

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

## County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 3

### Bill No. 9 -2015

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT adopting the 2014 National Electrical Code as the Electrical Code for Howard County; regulating the design, construction, alteration, improvement or modification to electrical equipment; adopting certain local amendments to the Electrical Code; amending the qualifications for appointment to the Board of Electrical Examiners; clarifying the timing of certain license exams; clarifying the signatories on certain applications; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the electrical code in Howard County.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2015. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the  
2 Howard County Code is amended as follows:

3 *By amending:*

4 1. *Title 3. Buildings.*

5 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

6 *Section 3.202. Board of Electrical Examiners.*

7 *Subsection (c)*

8

9 2. *Title 3. Buildings.*

10 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

11 *Section 3.203. License required to do electrical work.*

12 *Subsection (b)*

13

14 3. *Title 3. Buildings.*

15 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

16 *Section 3.208. License examinations.*

17 *Subsection (a)*

18

19 4. *Title 3. Buildings.*

20 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

21 *Section 3.218. Permit application.*

22 *Subtitle (a)*

23

24 *By repealing and reenacting:*

25 1. *Title 3. Buildings.*

26 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

27 *Section 3.214. Adoption of National Electrical Code.*

28

29 **Title 3. Buildings.**

30 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

31

1 **Section 3.202. Board of Electrical Examiners.**

2 (c) *Qualifications for Appointment:*

- 3 (1) All members shall be residents of Howard County.
- 4 (2) ~~[[Two]]~~FOUR members shall be licensed pursuant to this subtitle.
- 5 (3) One member shall be an electrical engineer.
- 6 (4) ~~[[Four]]~~TWO members shall be selected from the general public.

7  
8 **Section 3.203. License required to do electrical work.**

9 (b) *Electrical Work Performed by a Firm or Corporation.* Except as exempted by (c) of  
10 this section, a firm or corporation may not do electrical work unless its principal(s) are  
11 licensed to ~~[[do so pursuant to]]~~ PERFORM ELECTRICAL WORK UNDER this subtitle or unless  
12 it employs an individual licensed to ~~[[do so]]~~ PERFORM ELECTRICAL WORK UNDER THIS  
13 SUBTITLE.

14  
15 **Section 3.208. License examinations.**

16 (a) *When Examinations Are Given.* ~~[[Examinations shall be given twice a year, during~~  
17 ~~March and September. The Board shall set the exact date(s)]]~~THE BOARD SHALL SET THE  
18 DATE FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHEDULED EXAMINATIONS. ~~[[Special]]~~INDIVIDUAL examinations  
19 may be given at any time by~~[[the Board in its discretion]]~~THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
20 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES, AND PERMITS OR THE DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED  
21 DESIGNEE.

22  
23 **SECTION 3.214. ADOPTION OF NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE.**

- 24 (A) (1) THE 2014 EDITION (NFPA 70) OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, WITH  
25 AMENDMENTS AS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IS HEREBY  
26 ADOPTED AS THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY, AS IF THE  
27 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE WERE SET OUT IN FULL IN THIS SECTION.
- 28 (2) A PERSON PERFORMING OR CAUSING THE PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRICAL  
29 WORK SHALL CONFORM TO THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE AND  
30 TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE ADOPTED IN  
31 TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 1 OF THIS CODE.

1 (3) IF A CONFLICT EXISTS BETWEEN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE  
2 AND THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE, THE CODE REQUIRING THE  
3 HIGHER STANDARD SHALL GOVERN.

4 (B) THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ADOPTED CODE:

5 (1) *SECTION 90.4. ENFORCEMENT.*

6 ADD A SENTENCE AT THE END OF THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS: "IF THERE IS A  
7 CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS  
8 SUBTITLE, THE REQUIREMENT OF THE OTHER PROVISION SHALL GOVERN."

9 (2) *ARTICLE 100. DEFINITIONS.*

10 DELETE THE SENTENCE FOLLOWING "AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION  
11 (AHJ)." AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING, "THE AUTHORITY HAVING  
12 JURISDICTION IS THE BUILDING OFFICIAL AS SET FORTH IN SECTION  
13 3.101(A)(2) OF THIS CODE.

14 (3) *SECTION 210.8. GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION FOR  
15 PERSONNEL.*

16 IN SUBSECTION (A), DWELLING UNITS, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 1 AS  
17 FOLLOWS:

18 EXCEPTION No. 1: A SINGLE RECEPTACLE THAT SUPPLIES SUMP PUMPS,  
19 CONDENSATE PUMPS, AND SEWER EJECTOR PUMPS IS NOT REQUIRED TO  
20 HAVE GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION.

21 (4) *SECTION 210.12. ARC-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION.* IN  
22 SUBSECTION (A), DWELLING UNITS, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 2 AS  
23 FOLLOWS:

24 EXCEPTION No. 2: THE ADDITIONAL AREAS OF COVERAGE, "KITCHENS" AND  
25 "LAUNDRY AREAS", SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
26 SUBSECTION (A) BY JANUARY 1, 2017.

27 (5) *SECTION 210.12. ARC-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION.*

28 IN SUBSECTION (B), BRANCH CIRCUIT EXTENSIONS OR MODIFICATIONS –  
29 DWELLING UNITS, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 2 AS FOLLOWS:

30 EXCEPTION No. 2: ARC-FAULT-CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION IS NOT  
31 REQUIRED FOR NEWLY INSTALLED 120 VOLT SMOKE DETECTORS.

- 1           (6)    *SECTION 230.71. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DISCONNECTS.*  
2                    IN SUBSECTION (A), GENERAL, DELETE “FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS  
3                    SECTION,” THROUGH THE END OF NUMBER (4), INCLUSIVE.
- 4           (7)    *SECTION 240.21. LOCATION IN CIRCUIT.*  
5                    AMEND SUBSECTION (B), FEEDER TAPS, BY ADDING A SECOND EXCEPTION  
6                    TO ITEM (B)(1) AND A NEW EXCEPTION TO ITEM (B)(2) AS FOLLOWS:  
7                    EXCEPTION: IN METER ROOMS, THE CONDUCTORS WITHIN THE AUXILIARY  
8                    GUTTER THAT SUPPLIES THE METER SHALL NOT COUNT AS A PART OF THE  
9                    TOTAL LENGTH.”
- 10          (8)    *SECTION 250.52. GROUNDING ELECTRODES.* ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE  
11                    BEGINNING OF SUBSECTION 250.52(A)(3):  
12                    “CONCRETE-ENCASED ELECTRODES: EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY  
13                    THE DEPARTMENT, THE PRINCIPAL GROUNDING ELECTRODE FOR A NEW  
14                    STRUCTURE IS A CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODE INSTALLED IN  
15                    ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.”
- 16          (9)    *SECTION 310.106. CONDUCTORS.*  
17                    ADD THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF SUBSECTION (A), MINIMUM SIZE OF  
18                    CONDUCTORS:  
19                    “WHETHER SOLID OR STRANDED, A CONDUCTOR SHALL NOT BE SMALLER  
20                    THAN NUMBER 14 COPPER, NUMBER 12 COPPERCLAD ALUMINUM, OR  
21                    NUMBER 6 ALUMINUM OR ALUMINUM ALLOY.”
- 22          (10)   *SECTION 334.10. USES PERMITTED.*  
23                    IN ITEM (3), AFTER “ASSEMBLIES.”, INSERT “CABLES INSTALLED WITHIN  
24                    DROP OR SUSPENDED CEILINGS WITHOUT A THERMAL BARRIER ARE  
25                    PERMITTED.”.
- 26          (11)   *SECTION 334.12. USES NOT PERMITTED.*  
27                    IN SUBSECTION (A)(2):  
28                    (I)     STRIKE “TWO-FAMILY AND MULTIFAMILY” AND SUBSTITUTE “TWO-  
29                    FAMILY, MULTIFAMILY”; AND  
30                    (II)    AFTER “DWELLINGS”, INSERT “, AND TYPE III, IV, AND V  
31                    STRUCTURES.”

1 (12) ANNEX H. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

2 ONLY THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION 80.9 ARE ADOPTED. THE REMAINDER  
3 OF ANNEX H IS SPECIFICALLY AND INTENTIONALLY NOT ADOPTED.  
4

5 **Section 3.218. Permit application.**

6 (a) An application for a permit shall:

- 7 (1) Identify and describe the work to be covered by the permit;
- 8 (2) Describe the property where the proposed work is to be done by legal  
9 description, street address, or other address that will identify the location  
10 of the proposed electrical work;
- 11 (3) Indicate the use and occupancy for the location of the proposed work;
- 12 (4) Be accompanied by construction documents that shall:
- 13 (i) Be drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and detail to show the  
14 nature and character of the work to be performed;
- 15 (ii) BE SIGNED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:
- 16 A. [[Bear the seal, signature, and date of the]] THE appropriate  
17 Maryland State professional engineer [[or architect]] SHALL  
18 SEAL, SIGN, AND DATE [[that shall be affixed to]] all sheets  
19 of all sets; OR
- 20 [[(iii)]] B. IF ALLOWED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL, be signed by  
21 the licensed contractor doing the proposed work and  
22 [[shall]] include that contractor's name, license number,  
23 daytime phone number, and date of signature; and
- 24 ([[iv]]III)Have at least one set that shall bear the original seal  
25 OR[[,]]signature[[,]] and THE date;
- 26 (5) State the valuation of the proposed work;
- 27 (6) Be signed by the Applicant or the Applicant's authorized agent; and
- 28 (7) Give other information as may be required by the Building Official.  
29

30 **Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,  
31 Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.