

CCLD REVIEW

Construction Codes and Licensing Division • Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry • Spring 2021

Registration is open for the 2021 CCLD Spring Seminar

Register to attend the 2021 Department of Labor and Industry (DLI), Construction Codes and Licensing Division's (CCLD) Spring Seminar.

Topics include prefabricated, manufactured and modular structures along with residential deck plan review. The seminars will be conducted online and include continuing education credits for building officials, residential contractors, residential remodelers and manufactured home installers.

View more information and register at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/residential-contractors/2021-spring-seminar.

Prefabricated, manufactured and modular structures

- April 6 and April 21, 2021

Residential deck plan review

- April 8 and April 19, 2021

Questions?

Contact Chad Payment at chad.payment@state.mn.us or 651-284-5841.



Working group reviews adoption of new Commercial Energy Code

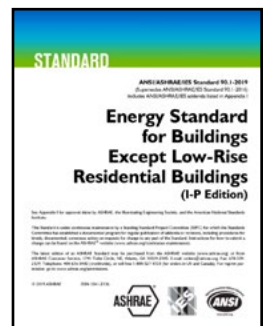
The Commercial Energy Code Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is reviewing ASHRAE 90.1-2019 to make recommendations for its potential adoption as the new Commercial Energy Code. The TAG consists of eight members including two Department of Labor and Industry staff members.

The review process began in December 2020 when the Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC) appointed TAG members to review ASHRAE 90.1-2019 for potential adoption as the new Commercial Energy Code in 2022. The appointment of the TAG was in response to the Building Energy Efficiency Workgroup Report that recommended the current statewide Energy Code be advanced and accelerated so that it achieves net zero by 2036, beginning with the adoption of ASHRAE 90.1-2019.

Review recommendations

A summary of the TAG review will be submitted to the CCAC and stakeholders for review and comment. The CCAC will review the summary and make recommendation for the adoption of ASHRAE 90.1-2019 and potential amendments to Minnesota Rules.

View more information about the Commercial Energy Code TAG at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/commercial-energy-code-technical-advisory-group-tag.



New GFCI enforcement begins April 5

Code enforcement was delayed due to supply-chain challenges

The Board of Electricity adopted the 2020 National Electrical Code (NEC) with an effective date of Nov. 17, 2020. Accordingly, the Department of Labor and Industry began enforcing the 2020 NEC on Nov. 17, 2020.

Electrical work authorized by permits issued on or after this date must comply with the 2020 NEC. Electrical license examinations are now based on the requirements of the 2020 NEC.

View more electrical code news on Page 5.

However, due to concerns regarding the availability of 2-pole GFCI circuit breakers, the department delayed enforcement of the requirements for 250-volt GFCI receptacles and outlet requirements found in NEC 210.8(A) and 210.8(F).

On April 5, 2021, DLI will begin enforcing the 250-volt GFCI receptacle and outlet requirements found in NEC 210.8(A) and 210.8(F). Industry circuit breaker manufacturers have confirmed that supply-chain challenges will be resolved in March 2021. Electrical work authorized by permits issued on or after April 5, 2021, must comply with the 2020 NEC.

View more about the 2020 NEC and electrical codes and standards at www.dli.mn.gov/business/electrical-contractors/electrical-codes-and-standards.

Minnesota Plumbing Code rulemaking update

Anticipated effective date of new code is late 2021

The Plumbing Board anticipates publishing the Notice of Adoption for the amendments to the Minnesota Plumbing Code that incorporates by reference the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code, in March 2021.

Minnesota statutes require a 270-day delay between publication of the rule's Notice of Adoption in the State Register and the effective date of the rule. This allows time to publish the code book and provide training. As a result, the anticipated effective date will be sometime in late 2021. The current Plumbing Code will remain in effect until the new rule's effective date.

The amendments to the Minnesota Plumbing Code, Chapter 4714, and periodic updates are available on the board's rulemaking docket at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/rulemaking/rulemaking-docket-minn-r-chpt-4714-2018-upc.

CCLD Review is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

Receive email notification when an issue is available by [subscribing online](#).

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(Including: electrical, HPP, plumbing, residential, manufactured structures, mechanical bonds, technology system, water conditioning)

Personal licenses and certificates: 651-284-5031

(Including: boiler engineers, electricians, plumbers, power limited technicians, pipefitters, unlicensed individuals, building officials)

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Building Official Limited, Accessibility Specialist Training goes virtual

In June 2020, the Building Official Limited and Accessibility Specialist Training Program was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the program was modified so it could be delivered virtually.

In October 2020, about 50 people attended the first virtual version of the program. The multi-day program is required for individuals interested in a career as an accessibility specialist or a municipal limited building official before sitting for an exam.

A second virtual session of the program was hosted in March 2021. The program is typically offered three times each year – spring, summer and fall. View more information about the Building Official Limited and Accessibility Specialist Training Program at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/building-officials.

Transfer of elevator authority from Minneapolis to DLI

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) began issuing permits for elevator work in Minneapolis on Jan. 1, 2021. All elevator permits for work in Minneapolis must be applied for through DLI's online permit system.

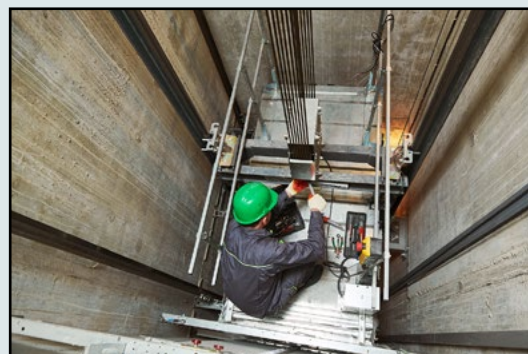
The change added approximately 4,600 elevators located in Minneapolis to the existing 18,500 statewide that are already inspected by DLI's Elevator Inspection unit. The transfer also includes all existing and future elevator construction/alteration permits.

Four inspectors provide services for the Minneapolis area:

- Mike Snee – Downtown West Neighborhood
- Mark Snee – North Minneapolis
- Ken Paquin – Southeast Minneapolis
- David Wojnar – Southwest Minneapolis

For inspector contact information and inspection areas visit www.dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/elevator-map-mpls.pdf.

Elevator permitting, inspections and billing in Minneapolis will follow the same procedures as those throughout Minnesota under the department's existing areas of authority. Visit www.dli.mn.gov/business/elevator-contractors for more information.



Schedule of board and council meetings

At right is a schedule of board and council meetings supported by CCLD.

Visit www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils to view meeting minutes, agendas, rulemaking documents and schedules for these meetings and additional boards and councils.

Board of Electricity

- April 13, 2021
- July 13, 2021
- Oct. 12, 2021

Combative Sports Advisory Council

- TBD

Plumbing Board

- April 20, 2021
- July 20, 2021
- Oct. 19, 2021

Board of High-Pressure Piping

- April 8, 2021
- July 8, 2021
- Oct. 14, 2021

Municipal Fee and Expense Report due by June 30, 2021

An updated version of the Municipal Fee and Expense Report is now online at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/licenses-permits-and-plan-reviews/municipal-fee-and-expense-report. This is the version that must be completed for reporting year 2020.

The Municipal Fee and Expense Report was revised in several areas to improve accuracy and to increase transparency of the information. Revisions were made as a result of input received from representatives of homebuilder associations and municipal officials.

The purpose of the report is to collect municipal construction and development revenue and expense information. It is required to be submitted by all code-enforcing municipalities no later than June 30 of each year.



To improve understanding and enhance accuracy, the department has been providing training to municipal building officials on how to properly complete the form and is evaluating expanding that training to other municipal officials.

Submit a report and subscribe for email updates about Municipal Fee and Expense Report at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/licenses-permits-and-plan-reviews/municipal-revenue-reporting-system.

Questions? Contact Eileen.McNiff@state.mn.us or 651-284-5859.

Unlicensed contractor's second violation results in \$28,500 fine

- An unlicensed contractor operating out of Champlin and Plymouth, Minnesota, was fined \$28,500 and ordered to stop performing unlicensed activity after continuing to perform unlicensed residential building contracting work and fraudulently using the license number of another contractor.
- A licensed Fargo, North Dakota, technology systems contractor was fined \$25,000 and ordered to stop performing Class 1 electrical work in Minnesota after failing to file permits prior to starting electrical work.
- A licensed Chaska, Minnesota, plumbing contractor was censured and fined \$2,000, \$1,700 of which was stayed, after performing plumbing work prior to obtaining a permit and failing to call for an inspection.
- An unlicensed Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, contractor was fined \$3,500 and ordered to stop unlicensed activity after performing the work of a mechanical contractor without a required bond. The contractor was also found to have acted as a residential contractor, remodeler or roofer without a license.



Enforcement actions

View enforcement and license actions levied against licensees.

More information

View summaries of enforcement actions at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners/file-complaint-and-view-enforcement-actions.

Questions?

Contact us at 651-284-5069 or dli.contractor@state.mn.us.

New National Electrical Code resources available

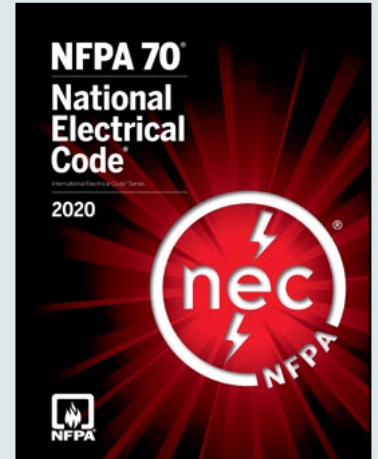
The National Electrical Code (NEC) as adopted in Minnesota consists of the current 2020 edition, but does not specifically include either Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) or errata for enforcement purposes. Nevertheless, both TIAs and errata are important tools for clarifying and interpreting the true intent of model code language and are provided to users to assist in understanding existing requirements.

A new errata and TIA tracking document for the 2020 NEC is available at www.dli.mn.gov/business/electrical-contractors/electrical-codes-and-standards.

In addition, a list of 2020 NEC Frequently Asked Questions is available on that webpage and periodically updated.

Questions?

Contact dli.electricity@state.mn.us.



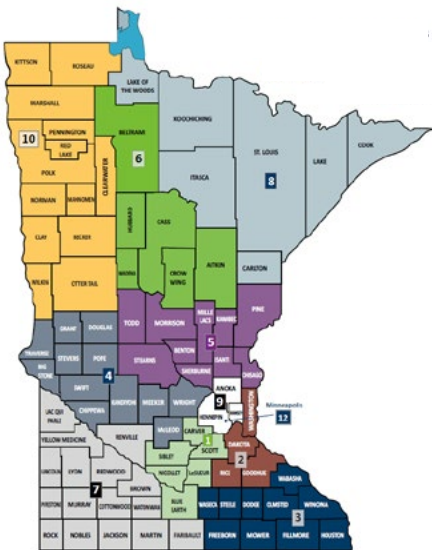
Seeking requests for proposals to provide electrical inspections in Minnesota

Multiple requests for proposals will be announced in spring 2021 to provide electrical inspections for areas of Minnesota.

Prospective inspectors must be licensed as a journeyworker or master electrician and provide a \$1,000 bond.

When available, the requests for proposals will be at www.dli.mn.gov/business/electrical-contractors/electrical-inspector-directories.

Follow the instructions on that page to register as a vendor to be notified when a new request for proposals is published.



Web pages feature the basics of electrical licensing

A pair of new web pages explain the basic steps and requirements to become an electrician or an electrical contractor in Minnesota.

- Electrical licensing basics
www.dli.mn.gov/workers/electrician-or-electrical-installer/electrical-licensing-basics
- Electrical contractor licensing basics
www.dli.mn.gov/business/elevator-contractors/electrical-contractor-licensing-basics

For help with questions about licenses and registrations contact dli.license@state.mn.us.

Plumbing Code frequently asked questions and answers

What are the minimum requirements for a subsoil sump pump system?

Where it is not possible to drain by gravity, subsoil drains must discharge into an accessible sump provided with an approved automatic electric pump and the following:

- The sump must be constructed with a 15-inch minimum diameter (width), an 18-inch minimum depth, and a fitted cover.
- The pump discharge rate must be at least 15 gallon per minute at installed head and not less than the inflow.
- The discharge line must be at minimum 1½-inch in size and installed with a union or other approved pump service access.
- Discharge locations must be approved locations such as a splash block or approved watercourse without creating a nuisance to walkways or property.
- Where subject to backflow, an accessible backwater valve must be provided.

These requirements apply to both residential and commercial installations. More information about subsoil drains and sumps is in the Plumbing Code, Section 1101.5.

Are vacation home rentals subject to the requirements of the plumbing plan review and inspections for compliance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code?

Yes. When a property is rented to the public as a lodging facility, it becomes a commercial property subject to licensing as a lodging establishment by the local health department or the Minnesota Department of Health, and requires plan review and inspection permits for compliance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code. To minimize costs and delays, the property owner should plan accordingly and submit plumbing plans for review and inspection prior to obtaining a lodging license to rent the vacation home to the public.

Exterior water and sewer work:

Who can perform the installation of outside water and sewer services within the property lines?

Once site construction plans are properly submitted and approved, the following individuals are allowed to perform installation of water and sewer services regulated by the Plumbing Code:

- Licensed plumbing contractors.
- Pipe-laying utility contractors that are registered and bonded with DLI. A contractor must employ at least one individual who has completed approved pipe-laying training to file a bond. When on a jobsite, individuals who have completed training must provide a valid pipe-layer card upon request at the time of inspection. Bonded pipe layers may not design.
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)-licensed subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) installers. SSTS installers may perform work on exterior water and sewer installations anywhere in the state and must provide a valid pipe layer card upon request at time of inspections. They may not design.

What work are septic professionals authorized to do for buildings served by SSTS systems?

MPCA-licensed septic professionals are allowed to perform work on building sewers connected to SSTS as follows:

- MPCA-licensed SSTS designers may design building sewers connected to SSTS and submit plans for review and approval according to Plumbing Code standards. SSTS designers may not design water supply systems or building sewers on municipal systems unless also licensed as a Minnesota Professional Engineer.
- MPCA-licensed SSTS installers may request permits and install building sewers connected to SSTS. These installers may also perform installation of exterior sewer and water supply piping anywhere in the state. They must notify the plumbing administrative authority when work requires a plumbing inspection.
- MPCA-licensed SSTS inspectors may inspect building sewers on SSTS according to the standards of the Plumbing Code when acceptable to the plumbing administrative authority.
- SSTS licensed septic professionals must perform work for compliance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code, Chapter 4714. View more at www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-wwists4-43_0_0.pdf.