.431 ELECTRICAL PERMIT**

(1) Except as provided by [50-60-602](#), MCA, an electrical permit is required for any installation in any new construction or remodeling or repair.

(2) Prior to the commencement of any electrical installation, in an area where the electrical code is enforced by the department, the permittee shall submit an official and complete request for electrical permit to the department in Helena with fee(s) as provided in ARM [24.301.461](#). If the permittee fails to obtain a permit for an electrical installation, a "Failure to Permit Investigation Fee" may be required in addition to the standard permit fee. Electrical permit forms will be made available by the department and may also be available at any power supplier or from the electrical inspector.

(3) The term "permittee" listed in ARM [24.301.431](#)(2) applies to owners doing electrical work on their own residence, farm, or ranch property provided that said property is maintained for their personal, private use. The property or residence shall not be built on speculation of resale or intended as rental property.

(4) A local government certified to enforce the electrical code may require, in addition to the electrical permit required by [50-60-605](#), MCA, the power supplier be provided with proof of an approved inspection before the power supplier can energize the electrical installation. The local government shall provide the power supplier with written notice of this requirement if it wishes to enforce this option.

(5) The requirements listed in [50-60-605](#), MCA, requiring an "electrical permit" before the energizing of an electrical installation by a power supplier means the power supplier may energize said installation with provisional power, before an inspection has been performed by the department, after issuing a power supplier limited service certificate as allowed in ARM [24.301.472](#), or upon receipt of the power supplier's copy of the electrical permit issued by the department.

(6) An individual that energizes an electrical installation without first obtaining an electrical permit for that installation is guilty of a misdemeanor per [50-60-607](#), MCA. The department may require a utility per [50-60-605](#), MCA, to not energize or to remove provisional power from the permittee's electrical system if the permittee connects new wiring to a new or existing power source, thereby causing the utility to energize the electrical installation without first receiving the required permit for the connection.

(7) Upon receipt of the application for an electrical permit with the applicable fee(s), the department will issue the official electrical permit covering the installation.

(8) The permittee shall be responsible for all work performed under the electrical permit, and shall ensure that all work meets the requirements of the National Electrical Code, as amended by the version of ARM [24.301.411](#) in effect at the time the permit was issued. No permittee shall allow any other person to do, or cause to be done, any work under an electrical permit issued to the permittee, except the permittee or the permittee's employees who are licensed as an electrician or registered as an electrical apprentice.

(9) Electrical permits are valid for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance. One renewal of 18 months may be granted by the department as long as the application for renewal is made not more than 30 days following expiration of the original permit. Original electrical permits expire after 18 months from the date of issuance if not renewed. Renewed electrical permits will expire 18 months after the renewal date.

(10) The electrical permit is transferable, with application for permit transfer being made in writing on forms provided by the department and the payment of a \$20.00 transfer fee. The permit transfer shall be completed prior to the subsequent permittee commencing work under the transferred permit.

(11) The exception to permit requirements listed in [50-60-602](#)(2), MCA, for regularly employed maintenance personnel doing maintenance work on the business premises applies to personnel on the regular payroll rather than personnel under contract.

Current as of 01/03/2024

(12) No electrical permit shall be issued for a building or structure under the jurisdiction of the department until the building permit has been issued for said building or structure or it has been determined that a building permit is not required or special circumstances exist which make issuance of the permit appropriate.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), [50-60-605](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 3/15/78; [AMD](#), 1979 MAR p. 1665, Eff. 12/28/79; [AMD](#), 1981 MAR p. 519, Eff. 5/29/81; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1987 MAR p. 2237, Eff. 12/11/87; [AMD](#), 1994 MAR p. 299, Eff. 2/11/94; [AMD](#), 1997 MAR p. 2061, Eff. 11/18/97; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, & [AMD](#), 2001 MAR p. 2293, Eff. 11/22/01; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10; [AMD](#), 2022 MAR p. 911, Eff. 6/11/22.

#### **24.301.441 COVER (ROUGH-IN) INSPECTIONS**

(1) Cover (rough-in) inspections are made by a state electrical inspector wherever possible. Insulation and wallboard shall not be applied prior to inspection unless 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, have expired after the electrical installation is complete and notice to inspect has been received.

(2) The permittee of record, whether an electrical contractor or a homeowner, shall notify the area electrical inspector when the electrical installation is ready for cover (rough-in) inspection, whether or not an inspection is subsequently performed.

(3) Whenever violations are found upon inspection, the inspector will notify the permittee verbally, with a written inspection report, or a written compliance order as to the nature of the violations.

(4) Provisional power may be removed from the installation if code violations discovered during the cover (rough-in) inspection are of such a nature to be considered an immediate threat of fire to the structure or shock hazard.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-103](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 2/25/78; [AMD](#), 1981 MAR p. 519, Eff. 5/29/81; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1996 MAR p. 420, Eff. 2/9/96; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10.

#### **24.301.451 FINAL INSPECTION**

(1) The permittee of record, whether an electrical contractor or a homeowner, shall notify the area electrical inspector when the electrical installation is ready for final inspection and provide access to the installation for inspection or furnish the necessary information as to who can provide access to the installation.

(2) Upon completing final inspections, state inspectors will date and sign the inspection reports. Inspectors will apply a green "approved" tag when installations have been inspected and approved by the department. Upon approval, the department will remove the provisional power designation.

(3) If the installation is disapproved, inspectors will provide the permittee with notice of and reasons for the disapproval. After correcting the cause for disapproval, the permittee must make a request for reinspection to the department. Failure to make corrections or request the final reinspection may cause the department to cancel the provisional power. When the inspector approves the corrected installation as identified on the permit and inspection documents, the inspector will apply the proper final inspection tag to the installation and the department will remove the "provisional power" designation.



Current as of 01/03/2024

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-103](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 2/25/78; [AMD](#), 1979 MAR p. 1665, Eff. 12/28/79; [AMD](#), 1981 MAR p. 519, Eff. 5/29/81; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1996 MAR p. 420, Eff. 2/9/96; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10; [AMD](#), 2022 MAR p. 911, Eff. 6/11/22.

#### **24.301.461 ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS FEES**

(1) The following is the schedule of electrical inspection fees as charged by the department. As provided in [ARM 24.301.203](#) local governments certified to enforce the electrical code may establish their own electrical permit fees.

##### Type of Installation

##### Permit Fee

(a) single-family dwellings or cabins (includes attached garage if wired at the same time as the house or cabin) A cabin is a structure designed for use for overnight stays that may not meet the definition of a dwelling unit.

(i) up to 200 amp service \$200

(ii) 201 to 400 amp service 380

(iii) 401 to 600 amp service 600

(iv) 601 and up amp service 800

(b) private property accessory buildings

(includes new service or upgrade of existing service for supply of power to garages, barns, sheds, etc.)

(i) up to 200 amp panel 80

(ii) 201 to 300 amp panel 150

(iii) 301 or more amp panel 250

(c) multi-family dwellings (duplex through 12 units) per bldg\*

(i) Up to 200 amp service 180

(ii) 201 to 400 amp service 380

(iii) 401 to 600 amp service 580

(iv) 601 and up amp service 780

\*Plus \$60 per unit, up to and including 12 units.

\*For buildings containing more than 12 units, use the commercial schedule that follows.

(d) multi-family dwellings (duplex through 12 units) rewire or remodel only - per dwelling unit 100

(e) single-family dwelling interior/exterior wiring/rewiring

(i) more than three circuits and change of service and/or interior panelboard 120

(ii) more than three circuits only (does not include change of service or panelboard) 100

(iii) two or three additional circuits or pieces of equipment only 70

(iv) one additional circuit or piece of equipment (hot tub, air conditioner, etc.) 45

(f) change of service

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- (i) exterior meterbase and interior/exterior main disconnect only 45
- (ii) exterior meterbase and interior/exterior main disconnect with feeder and distribution panelboard replacement 75
- (g) modular homes, mobile homes, and recreational vehicles
  - (i) wiring to a mobile or modular home with wiring of a basement and/or addition at the same time 120
  - (ii) wiring to a mobile, modular, or RV only on privately owned property 80
  - (iii) wiring to a mobile or RV on rental space at a licensed court with previously existing electrical service 40
- (h) mobile home courts and/or recreational vehicle parks (new, rewire or addition)
  - (i) first 3 spaces (1-3 spaces) \$45
  - (ii) additional spaces over 3 spaces installed at the same time (per space) 5
- (i) new service and wiring for utilization equipment such as livestock well, residential irrigation well, etc. 50
- (j) agricultural irrigation pumps or machines on a common surface
  - (i) (one pump or one pivot) 50
  - (ii) multiple pumps or pivots (\$50 for first pump or pivot plus \$25 for each additional piece of equipment supplied by a common service.) (Note: A separate permit is required for each service installed supplying either a single piece of equipment or a combination of equipment.)
- (k) permit renewal fee 60
- (l) refund/credit fee 25
- (m) permit transfer fee 20
- (n) failure to permit investigation fee 45/hour
- (o) Renewable energy system: net metering system or off-grid electrical generating system (photovoltaic (PV) system, wind generator, hydro turbine, etc.)
  - (i) Commercial or residential installations 65
  - (p) all other installations (commercial, industrial, institutional, or for public use). Fees are based on total cost to the owner of all labor and materials to complete the electrical project. Electrical materials furnished by the owner must be included in the total electrical project cost:

<u>Cost of Electrical Installation</u>	<u>Fee</u>
\$ 0 - \$1,000	\$45 for 1st \$500 plus 6.0% of balance of construction cost
\$ 1,001 - \$10,000	\$75 for 1st \$1,000 plus 2.0% of balance of construction cost
\$10,001 - \$50,000	\$255 for 1st \$10,000 plus 0.5% of balance of construction cost
\$50,001 or more	\$455 for 1st \$50,000 plus 0.3% of balance of construction cost

(q) provisional construction service \$60.00 (Note: A provisional construction service permit may only be closed when the permit expires and power is removed or upon the permittee obtaining a new permit applicable for the wiring of the structure being built. The utility power supplier shall be ordered by the inspector to remove power from a "Provisional construction service" upon expiration of the permit, if no additional permit has been obtained.)

(2) A requested inspection is limited to the inspection of existing electrical installations that an owner or occupant may wish to have inspected. The fee for a requested inspection is payable prior to or at the time of the inspection. The fee for a requested electrical inspection is \$60, provided that such service, including all time spent preparing all paperwork furnished as documentation by the inspector regarding the inspection, is not in excess of one hour in duration, and then \$30 for each 30 minutes or fractional part thereof in excess of one hour. Travel and per diem will also be charged at the rates established under Title 2, chapter 18, part 5, MCA, when considered by the department to be applicable for the situation.

History: [50-60-104](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-104](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1978 MAR p. 378, Eff. 3/25/78; [AMD](#), 1978 MAR p. 1480, Eff. 10/27/78; [AMD](#), 1979 MAR p. 1665, Eff. 12/28/79; [AMD](#), 1981 MAR p. 1054, Eff. 9/18/81; [TRANS](#), from Dept. of Admin., Ch. 352, L. 1985, Eff. 7/1/85; [AMD](#), 1986 MAR p. 109, Eff. 1/31/86; [AMD](#), 1987 MAR p. 2237, Eff. 12/11/87; [AMD](#), 1994 MAR p. 670, Eff. 2/11/94; [AMD](#), 1998 MAR p. 2563, Eff. 9/25/98; [AMD](#), 1999 MAR p. 1885, Eff. 10/1/99; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, & [AMD](#), 2001 MAR p. 2293, Eff. 11/22/01; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10; [AMD](#), 2014 MAR p. 2655, Eff. 10/24/14.

#### **24.301.472 AUTHORITY FOR TEMPORARY CONNECTIONS**

(1) Temporary power supply connections may be performed under the authority of power supplier limited service certificates.

(2) Power supplier limited service certificates ("service certificates") are four part forms created and provided by the department to consumers and power suppliers in Montana. These service certificates may be used to allow power suppliers to energize electrical services in Montana prior to obtaining an electrical permit and prior to inspection and approval of electrical service installations by department inspectors.

(3) Service certificates may be used only for the following purposes:

- (a) to restore power to a structure for repairs after a fire, accidental damage, or natural disaster;
- (b) to restore power to a mobile home to prevent damage due to freezing conditions or to prevent loss of frozen or refrigerated food items after relocation of a mobile home;
- (c) to restore or establish power to a structure where power must be available to maintain conditions or equipment directly related to home health care; or
- (d) to restore or establish power in situations where failure to do so would imminently and directly jeopardize real or personal property, or human life or safety.

(4) Power suppliers must be in receipt of a completed service certificate or ensure one is completed by a prospective consumer prior to or immediately coincidental with making temporary electrical connections to supply power.

(5) Power suppliers must present a copy of completed service certificates to the area electrical inspector or his supervisor within five days, excluding weekends and holidays, of the issue date of the date that temporary power was supplied, whichever is later.

(6) As provided by [50-60-605](#), MCA, no temporary electrical connection made in accordance with this rule may remain in effect longer than 14 days. If the 14-day time limit lapses without the

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consumer obtaining an appropriate permit from the department and presenting it to the power supplier, the power supplied under the authority of the service certificate must be disconnected by the power supplier no later than 72 hours following expiration of the 14-day period.

(7) Subject to the administrative (contested case) procedures set forth in the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, a power supplier that neglects, refuses, or fails to comply with the provisions of this rule and [50-60-605](#), MCA, shall forfeit the ability to utilize service certificates.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), [50-60-605](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06.

#### **24.301.481 CARNIVALS, FAIRS, OUTDOOR CONCERTS AND SIMILAR AMUSEMENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND OTHER PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES OF A TEMPORARY NATURE**

(1) Temporary electrical power and lighting installations may be permitted for a period not to exceed 30 days. The installation must comply with Article 525 of the National Electrical Code.

(2) The electrical inspection fee for each temporary installation shall be \$45 for the entirety of the temporary installation, provided that such inspection can be completed within one hour. If additional inspection time is required, it will be charged at the rate of \$25 for each additional 30 minutes or fractional parts thereof.

(3) Each time a temporary amusement or public assembly electrical installation is erected or relocated, another electrical inspection will be required.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-201](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1986 MAR p. 106, Eff. 1/31/86; [AMD](#), 1998 MAR p. 2563, Eff. 9/25/98; [AMD](#), 1999 MAR p. 1885, Eff. 10/1/99; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2006 MAR p. 567, Eff. 2/24/06.

#### **24.301.491 REFUNDS OR CREDITS**

(1) No permit fee shall be refunded nor credit issued for a permit if the value of the permit does not exceed \$25.

(2) A permit with a value which exceeds \$25 may be refunded or credited, at the discretion of the department, less the \$25 refund/credit fee.

(3) A refund or credit issued for a permit fee on a project, which was inspected by the department, shall have the refund or credit prorated at the rate of \$45 per required inspection performed, in addition to the \$25 refund/credit fee.

(4) No refund or credit for permit fees shall be issued for duplicate permits, when the permittee failed to transfer the original permit pursuant to [ARM 24.301.431](#)(10) and a subsequent permit was obtained for the same project.

(5) The department may suspend or revoke a permit when the permit was issued in error or issued on the basis of incorrect information. Suspended or revoked permits shall not be issued a refund or credit.

History: [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [50-60-203](#), [50-60-603](#), [50-60-604](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1994 MAR p. 299, Eff. 2/11/94; [TRANS](#), from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2301; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 7/30/10.