ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTIONS OF THE

NEW YORK CITY ELECTRICAL CODE

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Title 27 Construction and Maintenance

Chapter 3 Electrical Code

§27-3001 Short title. - This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "electrical code".

§27-3002 Purpose. - Since there is danger to life and property inherent in the use of electrical energy, the electrical code is enacted to regulate the business of installing, altering or repairing wiring and appliances for electrical light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm or data transmission in the city of New York and the licensing of all persons who engage in such business.

§27-3003 Construction. - This chapter shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purpose. Words used herein which have acquired a particular meaning in the usage of the electrical trades shall be construed as understood in the trade.

§27-3004 Definitions. - Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms, whenever used in this chapter or in any rule or reference standard promulgated pursuant to this chapter, shall mean:

COMMISSIONER: The commissioner of buildings.

DEPARTMENT: The department of buildings.

ELECTRICAL WORK: The installation, alteration, maintenance, or repair of electric wires and wiring apparatus and other appliances used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for electric light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm or data transmission.

EMPLOYEE: An individual who is on the payroll of an employer and who under the usual common law rules applicable in determining the employee-employer relationship has the status of an employee. Such term shall not include an independent contractor.

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN: An individual who has demonstrated a progressive understanding, proficiency and competence in the electrical trade, which shall include:

- a. A working familiarity with the electrical code and the electrical code technical standards and the ability to apply the code requirements correctly;
- b. The application of basic electrical theory and the utilization of trade math skills on the job site;
 - c. A working knowledge of the tools of the trade and the ability to utilize them properly; and

d. An ability to draft simple diagrams and interpret from drawings for the purpose of the installation, alteration or repair of electric wiring or appliances for light, heat and power.

LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL WORK: The installation, alteration, maintenance or repair of electrical wiring that is designed to operate at less than fifty volts for signaling, communication, alarm, and data transmission circuits except that such term shall not include the installation, alteration, maintenance or repair, regardless of voltage, of any such wiring which connects to, is a part of or is located within:

- (a) life safety systems as defined by rule of the commissioner, including but not limited to (i) those safety systems and features listed in subparagraphs a through n of paragraph three of subdivision a of section 27-228.2 of the administrative code and (ii) alarm and extinguishing systems subject to building code reference standards RS 17-3, RS 17-3A, RS 17-3B, and/or RS 17-3C,
- (b) class I, II or III hazardous locations as described in the electrical code technical standards, including but not limited to certain areas within commercial garages as set forth therein, aircraft hangers, gasoline dispensing and service stations, bulk fuel storage plants and facilities which may be utilized for spray applications or for a dipping and coating process,
 - (c) intrinsically safe systems as described in the electrical code technical standards, or
- (d) a point of connection to or interfacing with a control circuit which activates light, heat or power circuits.

LOW VOLTAGE INSTALLER: An individual who is certified by the commissioner to act as the representative of a business entity authorized pursuant to this chapter and the rules of the department to perform low voltage electrical work in or on any building, premises or lot in the city. An individual so certified shall have full responsibility on behalf of such business entity for the manner in which such work is done and for the selection, supervision and control of employees of such business entity who perform such work. Such individual shall be an employee of the business entity which he or she represents and shall supervise, direct and be responsible for only the work of the employees of such business entity. Such individual shall not represent more than one business entity.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN BUSINESS: A sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation authorized by the commissioner to engage in or carry on, as an independent contractor and as its regular business, the business of performing electrical work in or on any building, premises or lot in the city under a license issued to a master electrician.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE: The license issued to an individual who has passed the required examination and tests and who otherwise qualifies for the issuance of such license pursuant to this chapter. An individual who holds such license shall be known as a master electrician.

RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVE: A master electrician who has the authority to make final determinations and who has full responsibility on behalf of a master electrician business for the manner in which electrical work is done and for the selection, supervision and control of all employees of such business who perform such work. A partnership or corporation shall designate one master electrician who is a partner of such partnership or an officer of such corporation to be the responsible representative of such partnership or corporation. The proprietor of a sole proprietorship shall be the responsible

representative of such sole proprietorship. A master electrician shall not be the responsible representative of more than one partnership or corporation and shall file for, supervise, direct and be responsible for only the work of such partnership or corporation. If the master electrician business is in the form of a sole proprietorship, only the master electrician who owns such business shall be the responsible representative of such business and shall file for, supervise, direct and be responsible for only his or her own work and the work of his or her employees. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, where the department has issued a violation notice for work performed by an unlicensed person or work performed without the required permit and where such work is otherwise in compliance with the electrical code and the electrical code technical standards, a responsible representative may file an application for a permit or take any other actions with respect to such work directed by the department to address the violation.

SPECIAL ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE: The written authorization of the commissioner to an individual who is an employee of an individual, a partnership or a corporation owning, leasing or managing a building, buildings or parts thereof to perform electrical work in or on specific buildings, lots or parts thereof owned, leased or managed by such individual, corporation or partnership. An individual who has obtained such authorization shall be known as a special electrician. A special electrician shall determine the method of doing the work in or on such buildings and shall have sole responsibility for supervising and directing the employees of such owner, lessee or manager who perform such work. A special electrician shall not supervise the work of individuals who are not employees of the owner, lessee or manager of the buildings on which the special electrician is authorized by his or her license to perform electrical work. A special electrician's license shall not authorize the holder to engage in or carry on the business of performing electrical work as an independent contractor.

SPECIAL PERMISSION: The written approval of the commissioner in circumstances involving the exercise of his or her discretion and in circumstances not covered by this chapter.

- **§27-3005 Jurisdiction, powers and duties of the commissioner.** a. The commissioner is authorized to exercise all powers necessary to enforce the electrical code and the electrical code technical standards, including but not limited to the power to:
- 1. Promulgate rules respecting the installing, altering, maintaining or repairing of (i) electric wires and wiring apparatus and other appliances used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for electric light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm or data transmission and (ii) low voltage electrical wiring in or on any building, premises or lot in the city of New York.
- 2. Cause any wiring or appliances for electrical light, heat or power to be examined and inspected, and the approval thereof to be certified in writing,
 - (a) by an officer or employee of the department designated by him or her for that purpose, or
 - (b) by any inspection agency certified by the commissioner in accordance with rules promulgated by the commissioner, or
 - (c) when such wiring or appliances are located in a building owned by the city or any city agency, (i) by a licensed professional engineer, or (ii) by a person with a baccalaureate degree in electrical engineering, or (iii) by any person who holds the job title of electrical inspector or any job

title equivalent thereto, as classified by the commissioner of citywide administrative services pursuant to section eight hundred fourteen of the charter; provided, however, that such licensed professional engineer or person with a baccalaureate degree in electrical engineering or person holding the job title of electrical inspector shall not have performed the work to be inspected and shall be an officer or employee of the city agency which contracted for such work.

- 3. Order the remedying of any defect or deficiency in the installing, altering or repairing of electric wires and wiring apparatus and other appliances used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for electric light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm or data transmission.
- 4. Cause any order issued by him or her which has not been complied with to be enforced and to take any civil or criminal proceedings or actions for its enforcement.
- 5. Order any person or corporation engaged in supplying electrical energy to discontinue such supply as specified in such order if the wiring or appliances for electric light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm or data transmission shall be dangerous to persons or property therein.
- 6. (a) Promulgate rules fixing the date, scope and subject matter of examinations of applicants to become licensed as master electricians and special electricians and, upon recommendation of the license board, promulgate rules respecting the issuance, suspension and revocation of such licenses.
 - (b) Promulgate rules fixing the date, scope and subject matter of examinations of applicants for certification as low voltage installer and respecting the issuance, suspension and revocation of such certification.
- 7. Appoint, in accordance with the rules of the department and at his or her discretion, special boards or committees to provide advice or assistance in the implementation, interpretation, variation or amendment of any provision of the electrical code or the electrical code technical standards or any rule promulgated pursuant to this chapter.
- 8. Promulgate rules regarding the issuance of approvals for the use of electrical appliances and materials and the granting of special permission to use wiring or appliances in cases involving the exercise of his or her discretion and in cases not covered by this chapter.
- 9. Designate as prescribed in section 14-106 of title fourteen of the code, with the consent of the police commissioner, certain electrical inspectors as special patrolmen of the police department. Such special patrolmen shall possess powers to perform the duties of and be subject to the orders, rules and regulations of the police department in the same manner as regular patrolmen. Each special patrolman shall have a badge and card, as furnished by the police department. He or she shall have power to issue summonses returnable in the New York city criminal court, covering violations of this chapter.
 - b. The foregoing provisions are detailed statements of certain powers possessed by the commissioner and shall not be construed as limiting his or her authority.
 - **§27-3006 Federal and state buildings. -** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to apply to any building, the electrical equipment of which is under the control of the United States of America or the state of New York or of any department, bureau or officer thereof.

- **§27-3007** City departments. The various departments, boards and officers of the city shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- **§27-3008 Public service corporations.** a. Except as provided for in subdivision b of this section, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:
- 1. Electrical equipment used exclusively for the operation of railroads, railways and trackless trolleys, or
- 2. Installations, including associated lighting, under the exclusive control and use of electric utilities for the purpose of communications, metering, generation, control transformation, transmission or distribution of electric energy. Such installations shall be located in buildings used exclusively by utilities for such purpose, outdoors on property owned or leased by the utility, on public highways, streets or roads or outdoors on private property by established rights such as easements, or
 - 3. Communication equipment used exclusively for communicating or signal purposes provided that such equipment is installed by and under the exclusive control and use of communications utilities subject to the jurisdiction of the public service commission and is located outdoors or in building spaces used only for such equipment.
 - b. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to such portions of commercial, industrial or office buildings owned or leased by the above mentioned persons or corporations, not used for the operations of such persons or corporations, such as public spaces leased or rented to other persons or corporations.
- §27-3009 Master electrician's and special electrician's license board. a. For each calendar year, the commissioner shall appoint a board to review the character and fitness of applicants for a master electrician's or special electrician's licenses and the approval of master electrician businesses, to advise the commissioner regarding allegations of illegal practices on the part of master and special electricians or master electrician businesses, to investigate and report on all proposed suspensions or revocations of licenses and approvals of master electrician businesses and all proposed penalties, and to perform any other responsibilities as may be requested by the commissioner and as set forth in rules promulgated by the department. The commissioner may, for good cause shown, remove any member thereof and shall fill any vacancy therein, which board shall consist of:
 - 1. Two officers or employees of the department.
 - 2. Two licensed master electricians actively engaged in the trade.
 - 3. A journeyman electrician.
 - 4. An electrical inspector in the employ of an inspection agency certified by the commissioner.
 - 5. An electrician in the employ of a public service corporation of the city.
 - 6. A registered architect or licensed professional engineer of at least five years experience.
 - 7. A real estate owner or manager.

- b. A member of the board who is an officer or employee of the department shall serve as chairperson and all members shall serve without compensation. Five members including the chairperson, who shall be entitled to vote, shall constitute a quorum of the board for the transaction of business; but no recommendation for the issue, modification, suspension or revocation of a license or of a proposed penalty shall be adopted except by the vote of at least five members of the board.
- c. The license board shall investigate the character and fitness of all applicants for licenses who shall have passed the required examination and shall report to the commissioner the results of such examination. It shall investigate and hear all written complaints against holders of such licenses and master electrician businesses and report to the commissioner its findings and recommendations. It shall keep minutes of its proceedings and hearings and records of its investigations and examinations of applicants for licenses and approvals of master electrician businesses. Upon the holding of any hearing, the chairperson of the board presiding at such hearing may administer oaths, and the board may issue and cause to be served subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers pertinent to any hearing held by it upon written complaint. Such subpoenas shall be signed by the commissioner and the fees and mileage paid to witnesses upon the service of such subpoenas shall be those prescribed in section fifteen hundred thirty-nine of the civil practice law and rules.

§27-3010 Qualifications of applicants for master electrician's and special electrician's licenses.

- a. An applicant for a license as a master electrician or special electrician must be over the age of twenty-one years, of good moral character and, at the time of applying for examination, shall have had, during the ten (10) years immediately preceding his or her application, at least seven and one-half (7½) years or the equivalent as indicated below and during such time a minimum of ten thousand five hundred (10,500) hours or the equivalent as indicated below of satisfactory experience in the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and appliances for electric light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities. Except as otherwise provided below, such satisfactory experience must have been obtained while under the direct supervision of a licensed master electrician or special electrician or, with respect to experience outside the city, under the direct supervision of an individual with comparable qualifications as determined by the commissioner, and while in the employ of (i) a master electrician business as defined herein, or (ii) an individual, a partnership or a corporation owning, leasing or managing a building, buildings or parts thereof and employing a special electrician to perform electrical work in or on specific buildings, lots or parts thereof owned, leased or managed by such individual, corporation or partnership, or (iii) an individual, a partnership or a corporation deemed acceptable by the commissioner. No more than twenty-five percent (25 %) of such satisfactory experience shall have been gained while working outside the United States unless the commissioner determines that the licensing system and electrical code of the foreign jurisdiction is essentially similar to licensing systems and electrical codes in the United States. The following shall be deemed to fulfill the satisfactory experience requirement:
- 1. A journeyman electrician who has worked at least seven and one-half (7½) years and during such time a minimum of ten thousand five hundred (10,500) hours of such experience must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and appliances for light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities, or
- 2. A graduate of a college or university who holds a degree in electrical engineering, either a master of science (M.S.) or bachelor of science (B.S.) and has in addition worked at least (i) with respect to an

applicant with an M.S. degree, two and one-half (2½) years and during such time a minimum of thirty-five hundred (3500) hours of such experience or, (ii) with respect to an applicant with a B.S. degree, three and one-half (3½) years and during such time a minimum of forty-nine hundred (4900) hours of such experience must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and appliances for electric light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities, or

- 3. A graduate of a vocational, industrial, trade school or apprenticeship program, registered with the New York state department of labor, specializing in electrical wiring, installation and design or applied electricity, who has worked at least five and one-half (5½) years and during such time a minimum of seventy-seven hundred (7700) hours of such experience must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and appliances for electric light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities, or
- 4. Any person who attended courses in a college or university leading to a degree in electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, bachelor of science in electrical engineering or mechanical engineering, who passed all subjects in the required courses shall be credited with satisfactory experience equal to fifty per cent (50%) of the number of curricula years he or she has satisfactorily completed which, in no event, however, shall exceed two and one-half (2½) years credit of satisfactory experience, the balance of the required seven and one-half (7½) years, i.e., five (5) years and during such time a minimum of seven thousand (7000) hours of such experience must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and apparatus for light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities, or
- 5. Any person who attended courses in a vocational, industrial or trade school, registered with the New York state department of labor, specializing in electrical wiring, installation and design or applied electricity who has passed all subjects in the required courses shall be credited with fifty per cent (50%) of the number of curricula years that he or she has satisfactorily completed which, however, in no event, shall exceed two (2) years credit of such experience, the balance of the required seven and one-half (7½) years, i.e., five and one-half (5½) years of such experience and during such time a minimum of seven thousand (7000) hours must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation and repair of wiring for electric light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities, or
- 6. An employee of a government agency, private inspection agency or other entity, acceptable to the commissioner, whose duties primarily involve the inspection of electrical work for compliance with the electrical code and the electrical code technical standards and/or other laws relating to the installation, alteration or repair of electrical wiring or appliances shall be credited with fifty percent (50%) of the number of years that he or she has been satisfactorily employed in such duties within the ten (10) year period prior to application, which, however, in no event, shall exceed two and one-half (2 ½) years credit of satisfactory experience. The balance of the required seven and one-half (7 ½) years, i.e., five (5) years and during such time a minimum of seven thousand (7000) hours of such experience must have been obtained by working with his or her tools on the installation, alteration and repair of wiring and appliances for electric light, heat and power in or on buildings or comparable facilities except that the requirement of subdivision a of this section that an applicant's working experience must have been within the ten (10) year period prior to application shall not apply to such balance of five (5) years working experience required pursuant to this paragraph.

- b. Every application for a master electrician's or special electrician's license shall be made in writing in such form and shall furnish such information as the commissioner may, from time to time, prescribe, and set forth in the rules of the department.
- c. Every applicant shall be required to take an examination in accordance with the rules of the department. However, where the application is on behalf of a city agency, the commissioner may waive the examination requirement if the applicant has sufficient experience qualifications, as determined by the commissioner.
- d. Every applicant shall submit to such investigation by the license board as may be proper to determine the applicant's character and fitness. Every applicant shall commence the application process with the department within one year of passing the examination for licensure and shall furnish to the department a completed application within one year of submission of the first filing. Failure to provide all requested documents in a timely manner will constitute an incomplete application and may result in denial of the license.

§27-3011 Repealed by Local Law 64 of 2001

§27-3012 Repealed by Local Law 64 of 2001

- **§27-3013** Business establishments, master electricians and special electricians. a. Master electrician. Every master electrician business shall at all times have a place of business at a specified address in the city at which the licensee may be contacted by the public and the department by mail, telephone or other modes of communication, located in a business zone in conformity with the zoning regulations and kept open during the usual business hours unless other means acceptable to the commissioner is provided. At such place of business, there shall at all times be prominently displayed a permanent sign of a minimum size of one hundred fifty square inches, stating the name of such license holder, the license number of such licensee, and the words "licensed electrician" or "licensed electrical contractor" on a plate glass window and the name of the master electrician business if different than the name of the license holder; or an outside sign of permanent construction fastened and readily visible to pedestrians; or if such place of business be an office, commercial or industrial building, the names shall be indicated on the entrance door of the particular portion of the premises or on a bulletin board on the main floor.
- 1. The applicant for approval of a master electrician business under a license issued to a master electrician shall have filed with the commissioner, in such form as the commissioner may direct, proof that such applicant carries all insurance required by law including, but not limited to, workers' compensation, disability and one million dollars of general liability insurance listing the Department as certificate holder, and that the applicant business is financially responsible. Each policy of insurance shall contain a provision of continuing liability notwithstanding any recovery under such policy. The applicant shall indicate the name and license number of the master electrician who shall serve as the responsible representative of such business, and, if the business is a partnership or corporation, the names of all other master electricians associated with such business. Upon approval of such application the commissioner shall issue an authorization number to the business. The authorization number shall be included on all applications for permits and any other documents required to be filed with the department.

- 2. The office or other place where the master electrician business is to be conducted may be shared by one or more master electrician businesses. However, each business whether in the form of a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation, shall distinguish its identity from any other business sharing the same office space. Such distinctions shall be maintained in a manner satisfactory to the department.
- 3. A master electrician business shall be principally engaged in the business of performing electrical work in or on buildings, premises or lots in the city.
- 4. In the case of a partnership or corporation, a master electrician's license may be separately held by more than one partner or officer as a representative of such partnership or corporation; however, only one master electrician shall be the responsible representative of such corporation or partnership. Under no circumstances shall any one licensee represent more than one business at any one time.
- 5. A master electrician representing a master electrician business shall, during the hours the business is engaged in the performance of electrical work, devote his or her full time to the operation of such business.
- 6. The holder of a master electrician's license shall be issued a seal, of a design or form authorized by the commissioner, bearing the holder's full name, license number, and the legend "licensed master electrician." Applications for permits and any other document that the commissioner may require to be filed with the department, shall bear the stamp of the seal as well as the signature of the responsible representative of the master electrician business or, if the business is a partnership or corporation, such document may bear the stamp of the seal and the signature of a master electrician who files on behalf of such business acting pursuant to a written delegation, filed with the department, from the responsible representative of such business. For applications and other documents submitted electronically, the digital signature and imprint of the seal may be submitted in a manner authorized by the commissioner. The responsible representative of a business may not delegate such authority to a master electrician who is not an officer of such corporation or a partner of such partnership. Such person shall personally sign applications for permits. The responsible representative of a business shall have the authority to make final determinations and shall have full responsibility for the manner in which the work is done, except that where work is done under a permit issued pursuant to an application bearing the signature and seal of a master electrician acting pursuant to a written delegation from the responsible representative of such business, both the responsible representative of such business and the master electrician who signed and affixed his or her seal to the application for such permit shall be jointly and severally responsible for the manner in which the work is done.
- 7. The holder of a master electrician's license shall report in writing to the license board any change in the place of business within 30 days of the change. If such change occurs prior to issuance of the license, an applicant shall report the change to the license board within fourteen days of the change.
- 8. The approval of a master electrician business is valid only as long as the responsible representative identified on the application for approval of the master electrician business actively participates in the actual operation of the business. In the event a responsible representative leaves a master electrician business, both the representative and the business must notify the license board within thirty days of the change. A corporation or partnership must notify the license board of the death of a responsible representative within thirty days after such death. Failure to do so shall be deemed sufficient cause for suspending or revoking the approval to do business of the master electrician business

or the license of the master electrician. The decendent licensee's legal representative may, with the commissioner's consent, retain the licensee's license and seal for the purpose of completing all unfinished work of such licensee for which plans have been approved and permits issued, provided that such work is performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed electrician. Except as otherwise provided by rule, a master electrician business whether in the form of a corporation, a partnership or a sole proprietorship, may continue to engage in the business of performing electrical work only so long as the responsible representative of such business identified on the application for approval of the master electrician business remains an officer of such corporation, a partner of such partnership or the proprietor of such sole proprietorship unless the department approves a change in the responsible representative as provided in this section. The commissioner may promulgate rules providing for the continuation of a master electrician business pending the approval of a new responsible representative. Except as otherwise provided in such rules, the revocation, suspension, voluntary surrender or nonrenewal of the master electrician's license of the responsible representative of a master electrician business automatically revokes its approval to do business and cancels any delegation of authority given by such responsible representative to another master electrician associated with such business pending the approval by the department of a new responsible representative.

- 9. Except as otherwise provided by rule, a master electrician business shall not change its name, form or designate a new responsible representative without the prior approval of the license board. Approval of an application for a change is conditional upon the following: Filing the necessary forms, payment of the prescribed fee and full payment of all fees incurred with respect to such business prior to the date of the change. Except as otherwise provided by rule, a master electrician may not be approved as the responsible representative of a master electrician business if there are any outstanding fees due and owing to the department or outstanding violation notices attributable to him or her as responsible representative of another master electrician business.
- 10. A master electrician's license and a special electrician's license and seal shall not be held by any person at the same time.
- 11. The holder of a master electrician's license, upon entering employment as a special electrician, shall surrender his or her master electrician's license and seal and change over to a special electrician's license and seal to cover the building, buildings, or parts thereof, for which he or she will be employed.
- 12. All business vehicles, advertising, websites and stationery used in connection with electrical work required to be performed under a license issued to a master electrician shall display prominently in a manner provided by rule the words "N.Y.C. Licensed Electrician", the license number of the responsible representative of such business and of all other master electricians associated with such business, the authorization number of the master electrician business and the business address. If the business is conducted under a trade name, or is a partnership or corporation, the trade name, partnership, or corporate name shall be displayed prominently in a manner provided by rule.
- 13. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent two or more master electrician businesses from entering into a joint venture of limited duration for a particular project in accordance with the rules of the department. An application for a permit involving a joint venture shall so indicate on the application and shall identify all of the master electrician businesses that are parties to such joint venture by name and authorization number and the names and license numbers of the responsible representatives of such businesses. The application shall be signed by the responsible representative of one of the

parties to the joint venture on behalf of all such parties and all of such parties shall be jointly and severally liable for any fees due with respect to electrical work performed by such joint venture and for violations of this chapter and the rules of the department arising out of such work.

b. Special electrician's license.

- 1. A special electrician shall at all times have a place of business at a specified address in the city at which the licensee may be contacted by the department by mail, telephone or other modes of communication. His or her license shall plainly indicate the address or addresses of the building, buildings or parts thereof for which such license is issued.
- 2. The commissioner may issue more than one special license for a building or buildings if, in the commissioner's judgment, he or she deems it necessary for the proper operation and maintenance of the electric wiring and equipment of the building or buildings involved.
- 3. The holder of a special electrician's license shall report in writing any change in employment to the license board within thirty days of the change. If such change occurs prior to issuance of the license, an applicant shall report the change to the license board within fourteen days of the change.
- 4. The holder of a special electrician's license shall be issued a seal, of a design and form authorized by the commissioner, bearing the holder's full name, license number, and the legend "licensed special electrician." Applications for permits, and any other document that the commissioner may require to be filed with the department, shall bear the stamp of the seal as well as the signature of a person holding such license. Such person shall personally sign applications for permits and shall have the authority to make final determinations and full responsibility for the manner in which the work is done. For applications and other documents submitted electronically, the digital signature and imprint of the seal may be submitted in a manner authorized by the commissioner.

§27-3014 Master electrician's and special electrician's licenses and fees.

- a. Before any master electrician's or special electrician's license will be issued or renewed, the applicant shall pay a license or renewal fee as prescribed by the department's rules. The commissioner may exempt any agency, as defined in chapter fifty-two of the charter, from paying the aforementioned fees for licensed special electricians who are employees of such agencies.
- b. No license shall be transferable. The seal is the property of the department and is not transferable by the licensee.
- c. An application for a change of license from master electrician to special electrician shall involve the issuance of a new license and seal with or without examinations as the commissioner may direct.
- d. An application for a change of license from special to master electrician shall be granted only upon compliance by the special electrician with all applicable provisions of this chapter and the rules of the department.

- e. Each license and seal shall be issued for one year and the full fee shall be payable irrespective of the date of issue.
- f. Not more than one license and/or seal shall be issued to an individual and no individual shall make or cause to be made a duplicate of such license or seal.
- §27-3015 Renewal of master electrician's and special electrician's licenses. a. Any license and seal issued hereunder shall expire one year from the year of issuance on the licensee's date of birth for that year irrespective of the date of issue. Such license may be renewed every year thereafter without examination, provided application for such renewal, accompanied by the renewal fees prescribed above and such information as may be required by the commissioner to ensure compliance with section 27-3016 of this chapter and evidence of insurance coverage in compliance with section 27-3013 of this chapter, shall have been filed prior to the expiration of the existing license. Where an applicant can show good and sufficient cause for his or her inability to renew his or her license and seal before its expiration, the commissioner may, within ninety days after the expiration of such license, permit the issuance, without examination, of a new license and seal upon payment of the prescribed fees for such new license and seal within said ninety days. No license shall be renewed and no new license and seal shall be issued unless all outstanding fees required by section 27-3018 of this code have been paid. Renewal shall also be subject to the licensee's good moral character. As provided in department rule, the licensee's failure to clear open violations in a timely manner may result in the refusal to renew a license until the violations are resolved. The commissioner may promulgate rules requiring applicants for the renewal of master or special electrician's licenses to submit proof, in such form as he or she shall determine, that, in each year of the license term, such applicant completed at least ten hours of continuing education courses approved by the department. Such proof shall be submitted not less than two months prior to the expiration of the license term.
 - b. If a master electrician's or special electrician's license is suspended for cause, and the restoration thereof is conditional upon some action to be taken by the holder of the master electrician's or special electrician's license and the holder fails to take action before the expiration of the license, such failure shall be cause for the denial of the subsequent application to renew the license and seal.

§27-3016 Suspension, revocation or voluntary surrender of master electrician's and special electrician's licenses and suspension or revocation of approval of master electrician business. –

- a. 1. After notice and the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the rules of the department, master electrician's or special electrician's licenses and/or approvals of master electrician businesses may be suspended or revoked by the commissioner or the commissioner may impose penalties, which shall not exceed five thousand dollars for each violation, for violation of this chapter or of any of the rules of the department and, among other things, for any of the following causes:
 - (i) Failure to file an application for a permit or inspection.
 - (ii) Failure, upon receipt of a notice of violation, to take the action called for in such notice.

- (iii) Performance of electrical work in a manner contrary to the requirements of the electrical code or the electrical code technical standards.
 - (iv) Contract work by holders of special electrician's licenses.
 - (v) Fraudulent dealing or misrepresentation.
- (vi) Subject to applicable provisions of the correction law, conviction of a crime by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (vii) False statement in an application for a license or the renewal of a license or in an application for approval of a master electrician business or other application or certification required by this code or the rules of the commissioner, or in any proof or instrument in writing in connection therewith.
 - (viii) Failure to pay outstanding fees owed pursuant to section 27-3018 of this chapter.
- 2. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of paragraph one of this subdivision if, after due inspection, the commissioner determines that a licensee and/or a master electrician business has performed electrical work which is not in compliance with the electrical code or the electrical code technical standards and which has resulted in a condition severely hazardous to life or property, the commissioner may suspend his or her license and/or the authorization of a master electrician business represented by such licensee without a prior hearing. Notice of such suspension shall be served on the licensee and/or the master electrician business. The commissioner shall provide the licensee and/or the master electrician business with the opportunity for a hearing within five days after such suspension.
- b. In the event the holder of a master electrician's license is no longer engaged in a master electrician business or a special electrician is engaged during normal working hours in a business activity that does not involve the installation, alteration, or repair of electrical wiring for light, heat or power, then he or she shall so notify the department and submit his or her license and seal for voluntary surrender with the provision that (i) such license and seal will be restored without fee or examination if such application is made prior to the date on which it would have otherwise expired, or (ii) if application is made after such date a new license and seal will be issued, without written re-examination, after the submission of satisfactory evidence that the applicant has been engaged in the electrical field during the period of surrender; provided that at the time of the submission of the license for voluntary surrender:
 - 1. All outstanding fees required by section 27-3018 of this chapter are paid, and
 - 2. There are no outstanding violation notices for electrical work performed under such license, and
 - 3. Open applications filed under such license have been scheduled for inspection in accordance with department procedures, re-filed by another licensee or have been withdrawn.
 - c. During any period of voluntary surrender, or upon the suspension or revocation, of a master electrician's or special electrician's license, the holder shall surrender his or her

seal to the department. Upon the death of a holder, his or her seal shall be immediately surrendered to the department.

- **§27-3016.1** Certification as low voltage installer; qualifications; issuance; fees. a. An individual who has been determined by the commissioner to be competent to perform low voltage electrical work in compliance with the electrical code and the electrical code technical standards, the building code and other applicable law and who otherwise qualifies in accordance with this section and the rules of the department may be certified as a low voltage installer.
 - b. An applicant for such certification shall be over the age of eighteen years, of good moral character and at the time of application shall have had two (2) years of satisfactory experience as set forth in the rules of the department.
 - c. Every such application shall be made in writing in such form and shall furnish such information as the commissioner shall prescribe and set forth in the rules of the department. Every applicant shall submit to an investigation to determine the applicant's character and fitness.
 - d. Such certification shall be issued for such term and shall be subject to renewal in accordance with such conditions as shall be prescribed in the rules of the department.
 - e. The fee for such certification and for the renewal thereof shall be prescribed by rule.
 - f. Certification as a low voltage installer may be suspended or revoked for cause in accordance with the rules of the department and/or the department may impose penalties which shall not exceed one thousand dollars for each violation for violations of this chapter, the electrical code, the electrical code technical standards or the rules of the department.
- **§27-3017 Electrical work by unauthorized persons; false representations.** a. Work without appropriate license, false representation prohibited.
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph two of this subdivision, it shall be unlawful for any person to perform electrical work except under a license issued to a master electrician or special electrician as provided in this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to advertise or to hold himself, herself or itself out as authorized to engage in the business of performing electrical work unless such person is authorized to perform such work pursuant to this chapter under an appropriate master electrician's or special electrician's license. No person shall cause any such work to be done by any person unless he or she is an employee of and working under the direct supervision of a person authorized to perform such work pursuant to this chapter and the rules of the department. No person shall falsely represent that he, she or it is authorized to perform electrical work under a master electrician's or special electrician's license or shall use in any advertising the words "master electrician" or the words "licensed electrician" or the words "electrical contractor" or any words of similar meaning or import on any sign, card, letterhead or in any other manner unless such person is so authorized pursuant to this chapter and the rules of the department.
- 2. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of paragraph one of this subdivision, the commissioner may authorize business entities engaged in the business of installing, maintaining or repairing communication, signaling, alarm or data transmission systems to perform low voltage

electrical work under a certification issued to a low voltage installer as provided in this chapter and the rules of the department.

- b. False statement. No person shall, with intent to defraud or deceive, knowingly make a false statement, or cause or procure to be made or aid and assist in the making of a false statement in an application for a master electrician's or special electrician's license or for certification as a low voltage installer or in an application for approval of a master electrician business or the renewal of a license or certificate or in an application for a permit and approval or in any application provided for in this chapter, or in any proof or instrument in writing in connection therewith, or in any examination hereunder, deceive or substitute or cause another to deceive or substitute.
 - c. Penalty. Any person, partnership or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars for the first offense, not less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars for the second offense, and not less than fifteen hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars for the third offense or any successive offense thereafter or by six months imprisonment or by both such fine and imprisonment.
 - **§27-3017.1 Cooperation required-** a. Any person, including any corporation, partnership, business or other entity, issued a license by the department shall, pursuant to a request or order of the commissioner or any city agency or office, cooperate fully and completely with respect to any city agency or office investigation. Evidence of cooperation shall include, but is not limited to, appearing before the department or other city agency or office, answering questions completely and accurately, and providing any and all requested documents. Failure to comply with such request or order may subject such person to disciplinary measures authorized by law, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of the license.
 - b. Service of request or order. Such request or order by the commissioner or other city agency or office shall be mailed by regular mail to the person named therein to his or her last known business address or home address at least ten days before such appearance and shall contain the name of the person, date, time, and place of such appearance and, if known or applicable, a description of any requested documents. If the appearance or information is required immediately, the request or order may be transmitted via facsimile or delivered to the person's last known business or home address prior to the date and time specified therein.
- **§27-3018** Inspection; application for permit and application fees.- a. The commissioner or any officer or employee of the department authorized thereto by the commissioner, or any other person designated by the commissioner pursuant to section 27-3005 of this code, may enter or go upon any premises in or upon which there are any wiring or appliances for electric light, heat or power to make an inspection of the same. Any person who willfully refuses to permit such entry or inspection, shall be guilty of a violation of this subdivision, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars, imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days, or both.
 - b. Before commencing any electrical work, other than low voltage electrical work, a master electrician business or special electrician shall file with the commissioner an application for a work permit to be issued by the department. No such work shall be performed until the commissioner has

reviewed and approved such application and issued an appropriate permit for such work. The permit shall be conspicuously posted at the work site at all times while the work is in progress. Each permit shall be issued with an expiration date of three years.

- c. The fee for a permit for minor electrical work as described in subdivision h of this section shall be fifteen dollars, payable upon filing of the application.
- d. 1. The fee for electrical work requiring a permit shall be payable as follows: forty dollars upon filing of the application for such work and the balance of the total fee upon an electrical sign-off from the department.
 - 2. The fee for electrical work requiring a work permit by the department shall be computed as follows but shall not exceed five thousand dollars:
 - (i) Each outlet, each fixture, each horsepower or fraction thereof of a motor or generator, each kilowatt or fraction thereof of a heater, each horsepower or fraction thereof of an air conditioner, each kilovolt-ampere or fraction thereof of a transformer installed, altered or repaired shall be assigned the value of one unit. In computing the aforementioned fee, the sum of the units will determine the charges as set forth herein below:

Faa

Sum of unite

Sum of units Fee
1 - 10\$0.00
Over 10\$0.25 per unit
(ii) For each service switch installed, altered or repaired:
0-100 Amperes\$ 8.00
101-200 Amperes\$30.00
201-600 Amperes\$105.00
601-1200 Amperes\$225.00
Over 1200 Amperes\$375.00

(iii) For each set of service entrance cables and for each set of feeder conductors installed, altered or repaired:

Up to #2 Conductors.	\$15.00
Over #2 to #1/0 Conductors	\$30.00
Over #1/0 to 250 MCM	\$45.00
Over 250 MCM	\$75.00

- (iv) For each panel installed, altered or repaired:
 - 1 Phase up to 20-1 or 10-2 pole cutouts or breakers.....\$15.00
 - 1 Phase over 20-1 or 10-2 pole cutouts or breakers.....\$37.50
 - 3 Phase up to 225 amperes.....\$50.00
 - 3 Phase over 225 amperes......\$75.00
- (v) (a) For each sign manufactured (in-shop inspections):\$40.00
 - (b) For each sign manufactured (on-site inspections):

0 to 30 squar	e feet	\$65.00
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31 to 60 square feet.....\$90.00

Over 60 square feet\$115.00

(vi) For each elevator:

10 floors or less\$12	5.00
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Each additional ten or fewer floors.....\$ 83.00

- (vii) For wiring or rewiring boiler controls in buildings:\$12.00
- 3. If, after inspection, such wiring or appliances shall be found to have been installed, altered or repaired in conformity with the requirements of this chapter, the electrical code, the electrical code technical standards and the rules of the department, and the required fees paid, the commissioner shall issue to the applicant a sign-off of the approved work completed. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to work performed pursuant to a permit for minor electrical work as defined in subdivision h of this section.
- e. Whenever a master electrician business or special electrician files an application for a permit covering electrical work installed by an unlicensed or unauthorized person, it shall be his or her duty to specify such fact upon the application.
 - f. The commissioner shall be entitled to charge the following special fees:
 - 1. For an application with respect to electrical work made after a violation was issued for failure to file an application for a permit for such work up to ten times the total fee that would otherwise be payable as set forth in subdivisions c and d of this section.
 - 2. Duplicate copy of notice of violation \$5.00.

- g. No application or fees shall be required for electrical work relating to the construction and maintenance of city street lights and city traffic lights owned, operated or controlled by the city government or any agency thereof.
- h. 1. For purposes of this section a permit for minor electrical work may be issued for any of the following:
 - (i) replacement of defective circuit breakers or switches rated thirty amperes or less, excluding main service disconnects;
 - (ii) replacement of parts in electrical panels where voltage does not exceed one hundred fifty volts to ground;
 - (iii) replacement of minor elevator parts as defined by rule;
 - (iv) replacement of defective controls rated at thirty amperes or less;
 - (v) repair of defective fixtures;
 - (vi) replacement of fixtures in existing outlets, provided the number of such fixtures does not exceed five and does not increase existing wattage;
 - (vii) replacement, repair, disconnection or reconnection of motors not to exceed one horsepower, and associated devices;
 - (viii) repairs to low pressure heating plants with a capacity of less than fifteen pounds per square inch, except as may otherwise be required by rule of the commissioner.
 - (i) installation of any ten or fewer units not requiring the installation of an additional branch circuit;
 - (j) installation of motors of fractional horsepower;
 - (k) installation of transformers rated at one thousand volt amperes or less.
 - 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an electrical sign-off by the department shall not be required for electrical work performed pursuant to a permit for minor electrical work.
 - 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the commissioner may promulgate a rule providing that minor electrical work may be performed without a permit or the payment of a fee under the conditions to be prescribed in such rule.
- i. The department shall not issue a permit or, if applicable, an electrical sign-off pursuant to an application that involves the energizing of a meter in a one-, two-, three-, or four-family residence, if the department finds that such action will cause the total number of meters for the building to exceed the number of dwelling units specified for such building in the certificate of occupancy, or if there is no certificate of occupancy, as determined by the department, except as permitted herein. A building

specified as a one-family residence in the certificate of occupancy or, if there is no certificate of occupancy, as determined by the department, may have only one electric meter. A building in which two or more dwelling units have been constructed in accordance with the certificate of occupancy, or if there is no certificate of occupancy, as determined by the department, may have one meter for each dwelling unit and one additional meter for the common areas of the building, provided that smoke detecting devices are installed in all common areas in accordance with departmental requirements. Such common areas may include boiler rooms, shared hallway lighting, shared stairway lighting, and outdoor perimeter lighting but shall not include any habitable space. In the event that a meter has been found to have been installed or to exist in violation of this section, the department may take action leading to the disconnecting of such meter in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in section 27-3020 of this code.

j. Any application for a permit filed with the department in relation to a request for the authorization to power or energize/electrical wiring or appliances or in relation to work that will result in the issuance of a new or amended certificate of occupancy must include a statement, signed and sealed by the electrician, that the building owner or his or her authorized representative has authorized in writing the work to be performed. This signed authorization must be available upon request by the department. In addition, any electrical application filed with the department involving the energizing of a meter, must include as well, a statement, signed and sealed by the electrician, that the building owner or his or her authorized representative has indicating in writing the intended use or purpose of such meter and has affirmed that such meter will be maintained in compliance with the provisions of this section. This statement must be available upon request by the department. Any individual who knowingly misrepresents the use of a meter or allows a meter to be used in violation of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars, or imprisonment of not more than six months or both such fine and imprisonment.

Such person shall also be liable for a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars which may be recovered by the corporation counsel in an action or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction.

- k. Any authorization to power or energize electrical wiring or appliances issued by the department shall expire ninety days after the date of issuance unless a sign-off has been issued by the department or an extension of such authorization has been granted by the department. In the event no such sign-off has been issued or extension authorization granted, the department may take action leading to the disconnecting of such meter(s) in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in section 27-3020 of this code.
- 1. An application for a work permit may be amended by filing with the department a post-approval amendment in a form prescribed by rule of the department.
- **§27-3019** Modification, suspension or revocation, electrical sign-off, permit or other authorization. The commissioner may at any time by an order in writing for good cause shown, modify, suspend or revoke any sign-off, permit or other authorization issued pursuant to this chapter, but no such order shall be effective unless the same shall state specifically the reason therefor. A copy of any such order shall be served in the manner provided in this subchapter, within five days after its date, upon any person, partnership or corporation affected thereby, who has not applied to the

commissioner for such modification, suspension or revocation. No person other than the commissioner or an officer or employee of the department, duly authorized thereto by the commissioner, shall alter or amend any sign-off, permit or other authorization issued pursuant to this chapter or the rules of the department.

§27-3020 Supplying or discontinuing electrical energy. -

- a. Except as otherwise provided in this code, no person, partnership or corporation shall supply, or cause to be supplied or used, electrical energy for light, heat or power, signaling, alarm or data transmission to any wiring or appliance in any building unless a sign-off or other authorization as set forth in the rules of the department authorizing the use of said wiring or appliance shall have been issued by the commissioner.
- b. If, in the judgment of the commissioner, after due inspection, the continued use of any electric wiring or appliances in or on any building or structure shall be unsafe or dangerous to persons or property, the commissioner may cause such wires or appliances to be disconnected from the supply of electrical energy and to seal the wiring and appliances so disconnected. Thereafter, no person shall cause or permit electrical energy to be supplied to the wiring or appliances so sealed until the same shall have been made safe and the commissioner shall have issued a certificate to that effect; provided, however, that no wiring or appliances shall be disconnected pursuant to this section until a notice in writing, stating specifically the reason why such wiring or appliances must be disconnected, shall have been served, as provided in this chapter, and a duplicate thereof shall have been delivered to the person supplying the electrical energy to such wiring or appliances.
- **§27-3021 Service of orders and notices.** Any order or notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter may be served personally upon the person, partnership or corporation to whom or to which it is addressed, or may be served by mailing the same in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid, directed, in the case of the holder of any license, to the address furnished by such license holder to the department of buildings as his or her business address, or the address of the master electrician business represented by the licensee and, in the case of any other person, partnership or corporation, to the premises where the defects recited in such order are alleged to exist and by the posting in a conspicuous place on such premises of a copy of such notice or order. The service as above described, by mailing and posting, shall be the equivalent of personal service.

§27-3021.1 Electric meter installation; restriction. - No public utility shall supply electricity to a one, two, three or four family residence building, nor shall such utility energize more electrical meters in a building than the number of distinct and separate residences in such building as authorized in the certificate of occupancy applicable thereto, or if there is no certificate of occupancy, as determined by the department, without first receiving a sign-off from the department. In the event that an owner of a one, two, three or four family building wants to install an additional electrical meter other than provided for herein, approval shall be obtained in writing from the department. A public utility shall not install such additional electrical meter without such approval. A building in which two or more dwelling units have been constructed in accordance with the certificate of occupancy, or if there is no certificate of occupancy, as determined by the department, may have one meter for each dwelling unit and one additional meter for the common areas of the building, provided that smoke detecting devices are

installed in all common areas in accordance with departmental requirements. Such common areas may include boiler rooms, shared hallway lighting, shared stairway lighting, and outdoor perimeter lighting but shall not include any habitable space. In the event that a meter has been found to have been installed or to exist in violation of this section, the utility must report such findings to the department, which may take action leading to the disconnecting of such meter in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in section 27-3020 of this code.

§27-3021.2 Violations. - Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter or who shall fail to comply with any requirement thereof or with the electrical code technical standards or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order or rule of the commissioner made thereunder shall, for each and every violation or noncompliance be liable for a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars which may be recovered by the corporation counsel in an action or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction or shall be punished upon conviction in a criminal court by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

§27-3024 Adoption of the electrical code technical standards.

- a. The city of New York hereby adopts the 2005 edition of the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 70 National Electrical Code as the minimum requirements for the design, installation, alteration or repair of electric wires and wiring apparatus and other appliances used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for electric light, heat, power, signaling, communication, alarm and data transmission in the city subject to the amendments adopted by local law and set forth in section 27-3025 of this subchapter, which shall be known and cited as "the New York city amendments to the 2005 National Electrical Code". Such 2005 edition of the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 70 National Electrical Code with such New York city amendments shall together be known and cited as the "electrical code technical standards". The commissioner shall make a copy of the electrical code technical standards available for public inspection at the department of buildings.
- b. No later than August thirty-first, two thousand nine and on or before such date in every third year thereafter, the commissioner shall submit to the city council proposed amendments that he or she determines should be made to the electrical code technical standards to bring them up to date with the latest edition of the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 70 National Electrical Code or otherwise modify the provisions thereof. In addition, prior to the submission of such proposal to the city council, such proposal shall be submitted to an advisory committee established by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter for review and comment.