

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2026 – 056

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 9 OF THE CHAMPAIGN MUNICIPAL CODE, 1985, AS AMENDED  
(Buildings and Building Safety Regulations – Electrical Contractor Licensing)

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS, as follows:

**Section 1.** That Article V of Chapter 9 of the Champaign Municipal Code, 1985, as amended, is hereby amended to read as shown as Exhibit 1, attached hereto.

**Section 2.** That this Ordinance shall be effective January 1, 2027, after passage and publication as provided by law.

**Section 3.** That the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance immediately after passage.

**Section 4.** If any section, paragraph or provision of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, or the provisions of the Code.

**Section 5.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall take precedence and be interpreted as superseding any other ordinance or statute in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance.

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PASSED: May 5, 2026

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

ARTICLE V. - Electrical Contractor Licensing.

DIVISION 1 – GENERALLY

**Sec. 9-261. Electrical contractor required to be licensed.**

- (a) Beginning January 1, 2027, all permit-required electrical work shall be done by a licensed Electrical Contractor or its employees, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Before any person, firm, limited liability company, corporation, or other lawful business entity shall engage in the business of electrical contracting in the City, said entity shall be required to have a license and pay a license fee as set forth in this Article yearly. Said license issued thereunder shall expire on the 31st day of December of the year in which it was issued. The Building Safety Division shall keep a suitable record of all licenses.
- (b) Beginning January 1, 2027, the Building Safety Division shall evaluate all applications for electrical permits by reference to the licensure status of the Electrical Contractor applying for said permit. In order for a permit to be issued, the work planned to be performed under said permit must be authorized by the license held by the Electrical Contractor.
- (c) *Exception to contractor licensure.* Permit-required electrical work performed by the owner-occupant of a single-family residence shall be exempt from licensure.

**Sec. 9-262. Definitions.**

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this article shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this article its most reasonable application.

- (a) *Electrical Contractor* shall mean any person, firm, limited liability company, corporation, or other lawful business entity engaged in the business of installing or altering by contract electrical equipment and apparatus for utilization of electricity supplied for light, heat, or power, not including radio apparatus or equipment for wireless reception of sounds and signals and not including apparatus, conductors, and other equipment installed for or by public utilities including common carriers, which are under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission, for use in their operation as public utilities. The term "Electrical Contractor" does not include employees employed by such contractor to do or supervise such work.
- (b) *Owner-occupant* means the owner and occupant of a single-family residence to be resided in by such person for a period of at least one year from the date an occupancy certificate is issued or final inspection is completed.

DIVISION 2 – CLASSIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

**Sec. 9-263. Application for certificate of license - examination - issuance of license.**

Any person, firm, limited liability company, corporation, or other lawful business entity desiring to engage in the business of electrical contracting shall apply for a license to the Building Safety Division, stating the name and place of business of the applicant and the name of the representative(s) of the applicant who will act as supervisor(s) of the work to be done under the license. Such applicant shall be at least 18 years of age and shall supply the requisite requirements of the license being applied for.

**Sec. 9-264. Unrestricted Master Electrician.**

- (a) Applicants shall provide documentation of at least one representative who will act as supervisor of the work to be done under the license who has obtained not less than four (4) years or eight thousand (8,000)

hours of experience in the installation, alteration, repair, and maintenance of electrical systems, wiring, and equipment and who has successfully passed the National Standard Master Electrician Examination administered by the International Code Council. The supervising electrician shall be employed on a full-time basis with the electrical contractor.

- (b) Applicants shall submit a completed City registration form; and a registration fee of one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00).
- (c) Upon approval, the City shall issue a Certificate of Registration evidencing licensure.

**Sec. 9-265. Restricted Residential Electrician License.**

- (a) License holder shall be limited to performing work in one- and two-family detached dwellings, apartment buildings, sign installations and heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) limited to residential use.
- (b) Applicants shall provide documentation of at least one representative who will act as supervisor of the work to be done under the license who has obtained not less than two (2) years or four thousand (4,000) hours of experience in the installation, alteration, repair, and maintenance of electrical wiring systems and equipment and who has successfully passed the National Standard Residential Electrician Examination administered by the International Code Council. The supervising electrician shall be employed on a full-time basis with the electrical contractor.
- (c) Applicants shall submit a completed City registration form; and a registration fee of one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00).
- (d) Upon approval, the City shall issue a Certificate of Registration evidencing licensure.

**Sec. 9-266. Restricted Maintenance Electrician License.**

- (a) License holder shall be limited to electrical work within the facility of their employment; including circuit installation not exceeding sixty (60) amps, HVAC installations not exceeding sixty (60) amps, and motor control wiring.
- (b) Applicants shall provide documentation of at least one representative who will act as supervisor of the work to be done under the license who has obtained not less than two (2) years or four thousand (4,000) hours of experience in the installation, alteration, repair, and maintenance of electrical wiring systems and equipment and who has successfully passed the National Standard Maintenance Electrician Examination administered by the International Code Council. The supervising electrician shall be employed on a full-time basis with the electrical contractor.
- (c) Applicants shall submit a completed City registration form; and a registration fee of one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00).
- (d) Upon approval, the City shall issue a Certificate of Registration evidencing licensure.

**Sec. 9-267. Renewals and Reciprocal Registrations.**

- (a) Renewal fees.  
Electrical contractor licenses shall be renewed in accordance with the following fee schedule:
  - (1) One hundred thirty-five dollars (\$135.00) for renewals submitted between January 1 and July 31;
  - (2) Three hundred forty-five dollars (\$345.00) for renewals received or postmarked after August 1.

(b) Reciprocal registration.

The building official shall issue a registration to an applicant holding a valid electrical license from another jurisdiction upon determination that the other jurisdiction's eligibility requirements are substantially equivalent to the requirements of this Article and upon payment of a fee of one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00). If reciprocal registration is denied for lack of substantial equivalency, and the applicant believes such denial was erroneous, the applicant may appeal the denial to the Code Review and Appeals Board.

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