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## A Message From the Executive Director:



**Hello, everyone!**

I hope everyone is doing well as our wet summer begins! As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, Governor Burgum has reappointed Rodney Mayer to a 5-year board member term to the position as the contracting master electrician. Also, board member Paul Durbin resigned as the representative of an owner-investor utility and Governor Burgum appointed Jon Hoffman to fill Durbin's 2-year unexpired term. So, we want to welcome our newly appointed board members!! Xcel Energy currently holds the board position for the owner-investor utilities.

We're happy to announce our newly hired inspector, Sean Allen. Sean will be primarily responsible for assisting in the northwest districts of North Dakota to start with. Work has really picked up in this area so if you see a new face, it's Sean! Welcome aboard Sean!!

The administrative rules process is over.

The Administrative Rules Committee has approved our adoption of the 2023 Laws, Rules and Wiring Standards for North Dakota and takes effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. This includes the adoption of the 2023 NEC. We recently mailed out the 2023 booklet to all active electricians.

The licensing exams are still on the 2020 NEC through July, but as of August 2024 the exams will change to be on the 2023 NEC.

As previously announced, the board modified the re-examination policy. The passing score remains at 70 percent. The change is if you score between 60-69, now there is no waiting period so you can reapply right away. The remaining scores stay the same. A score between 50 - 59 has a waiting period of 3 months, and below 50 has a 6-month waiting period.

Apprentices..... make sure you are enrolled in a related training program approved by the board or have taken care of the required education with a 2-year electrical college degree.

Contractors.....be sure to follow up with your apprentices to ensure they have the education requirements taken care of. Information can be found on our website at <https://www.ndseb.com/apprentice-education/approved-apprenticeship-related-training-programs-and-colleges/>.

Our education committee continues to be reviewing applications from related training providers seeking board approval to create more education opportunities for apprentices.

Check out our website often for new information: [www.ndseb.com](http://www.ndseb.com).

Email at: [electric@nd.gov](mailto:electric@nd.gov) or  
 Mail to: ND State Electrical Board  
 PO Box 7335  
 Bismarck, ND 58507-7335

I hope you have a great summer and let's all look forward to a continued great rest of the year!!

I wish you enough,

- James Schmidt

## Electrical Safety!

Electrical safety is one of the most important reasons for inspections, electrical training, licensing and continuing education. The National Electrical Code (NEC) and the North Dakota Laws, Rules & Wiring Standards do a great job guiding us to safe and proper electrical installations.

We all know that mishandling of electricity and incorrect installations can lead to shock, fires, burns and even fatalities. Working in the electrical industry, we tend to focus on things like not overloading circuits, proper grounding, loose connections, and proper wiring methods as some of our main standards for safety, but is there more?

As inspectors and electricians, we know these electrical items are very important but there are other things we would like you to think about for your personal safety, and the safety of those around you:

- Are you wearing the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?
- Do I have the properly rated tools and are they in good working condition?

- Did I check my surroundings for other hazards like wet floors, fall and trip hazards or other trades working overhead?
- What type of environment am I in and are there any health or other hazards?

Safety is everyone's responsibility and by using the correct equipment, proper training and prioritizing our safety practices, we can all help prevent and avoid accidents and protect lives.



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## NDSEB Continuing Education Classes 2024-2025 "Registration Open"

### "2023 NEC Code Essentials"

Main Topics [Load Calculations, Common Corrections & Review of 2023 Code Changes]

#### August 2024

Aug. 8: Devils Lake  
 Aug. 9: Jamestown

#### September 2024

Sept. 5: Minot  
 Sept. 6: Bismarck

#### October 2024

Oct. 3: Grand Forks  
 Oct. 4: Fargo

#### November 2024

Nov. 14: Dickinson  
 Nov. 15: Williston

#### December 2024

Dec. 5: Bismarck  
 Dec. 6: Minot

#### January 2025

Jan. 9: Fargo  
 Jan. 10: Grand Forks

- Lunch is provided and included in cost of the class.
- Please bring 2023 NEC book, calculator and pencil.



# New Carbon Monoxide Requirements

As of July 1, 2024, additional locations have been added to where and when a carbon monoxide alarm will be required. These requirements are currently in the North Dakota State Building Code and now have been adopted by the State Electrical Board.

The first location is a bedroom in which a fuel-fired appliance is located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom. This includes gas fireplaces. Some floorplans contain a fireplace in the bedroom or its attached bathroom. In addition, some homes have a mechanical closet located in the bathroom closet as well. If this is the case, a carbon monoxide alarm will be required within said bedroom in addition to the current requirement of a carbon monoxide alarm located outside the bedroom. If you think about this, it does make sense. When people sleep with their bedroom door closed, the alarm located outside the bedroom may not detect the CO2 until it's too late if there is a fireplace or gas mechanical unit within the bedroom or its attached bathroom.

The second location is one carbon monoxide alarm must be located on every habitable level of a dwelling unit. The term "habitable" has a definition within the Building Code if you need clarification on this. The Building Code recognizes that people will often sleep in other areas of a home other than bedrooms such as a living room or family room. This is to ensure someone sleeping in any area of the home is protected. These additional alarms must be interconnected with any other carbon monoxide or smoke alarms within the dwelling unit.

# News & Notes from NDSEB

## UPDATE PERSONAL INFORMATION

If you have recently moved or changed your mailing address or phone number, please let our office know as soon as possible. We mail out a variety of reminders and correspondence and/or need to contact you. It is imperative you have updated personal information on record with our office to ensure receipt of our mailers and contacts.

You can change your personal information by calling our office, emailing the information to [electric@nd.gov](mailto:electric@nd.gov) or going to our website, [www.ndseb.com](http://www.ndseb.com), under Forms, #20, Personal Information Change.

## RE-EXAM APPLICATION

At the March 20, 2024 NDSEB board meeting, the following exam waiting period policy was adopted:

- Score of 60 to 69 -- no waiting period.
- Score of 50 to 59 — 3 month waiting period.
- Score of 49 and lower — 6-month waiting period.

Your exam results letter will indicate the date your waiting period is up and when you may submit a re-exam application and fee to our office. Keep in mind that even if your exam score is between 60 to 69 with no waiting period, you still need to

# Receptacle Outlet Location

The 2023 National Electrical Code (210.52(C)) changed the permitted locations for receptacles serving kitchen countertops, islands, and peninsulas by removing the option to install the receptacle below the countertop. There has been much debate over the years about allowing a receptacle to be installed below the countertop because of the potential hazard (example: a child could grab the cord for a crockpot and pull it down on themselves inflicting injury). However, allowing a receptacle at that location can also be very convenient and effective for point of use appliances and keeps the countertop clear of obstacles and easy to clean up, so both sides do have merit.

A proposal was submitted to the NDSEB and subsequently accepted that added an exception to the 2023 ND Laws, Rules & Wiring

Standards (24.1-06-02-10(12)) to permit the installation of a receptacle below the countertop. The rule states: receptacle outlets shall be permitted to be located not more than twelve inches below a countertop or work surface. Receptacles installed below a countertop or work surface shall not be located where the countertop or work surface extends more than six inches beyond its support base.

By adding this exception, the receptacle placement rules revert back to what was permitted in the 2020 NEC, providing the homeowner and installer more options for placement. With the 2023 NEC making the installation of receptacles on islands and peninsulas optional, the added flexibility of locations for the receptacle may make homeowners more likely to want a receptacle or receptacles installed for future convenience.

**“Electricians are the superheroes who restore power during the darkest of times.”**

submit a re-exam application and fee to our office.

When submitting a re-exam application, please make sure to complete the following items as required:

- Fill out the first page of the application;
- List a current employer, if applicable;
- Sign and date the second page of the application; and
- Submit the completed application and appropriate fee to our office for processing.

You do not need to provide employment verifications or schooling transcripts/completion certificates since you have

previously tested. The re-exam application is available on our website, [www.ndseb.com](http://www.ndseb.com), under Forms, #4 or under Licensing, Applying for an Electrical License. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT DISTRICT / JURISDICTION

When issuing a new wiring certificate, it is your responsibility to make sure you are selecting the correct inspection district/jurisdiction when applying for a new wiring certificate.

Site Information

This job is within the jurisdiction of

- State
- City of Fargo
- City of Bismarck
- City of Minot
- City of Grand Forks

After submitting the wiring certificate, the system will notify the appropriate inspector in that jurisdiction. If the wrong jurisdiction is selected, that inspector may not be immediately notified of your pending job.

If you are unsure if the work is being done in the State or in the respective cities, each of the city's websites has maps to help you determine the jurisdiction. You will find the State's jurisdictional map, along with the state inspectors, at:

<https://www.ndseb.com/inspections/inspection-districts>.

## INSPECTION FEE CHANGES JULY 1, 2024

For e-Certs that are entered in our system effective July 1, 2024, the inspection fee changes and shall be as follows:

Job Cost:	Inspection Fee:
Up to \$500.00	\$50.00 (Minimum Fee)
\$500.00 to \$20,000.00	\$50.00 for the first \$500.00 plus 2% on balance up to \$20,000.00
Over \$20,000.00	\$440.00 for the first \$20,000.00 plus 1/10 of 1% on balance over \$20,000.00

For e-Certs that were entered in our system prior to July 1, 2024, the inspection fee will remain under the effective October 1, 2020 inspection fee schedule.

# Making A Connection: Sean Allen, District 15 Inspector

**Originally** from and continues to reside in Minot, North Dakota, Sean Allen started working as an electrician in 2015. He has spent the majority of his electrical career doing service work. Sean started at the NDSEB as District 15 Electrical Inspector on May 8, 2024.

## What projects are you currently working on?

Currently helping other inspectors in Williams, Dunn and Mountrail counties. Outside of work, I am finishing my basement at my home . . . in sheetrock phase.

## What is your favorite part of your job?

Becoming more code proficient and going to and seeing many new places daily. Meeting people.

## What are your hobbies?

Bicycle riding / racing and archery.

## The best movie of all time is ... ?

Lord of the Rings.

## What's your favorite TV show?

Kill Tony on YouTube.

## The best thing about North Dakota is ... ?

Fall season.

## What do you like on your pizza?

Supreme with no olives.

## What would be your dream vacation?

A downhill mountain bike trip to Whistler, Canada.

