



DBS Electrical Program Newsletter

11/20/2019

2020 National Electrical Code, Will we adopt?

Code Adoption Collaboratives Beginning

The Idaho Electrical Board was petitioned to enter negotiated rulemaking to adopt the 2020 NEC. You can find information on the dates of several collaboratives that will be held to discuss the adoption of the new code.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in this process. This is your opportunity to effect electrical codes for the state of Idaho. You can find information on dates [here](#).

Idaho Legislature Begins in 2020

Rule changes being presented

Following are several rule changes negotiated and approved by the electrical board. These are considered “proposed” rules until the legislature approves them. If approved they become rule.

A terminology change from “recognized jurisdiction” to “recognized license”. Currently anyone with a license from a recognized jurisdiction cannot sign up as an apprentice. The issue is that some jurisdictions issue licenses that Idaho does not recognize. An example of this would be Washington’s residential journeyman license. Persons coming from Washington with one of these licenses cannot sign up as an apprentice but are not qualified to test as a journeyman electrician. By recognizing the license and not the jurisdiction would allow DBS to register people with this type of license as an apprentice and allow them to go to work.

The requirement to prove residential, commercial and industrial experience is also proposed to be removed.

Idaho Electrical Program



Information for the Idaho Electrical program can be found at the following link <https://dbs.idaho.gov/boards/ebboard/ebmembers.html>

You can visit the Electrical Program Facebook page for up to date announcements and follow us here

<https://www.facebook.com/DBSElectrical/>

The Idaho Electrical Board meets every three months to discuss the direction of the electrical program and concerns from the industry or citizens. You can find information about the board meetings and dates of future board meetings here

<https://dbs.idaho.gov/boards/ebboard/ebmeetings.html>

You can contact your electrical board members by following this link

<https://dbs.idaho.gov/boards/ebboard/ebmembers.html>

Currently apprentice who do not complete a specific amount of school and training in a specified amount of time can be denied the ability to reregister. With the statutes passed last year that allow apprentice to reregister indefinitely, it is being proposed to require either school or 24 hours of continued education prior to registration. So instead of being denied registration indefinitely or requiring someone to attend school for a year before they can register. A person would simply have to take 24 hours of CEU's prior to registering as an apprentice.

With the statute change last year that allows an apprentice to test for the journeyman license without school and only providing 16,000 hours of experience. A rule is being proposed to do away with the requirement to retake 4th year if you have not passed the journeyman exam within two years of graduating school.

A proposed rule is also being presented to do a way with the requirement that a person from out of state who has received a journeyman license wait 1 year before they can reciprocate. It will also be proposed to do away with the requirement that says if someone has failed Idaho's journeyman exam they can not reciprocate to Idaho.

Idaho Power Multiple Meter Installations

The following is from Idaho Power and applies to contractors installing meters for Idaho Power customer.

Multiple Meters

The NEC generally requires a building or structure to be supplied by only one service (meter). Multiple meters of the same Rate Class are not allowed on a single structure at a single address. This requirement does not apply to multi-tenant structures such as duplexes, apartments complexes or strip malls.

Each meter base or service disconnect that is part of an installation with more than one meter is required to be plainly marked with numbers

and/or letters that correspond to the address, suite, office, or room it serves. Marking shall be a permanent nameplate or placard (hand-written address information is not acceptable).

The previous requirement simply indicated "permanently marked" with no specific requirement for a nameplate or placard. Can you maybe put a note about it in your newsletter?

Idaho Power will begin looking for this right away but will work with installers in the short term on understanding the requirement.

Continuing Education

Upcoming CEU classes

You can find a list of free upcoming CEU classes [here](#).

These classes are free and held at DBS. We try to do these each month but check to see if we have something scheduled. Other classes not presented by DBS can be found at [CEBroker.com](#) Every license holder has access to a free CEBroker account to track their completed CEU's. Master and journeyman electricians are required to complete 24 hours of CEU's between each licensing period. At least 8 hours must be code update. The remaining 16 hours can be code update, code related or industry related.

Apprentice Ratio Adjustment

By special permission only

Contractors can have their apprentice ratio adjusted by special permission only. To do this you need to send me an email requesting a ratio adjustment. These are primarily being granted for work being done in one- and two-family dwelling units.

Some commercial jobs have been allowed on an individual job basis. There are specific requirements that a contractor has to agree to and safety issues that must be addressed prior to being granted a ratio adjustment. For more information on this you can contact

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Possible Permanent Ratio Adjustment Legislation

Board notified of possible legislation regarding apprentice ratio's

The Idaho Electrical Board was notified during the October board meeting that legislation to allow for a 3:1 or 4:1 ratio is being presented to the legislature

this year. This legislation is being ran by an Idaho electrical contractor independently of the Idaho electrical board and Division of Building Safety. The legislation would allow for contractors to have more apprentice if the apprentice they have meet certain experience and education guidelines.

Inspector job announcement

Division of Building Safety looking for electrical inspector

If you are interested in working as an electrical inspector for the Idaho Division of Building Safety you can find the announcement at the following [link](#).