

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 27 ELECTRICAL

SECTION 2701 GENERAL

2701.1 Scope.

This chapter governs the electrical components, *equipment* and systems used in *buildings* and structures covered by this code. Electrical components, *equipment* and systems shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions of this code and [NFPA 70](#).

2701.1.1 Changes to [NFPA 70](#).

The following changes shall be made to [NFPA 70](#):

1. Change Sections 334.10(2) and 334.10(3) of [NFPA 70](#) to read:
 - (2) Multifamily dwellings not exceeding four floors above grade and multifamily dwellings of any height permitted to be of Types III, IV and V construction except in any case as prohibited in 334.12.
 - (3) Other structures not exceeding four floors above grade and other structures of any height permitted to be of Types III, IV and V construction except in any case as prohibited in 334.12. In structures exceeding four floors above grade, cables shall be concealed within walls, floors or ceilings that provide a thermal barrier of material that has at least a 15-minute finish rating as identified in listings of fire-rated assemblies.

For the purpose of Items 2 and 3 above, the first floor of *abuilding* shall be that floor that has 50 percent or more of the exterior wall surface area level with or above finished grade. One additional level that is the first level and not designed for human habitation and used only for vehicle parking, storage or similar use shall be permitted.

2. Change [Section 700.12\(F\)\(2\)\(6\)](#) of [NFPA 70](#) to read:
 - (6) Where the normal power branch circuits that supply luminaires providing illumination immediately on the inside and outside of exit doors are supplied by the same service or feeder, the remote heads providing emergency illumination for the exterior of an exit door shall be permitted to be supplied by the unit *equipment* serving the area immediately inside the exit door.
3. Delete [Section 210.8\(F\)](#) in its entirety.

2701.1.2 Temporary connection to dwelling units.

The building official shall give permission to energize the electrical service *equipment* of a one-family or two-family dwelling unit when all of the following requirements have been approved:

1. The service wiring and *equipment*, including the meter socket enclosure, shall be installed and the service wiring terminated.
2. The grounding electrode system shall be installed and terminated.
3. At least one receptacle outlet on a ground fault protected circuit shall be installed and the circuit wiring terminated.
4. Service *equipment* covers shall be installed.
5. The *building* roof covering shall be installed.
6. Temporary electrical service *equipment* shall be suitable for wet locations unless the interior is dry and protected from the weather.

2701.1.3 Assisted living facility generator requirements.

Generators installed to comply with regulations for assisted living facilities licensed by the Virginia Department of Social Services shall be permitted to be optional standby systems.