

From: [https://www.seattle.gov/sdci/permits/permits-we-issue-\(a-z\)/electrical-permit#1.research](https://www.seattle.gov/sdci/permits/permits-we-issue-(a-z)/electrical-permit#1.research)**▲ SDCI offices are closed to the public.**

Most services are available online through our [Virtual Applicant Services Center](https://sdci.about-us/who-we-are/applicant-services-center) (/sdci/about-us/who-we-are/applicant-services-center). We offer limited access to our offices for scheduled public meetings.

Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections (sdci)Seattle Services Portal (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/>)

About Us(sdci/about-us) **Permits(sdci/permits)** Codes(sdci/codes) Renting(sdci/renting) Inspections(sdci/inspections) Resources(sdci/resources)

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Electrical Permit**What Is It?**

You need an electrical permit any time electrical wiring is installed, altered, extended, or connected to any electrical equipment, including signs.

[2020 Seattle Electrical Code Quick Reference](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2020SeattleElectricalCodeQuickReference.pdf)

[2020 Seattle Electrical Code Replacement Pages](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2020SeattleElectricalCodeReplacementPages.pdf)

You may not need a permit for some residential or minimally-sized low-voltage systems.

Special events, such as street fairs, that have temporary power installations do require an electrical permit.

Any professional applying for electrical permits must have a Washington State [electrical contractor's license](#) (http://www.lni.wa.gov/) and a Seattle [business license](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/business-in-seattle/doing-business-in-seattle/business-licenses-and-taxes). Property owners may do their own work when they own and occupy the property they're working on.

Some projects require plan review and are not issued the same day. See [Seattle Electrical Code Article 80](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2020SeattleElectricalCodeArticle80.pdf), Sections 80.50 and 80.51, to determine if you need plan review.

How Much Does It Cost?

Our fees depend on what you are installing or altering. All fees are subject to an additional technology fee. See our Fee Subtitle for details.

Fees

[Fee Subtitle](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/FeeSubtitleFinal.pdf)

[2023 Electrical Plan Review Fees](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2023ElectricalPlanReviewFees.xlsx)

How Long Does It Take?

We issue many electrical permits on the same day that you apply online. If your permit requires plan review, our turnaround times depend on the accuracy and completeness of your plans, and the number of plans that are in the review queue. It will take a few weeks before we issue your permit if you don't need to make corrections.

2-3 weeks w/o
corrections
to plan

Steps To Get Your Permit[Collapse all](#)**1. Research**

1a

Determine permitting and plan review requirements. Carefully review the [Seattle Electrical Code Article 80](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2020SeattleElectricalCodeArticle80.pdf) to see if you need a permit or plan review. Sections 80.50 and 80.51 explain the requirements.

1b

[2020 Seattle Electrical Code Quick Reference](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2020SeattleElectricalCodeQuickReference.pdf)

Read our Tips. Read our Tips for information to help you complete your project.

1c

[Tip 104, Getting an OTC \(Over-the-Counter\) Permit](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam104.pdf)

Tip 132, [Installation of Electric Vehicle \(EV\) Charger for Single Family and Multifamily Homes - Green Building](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam132.pdf)

Tip 133, [Installation of Electric Vehicle \(EV\) Charger for Commercial Properties](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam133.pdf)

Tip 339, [Emergency and Standby Power Systems](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam339.pdf)

Tip 419, [Commissioning for Nonresidential Mechanical and Lighting Systems](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam419.pdf)

Tip 420, [Solar Energy Systems](#) (http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam420.pdf)

Determine restrictions to your project. Research our codes to determine other requirements for your construction project.

1d

[Seattle Building Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/building-code)

1e

[Seattle Electrical Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/electrical-code)

[Seattle Energy Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/energy-code)

[Seattle Mechanical Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/mechanical-code)

[Seattle Land Use Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/land-use-code)

1f

Attend a coaching session. We offer 20 minutes of free video coaching through the [Applicant Services Center](#) (/sdci/about-us/who-we-are/applicant-services-center) to answer electrical permit questions.

What Do You Want To Do?

[Apply for an Electrical Permit Online](#) (https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/) *Apply*

[Search Permit & Property Records](#) (http://web.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/)

[View FAQs for Electrical Permits and Inspections](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Permits/ElectricalPermitOA.pdf) *FAQ*

Check Status

Enter a [record number](#) (https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx) | [Find it on a map](#) (/sdci/resources/research-a-project)

Example: 6703106-CN

Still Need Help?**Ask Us**

[Send Us a Question](#) (/sdci/about-us/contact-us)

Inspection Scheduling, Questions: (206) 684-8950 (tel: +1 (206) 684-8950) *questions*

Inspector by District

Monday - Friday

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

Inspector phone numbers are on our

[district map](#) (documents/Departments/SDCI/Permits/ElectricalInspectionDistricts.pdf)

Online

[Seattle Electrical Code](#)

(/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/electrical-code)

[Seattle Energy Code](#) (/sdci/codes/codes-we-enforce-(a-z)/energy-code)

[National Electrical Code](#) (http://www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/AboutTheCodes.asp?DocNum=70)

Ask a question: Email SDCI_electricalplanreview@seattle.gov (https://mail.google.com/mail/?view=cm&fs=1&tf=1&to=SDCI_electricalplanreview@seattle.gov) for electrical technical support.

Coordinate with other agencies. You may need permits or approvals from other agencies. These are the most common agencies you may need to work with for your electrical permit:

Seattle City Light ([service changes or new services](https://www.seattle.gov/city-light/construction-services/requirements-and-standards) (<https://www.seattle.gov/city-light/construction-services/requirements-and-standards>))

[Fire Marshall](http://www.seattle.gov/fire/fmo/fmo.htm) (<http://www.seattle.gov/fire/fmo/fmo.htm>) (alarms & sprinklers)

[Seattle Business Licensing](https://www.seattle.gov/city-finance/business-taxes-and-licenses/business-licenses) (<https://www.seattle.gov/city-finance/business-taxes-and-licenses/business-licenses>) (required to do business in Seattle)

2. Submit Application

First, determine if your project requires plan review.

[Which Electrical Permit Should I Choose?](https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004979048-Which-Electrical-Permit-Should-I-Choose-) (<https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004979048-Which-Electrical-Permit-Should-I-Choose->)

If your permit **does not** require plan review:

- **Most permits** – You can [apply online](https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx) (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx>) by choosing the Permit – Trade, Construction, and Land Use link and then selecting the appropriate electrical permit. You can print your permit the same day. For permits with an electrical heater as the primary heat source, you will need a [Heat Equipment Sizing Form](#) ([documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/SeattleEnergyCode/HeatingEquipmentSizing.xls](#)) to apply.
- **Small solar PV systems** – If your solar PV system is rated under 7.7KW, you can [apply online](https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx) (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx>) without plan review. However, you must have your plans and the manufacturer installation instructions available at the job site during your electrical inspection.

If your permit **requires** plan review, you can submit your plans and specifications electronically through the [Seattle Services Portal](https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx) (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx>) by choosing the Permit – Trade, Construction, and Land Use link and then selecting the appropriate electrical permit.

Pay fees. You will need to pay your permit fees when you submit your application. See the [2023 Electrical Plan Review Fees](#) ([documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/2023ElectricalPlanReviewFees.xlsx](#)) or the [Fee Subtitle](#) ([documents/Departments/SDCI/Codes/FeeSubtitleFinal.pdf](#)) to estimate your permit costs.

Make corrections and resubmit your plans. Once all of our reviews are done, you will receive an email telling you that corrected and/or additional documents can be uploaded into your portal. Your project may require multiple correction rounds before our reviews are complete.

[How to Respond to Review Comments](#) ([/sdci/permits/how-to-respond-to-review-comments](#))

[Video: How to Respond to Corrections](#) (<https://youtu.be/KB8laufkd7M>)

[Resolve a Permit Disagreement](#) ([/sdci/permits/resolve-a-permit-disagreement](#))

[Submittal Requirements for Electrical Plan Review](#) ([documents/Departments/SDCI/Permits/SubmittalRequirementsforElectricalPlanReview.pdf](#)) (Section 80.51)

3. Get Permit

Pay final fees. We will notify you if you need to pay any final fees before we issue your permit.

[Pay Permit Fees Online](https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx) (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/welcome.aspx>)

[Get an SDCI Permit Fee Statement](https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360047841234-Get-an-SDCI-Permit-Fee-Statement) (<https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360047841234-Get-an-SDCI-Permit-Fee-Statement>)

[Reprint an SDCI Fee Invoice](https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360047845534-Reprint-an-SDCI-Fee-Invoice) (<https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360047845534-Reprint-an-SDCI-Fee-Invoice>)

Print your permit.

- If your permit does not require review, you can print your permit immediately after you apply.

If your permit requires review, our electrical plan reviewers will issue your permit when your plans meet all our code.

4. Schedule Inspections

The contractor or installer is responsible for scheduling each inspection [online](#) (<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/Customization/SEATTLE/Welcome.aspx>) or by calling (206) 684-8900 (tel:%20+1 (206) 684-8900) before the permit expires. You must have your permit number available when you call for an inspection.

[How to Schedule an Inspection or Appointment](https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004984887-How-to-Schedule-an-Inspection-or-Appointment) (<https://seattlegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004984887-How-to-Schedule-an-Inspection-or-Appointment>)

Most permits require [three electrical inspections](#) ([/sdci/inspections/electrical-inspections](#)): cover, service, and final. If your project has a feeder to a subpanel, you will also need to schedule feeder inspections. These inspections [can be done at the same time](#), but you must schedule them separately. To help not overload our inspections cap maximum, schedule only one inspection and [contact your inspector on the morning of your inspection to notify them of any additional inspections](#) you will need.

Construction and Inspections

Nathan Torgelson, Director
Address: [700 5th Ave, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104](https://www.google.com/maps/place/700+5th+Ave,+Suite+2000,+Seattle,+WA+98104)
([https://www.google.com/maps/place/700 5th Ave, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104](https://www.google.com/maps/place/700+5th+Ave,+Suite+2000,+Seattle,+WA+98104))
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 34019, Seattle, WA, 98124-4019
Phone: (206) 684-8600 (tel: +1 (206) 684-8600)
Phone Alt: Violation Complaint Line: (206) 615-0808 (tel: +1 (206) 615-0808)
Contact Us ([sdci/about-us/contact-us---send-us-a-question/contact-us---hours-and-location](#))
 (<https://www.facebook.com/seattlesdci>)
 (<http://twitter.com/seattlesdci>)
 (<http://buildingconnections.seattle.gov/>)
 (<http://www.seattle.gov/sdci/about-us/stay-connected#RSS>)

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SDCI issues land use, construction, and trade permits, conducts construction and housing-related inspections, ensures compliance with our codes, and regulates rental rules. SDCI is committed to an antiracist workplace and to addressing racism through our work in the community.

City-Wide Information

Elected Officials (elected-officials)
Open Data Portal
(<https://data.seattle.gov/>)
Public Records (public-records)

-  City News Feed
([//news.seattle.gov](http://news.seattle.gov))
-  City Event Calendar (event-calendar)
-  All City Newsletters
(https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASEATTLE/subscriber/topics?qsp=CODE_RED)
-  View the Departments & Agencies List (departments)

Top Requests

1. Apply for a Permit
(<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/Portal/Default.aspx>)
2. Make a Complaint
([sdci/codes/make-a-property-or-building-complaint](#))
3. Learn About Rental Rules
([sdci/renting](#))
4. Schedule an Inspection
(<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/Portal/welcome.aspx>)
5. Proposed Changes to Code
([sdci/codes/changes-to-code](#))