

Congratulations Lanny Hughes!

Thank you to all who submitted an answer for last month's question of the month, and congratulations to Lanny Hughes for being the first to respond with the correct answer. Here is the correct answer: B) 22,540 VA. A permit was issued on October 31, 2020, so the project falls under the 2020 NEC. A bank is an office-type occupancy according to the note to Table 220.12. Table 220.12 changed significantly in the 2020 edition. General lighting load: $9,800 \text{ ft}^2 \times 1.3 \text{ VA/ft}^2 = 12,740 \text{ VA}$. Since the number of receptacles is not stated in the question, receptacle load is $9,800 \text{ ft}^2 \times 1 \text{ VA/ft}^2 = 9,800 \text{ VA}$ per 220.14(K). $12,740 \text{ VA} + 9,800 \text{ VA} = 22,540 \text{ VA}$.

Safety Tip of the Month

As warmer months are coming it is important to remember that the proper clothing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are an important element in our daily work.

- It is important that you have the correct equipment for the task you are performing and use it properly.
- PPE may be sweltering hot or cumbersome however, do not let a little discomfort keep you from using your safety equipment.
- To combat the effects of the added layers of PPE, sip water though out your day and take breaks as needed to cool down.

More information about working in the heat can be found at <https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-training->

This Month's Question of the Month – What is the minimum conductor ampacity for a branch circuit supplying a single continuous duty 5 HP, single-phase 230 volt high-efficiency squirrel cage motor with a nameplate full load current of 24 amps? *See correct answer on Page 2*

Bring Your New Code Books to all Examinations Beginning July 1, 2021

On July 1, 2021, all electrical examinations will be based on the 2020 NEC, [WAC 296-46B](#), and [RCW 19.28](#). The Electrical Board, having responsibility for coordination with the department in preparation and administration of examinations, endorsed this change.

Like the codes, laws, and rules they are based on, exam questions do not change significantly over time. All examinations are open-book and exam candidates can bring any original copyrighted reference material into the exam with them. Copies of RCW 19.28 and WAC 296-46B may be used and are available to print from the [Electrical Laws and Rules](#) page of our website. You can also update your printed copy with the insert pages available on this web page. This change will affect all examinations taken on or after July 1, 2021, even those resulting from failing to pass a previous exam.

For more information about the exams, you can refer to [WAC 296-46B-960](#) or visit the [Electrical Examination](#) page of our website.

New Affidavit of Experience Form Has Been Streamlined

We have been reviewing our forms in an effort to make it easier for customers to do business with us. We have streamlined the [Affidavit of Experience for Washington Electrical Trainees](#) form. We have combined the previous two forms into one form that includes sections for reporting hours requiring 75% and 100% supervision on the same one-page form. Also gone is the requirement for the trainee to provide a notarized signature on the form. All requirements for submitting affidavits of experience remain the same. To receive credit for hours worked, trainees, unless registered in an approved electrical apprenticeship program must submit affidavits no later than 180 days after the date their training certificate expires for hours worked in the 24 months before that date. An update fee is required for each affidavit submitted more than 30 days after the training certificate expires. No fee is required to submit it earlier.

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Electrical Section Internet Address: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/> - Select Licensing & Permits, then Electrical

Legislative Update – Property Flipper Bill Signed by the Governor

One bill that affects the electrical program, [Substitute Senate Bill 5267](#) has passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor. The bill requires those doing electrical work associated with flipping property to be certified electricians working for licensed electrical contractors. It will be effective on July 24, 2021 (90 days after the end of the 2021 regular legislative session). During consideration of this bill, electrical inspectors provided many examples of unsafe electrical wiring performed by property flippers that included stories of new owners having to hire electrical contractors to make repairs, sometimes at significant cost.

Generally, property owners are exempt from electrical licensing and certification laws in accordance with [RCW 19.28.261](#). This bill modifies that exemption for properties offered for sale within twelve months after obtaining it. This change aligns electrical laws with existing laws that require property flippers to be registered construction contractors or hire one to superintend any construction work.

You can get information about the bill by visiting [Substitute Senate Bill 5267](#) on the Washington legislature bill information web page.

Rulemaking Updates

Increase Electrical Fees? – Fees have remained unchanged for the last four years. To keep up with higher costs associated with inspection and licensing services, we are proposing rulemaking to increase electrical fees based on OFM's 5.79% [fiscal growth factor](#) projections.

A fee increase enables the program to continue providing quality and timely services to assure safe electrical installations in homes, businesses, industry, and institutions to protect people and property from electrical hazards.

We filed a [CR-102](#) Proposed Rule Making on April 6, 2021, announcing a public comment period. A virtual/telephonic public hearing will be held May 11, 2021. You can get information about how to attend or submit written comments by viewing the [Public Hearing Information Packet](#) on our [Electrical Laws, Rules, and Policies](#) web page.

If adopted, the new fees will be effective July 1, 2021. Watch for more information about this rulemaking in the coming months.

WAC 296-46B-995 Electrical Board – Appeal Rights and Hearings - On December 1, 2020, L&I filed a CR-101 to begin the rule making process for amending [WAC 296-46B-995](#) in response to a petition for rule making. The petition seeks to clarify, simplify, and make the procedures for appeals to the board easier to understand and navigate, as well as to help reduce confusion for those that appeal decisions to the board.

You can find a copy of the First Draft of these changes as well as more information about these and other rule making activities on the Rule Development tab of our [Electrical Laws, Rules, and Policies](#) web page.

Ugly Picture of the Month: Improper use of an extension cord ruined this family's day. This century-old home was heavily damaged because of an extension cord and adapter in a bedroom with multiple devices plugged into it. Thankfully, no one was injured, and the home may be salvageable.

Answer to Question of the Month: 35 amperes. NEC 430.22 – Conductors supplying a single, continuous duty motor must have an ampacity not less than 125% of the motor full-load current rating as determined by 430.6(A)(1), which refers to table values (in this case, Table 430.248). Do not use motor nameplate rating to determine conductor ampacity in this application.



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