



# Proposed 2027 California Electrical Code (CEC) Triennial Code Updates

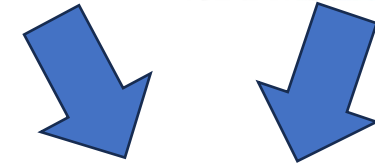
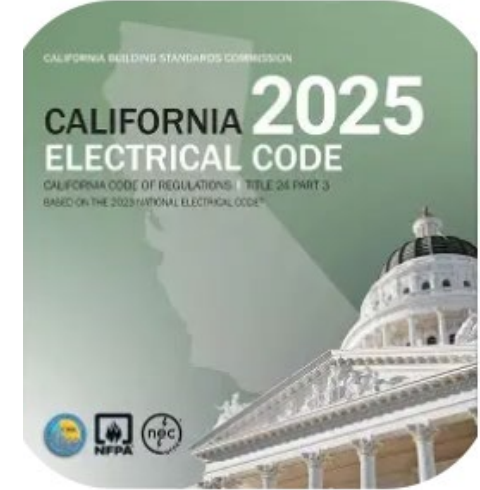
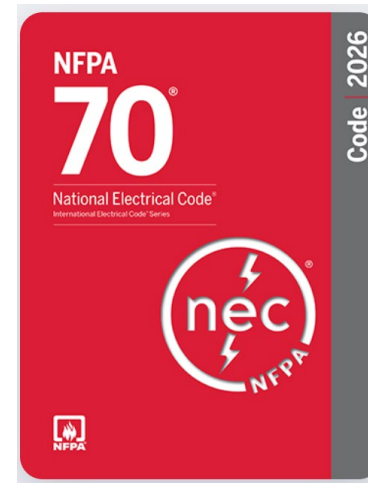
**JAMIE SCHNICK, PE**

Senior Electrical Engineer  
HCAI

# 2027 CEC TRIENIAL CODE UPDATES

- Review and adopt model code (\*2026 NEC) as appropriate
- Review and decide what to do with current CA amendments (\*2025 CEC)
  - Accept as is – carry forward
  - Relocate to coincide with NEC changes
  - Repeal - remove if not required
- Clean up – fixing references etc...
- Address concerns that have come up regarding code language

\* NEC 2026 was published 9/25 and the due date for these completed documents is Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**2028  
California  
Electrical Code**



# REMOVE REQUIREMENTS TO MEET IES

## RECOMMENDED VALUES IN CA AMENDMENTS

### 1 Instance:

**517.8 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5] Artificial Lighting.**

*(A) Rooms and Passageways. All rooms and passageways shall be provided with artificial illumination.*

*(B) Illumination.*

*~~(1) [OSHPD 1, 3, 4 & 5] Illumination intensity. Illumination intensity values in each area shall meet the recommended values in the latest edition of ANSI/IES RP-29, Recommended Practice: Lighting Hospital and Healthcare Facilities.~~*

*~~(2) [OSHPD 2] Minimum illuminance. Minimum maintained average illuminance in each area shall meet the recommended values in the latest edition of ANSI/IES RP-28, Recommended Practice: Lighting and the Visual Environment for Older Adults and the Visually Impaired.~~*

*(E) Lamp Protection ....*

*(D) Special Locations. ...*

# REPEAL CA AMENDMENTS – THAT WERE ADDRESSED IN THE 2026 NEC

6 Instances For example:

## 517.20 Wet Procedure Locations....

**(A) Receptacles and Fixed Equipment.** Wet procedure locations shall be provided with special protection against electric shock. [99:6.3.2.3.1]

This special protection shall be provided by one of the following:

(1) Isolated power systems ...

(2) Power distribution system....

~~(3) [OSHPD 1, 2, 3 & 4] Where GFCI protection is used in an operating room, one of the following shall apply:~~

~~a. Each receptacle shall be an individual GFCI device.~~

~~b. Each receptacle shall be individually protected by a single GFCI device.99:6.3.2.3.9]~~

(3) Where GFCI protection is used in an operating room, one of the following shall apply:

a. Each receptacle shall be an individual GFCI device.

b. Each receptacle shall be individually protected by a single GFCI device.99:6.3.2.3.9]

# CARRY FORWARD AMENDMENTS AND RELOCATE TO MATCH NEW NUMBERING IN 2026 NEC

3 instances For example:

2025 CEC - 517.30 Sources of Power.

...

(B) Power Sources for the EES. ...

(1) Utility Supply Power . ...

(2) Generating Units. ...

(3) Fuel Cell Systems. ...

(4) Energy Storage System. ...

(5) Health Care Microgrid. .... Health care microgrid system components shall not be compromised by failure of the normal source. [OSHPD 1,2,3 (surgical Clinics only), 4 & 5] EES Health Care Microgrids shall meet the installation and commissioning requirements called out in NFPA 99 Section 6.10.7.

Key:

2023 NEC Language

Proposed 2028 CEC - 517.30 Sources of Power.

...

(B) On-Site Power Sources for the EES. ...

(1) Generating Units. ...

(2) Fuel Cell Systems. ...

(3) Energy Storage System. ...

(4) Health Care Microgrid. .... Health care microgrid system components shall not be compromised by failure of the normal source. [OSHPD 1,2,3 (surgical Clinics only), 4 & 5] EES Health Care Microgrids shall meet the installation and commissioning requirements called out in NFPA 99 Section 6.10.7.

Key:

2026 NEC Language

# CHANGES TO ADDRESS ITEMS THAT HAVE COME UP OVER LAST 18 MONTHS

## 4 Instances:

- 1) 517.31(C)(3) Mechanical Protection – Clarify limit to flex to luminaires is 6'-0"
- 2) 517.31(C)(3) Mechanical Protection – Add Nurse station casework to allow flex conduit.
- 3) 517.123(B) - Clarify ADA only for nurse call at water closet location
- 4) 517.124(A) - Relax requirements regarding foreign systems in telecom rooms and relax requirements for circuiting in these rooms.

# REVISIONS TO CORRECT REFERENCE

## 1 Instance:

### **517.34 Critical Branch.**

**(A) Task Illumination, Fixed Equipment, and Selected Receptacles.** The critical branch shall supply power for task illumination, fixed equipment, select receptacles, and select power circuits serving the following spaces and functions related to patient care:

(1) Category 1 (critical care) spaces ....

...

(7) Task illumination, select receptacles, and select power circuits for the following areas:

Category 1 (critical care) or 2 (general care). ..

...

*1. [OSHPD 1] Imaging room containing imaging equipment approved by Licensing Agency for diagnostic services of emergency/trauma patients found in California*

*Building Code Section ~~1705A.13.3.17~~ 1705A.14.3.1(7). Imaging equipment shall be connected to critical branch or equipment branch.*

# CLEAN UP OF EXISTING CA AMENDMENT LANGUAGE – TO AVOID CONFUSION

## 1 Instance:

**517.40 Type 2 Essential Electrical Systems for Nursing Homes and Limited Care Facilities [OSHPD 2], Correctional Treatment Centers and Acute Psychiatric Hospitals [OSHPD 4 & 5].**

(B) Category 1 (Critical Care) Spaces, Inpatient Hospital Care Facilities. For those nursing homes and limited care facilities that admit patients who need to be sustained by electrical life-support equipment, the essential electrical system from the source to the portion of the facility where such patients are treated shall comply with the requirements of Part III, 517.29 through 517.35. Exception : On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply requirements for Type 2 EES that have Category 1 spaces will be as stated in 517.42(G).

# ADDING 517.\*\*(\*.1) TO OVERWRITE 2026 NEC TO MATCH APPROVED NFPA 99 AND NEC LANGUAGE

## 3 Instances:

- 1) 517.44(A.1) – Generator accessories to be connected to life safety branch
- 2) 517.44(B.1) – Equipment to be connected to the equipment branch and is permitted to be delayed
- 3) 517.44(C.1) – Equipment to be connected to the equipment branch and is permitted to be delayed



**QUESTIONS?**