

Residential

Indoor and Outdoor Lighting



Using this Fact Sheet

Use this fact sheet to answer these questions about a residential lighting project:

- What requirements does your project need to meet to comply with the Energy Code (including New Construction, Additions, and Alterations)?
- → Who's involved in the compliance process?
- → How should you document your project's compliance?

What's Included:

This fact sheet covers residential indoor and outdoor lighting technologies that are regulated by California's Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6 or Energy Code) and includes high-efficacy luminaires, recessed can light specifications, vacancy or occupancy sensors, dimming, and on/off switching control requirements.

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Building Occupancies Subject to Residential Lighting Requirements















Ceiling Fan with Integrated Light (Remote Control)



Garage Sensor



Illuminated Address Sign (≤5 W)



LED Undercabinet (JA8)



Vanity Light (JA8)



Instep Stair Lighting (<5 W)



Pendant Light (JA8)



On/Off Switch



Vacancy/Occupany Sensor



Dimmer Switch



Garage Opener with Occupancy Sensor



Remote Control



Recessed Can (JA8)



LED Outdoor Light with integrated photocell and motion sensor



Kitchen Hood



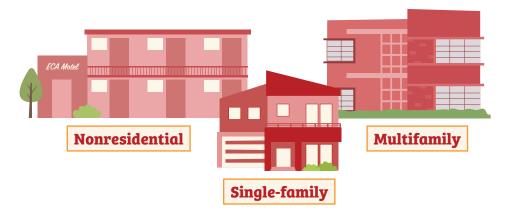
Exhaust Fan



Building Occupancies Subject to Residential Lighting Requirements

The following Energy Code building types, and their Occupancy class per the Building Code, are subject to the Energy Code.

The requirements in this fact sheet apply to single-family buildings, duplexes and town homes. Residential lighting requirements also apply to dwelling units in multifamily buildings; guestrooms of hotels/motels; and dwelling spaces of fire stations, dormitories, and senior housing.



Nonresidential Groups

Occupancy Class: R1, R2, R3

Hotel and Motel Buildings: Include six or more guest rooms for primarily transient occupants.

Fire Station, Dormitories, Senior Housing Buildings: Dwelling areas of congregate residences

Multifamily Groups

Referred to as "Multifamily Building" in the Energy Code

Occupancy Class: R2 — Residential

Buildings with three or more dwelling units for permanent residents.

Occupancy Class: R3 — Residential

Multifamily congregate residences with primarily permanent residents. This can include Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on a multifamily property.

Occupancy Class: R4 — Residential

Supervised residential environments for more than six ambulatory clients and up to 16 total residents, that is not considered a "Healthcare Facility."

Occupancy Class: U — Miscellaneous

Accessory buildings and structures, and miscellaneous structures not classified in any specific occupancy and on a multifamily property.

Single-family Groups

Referred to as "Single-family Building" in the Energy Code

Occupancy Class: R3 — Residential

Multifamily congregate residences with primarily permanent residents. This can include Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on a multifamily property.

Occupancy Class: U — Miscellaneous

Accessory buildings and structures, and miscellaneous structures not classified in any specific occupancy and on a multifamily property.

The following list of occupancies are *not* subject to the Energy Code.

Nonresidential Groups

Occupancy Class: C — Camps

An organized camp is a site with programs and facilities established for the primary purpose of providing an outdoor group living experience with social, spiritual, educational or recreational objectives, for five days or more during one or more seasons of the year.



Key Terms

Addition: New conditioned square footage and volume where new luminaires are installed for the first time and any change that increases the illuminated area of an outdoor lighting application that is regulated by the Energy Code.

Alteration: A modification where luminaires are replaced, moved, or added to existing illuminated space (see Addition above) on a project with a building permit through an authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

Lamp: Lighting industry term for a light source, such as a light bulb or fluorescent tube.

Light Source: The component in a luminaire that actually provides illumination, such as an LED lamp or a fluorescent tube (also called a lamp or light bulb).

Luminaire: A complete lighting unit consisting of a lamp and the parts designed to:

- → Distribute the light (lens, reflector)
- → Position and protect the lamp (housing)
- → Connect the lamp to the power supply (ballast, transformer; also commonly referred to as a light fixture)

Permanently Installed Lighting: Hard-wired ceiling luminaires, chandeliers, vanity lamps, wall sconces, under-cabinet luminaires, luminaires in drawers or cabinets, night lights, step and path lights, and any other luminaire that is attached to the building, or buildings, on the property.

Portable Lighting: Lighting that is not permanently installed or hardwired but uses a plug-in connection for electric power (for example, a freestanding floor or table lamp).

→ The Energy Code does not apply to portable lighting in dwelling units. Requirements for portable lighting are covered by the Appliance Efficiency Regulations.

Separable Light Source: A light source that can be replaced without cutting wires or soldering, such as pin-based or screw-in LED lamps.

Occupant Sensing Control: Automatically reduces lighting power or turns lights OFF after an area is vacated by occupants and is capable of automatically turning the lighting load ON when an area is occupied. Also described as Occupancy Sensor.

Vacancy Sensing Control: Automatically turns lights OFF after an area is vacated of occupants but requires lights to be turned ON manually.



Multifamily and Hotel/Motel Common Use Areas

Common Use Area Indoor Lighting

> Sections 160.5(b) and 170.2(e)1-4



Mandatory Requirements



Prescriptive Requirements

Multifamily common use areas have separate indoor lighting requirements from dwelling units. Common use area requirements are very similar to indoor lighting power allowances and controls for nonresidential buildings.

Hotel/Motel Non-Guest Room Indoor Lighting

> Sections 130.1 and 140.6



Mandatory Requirements



Prescriptive Requirements

Hotel/motel indoor lighting, not including the hotel/motel guest room lighting, are to meet the Mandatory indoor lighting control and Prescriptive indoor lighting power allowances requirements for nonresidential buildings.



See our Nonresidential and Multifamily Lighting Fact Sheet for more information!



Outdoor Lighting Requirements and Controls

Any building that includes a multifamily or hotel/motel occupancy must comply with separate requirements for any outdoor lighting not controlled from within dwelling units. The basic method to calculate multifamily site outdoor lighting is similar to that used for nonresidential buildings. See the Nonresidential and Multifamily Lighting Fact Sheet for more information on multifamily outdoor lighting requirements.

Note that any outdoor lighting controlled from within a multifamily dwelling unit or hotel/motel room must meet the dwelling unit outdoor lighting requirements covered in this fact sheet.

See §§160.5(c) and 170.2(e)6 for a multifamily building and §130.0(b) for hotel/motel.



2022 Energy Code Joint Reference Appendix JA8 Certification

Products certified as JA8-2016/JA8-2016-E, JA8-2019/JA8-2019-E, JA8-2022/JA8-2022-E or JA8-2025/JA8-2025-E as specified in Joint Reference Appendix JA8 can be used for projects subject to the 2025 Energy Code.



Residential Lighting Requirements

Permanently Installed Lighting

> Sections 150.0(k) and 160.5(a)



Mandatory Requirements

All newly installed permanently installed lighting must meet the following requirements:

1. **Permanently Installed Luminaires:** Installed luminaires and light sources shall comply with Reference Joint Appendix JA8 and shall be certified and marked as required by JA8 per §150.0(k)1A or §160.5(a)1A.

Exceptions:

- » Lighting is integral to exhaust fans, kitchen range hoods, bath vanity mirrors, garage door openers, and ceiling fan kits subject to Department of Energy (DOE)
- » DOE navigation lighting < 5 watts such as night lights, step lights, path lights</p>
- » Lighting in drawers, cabinetry, and linen closets when efficacy
 ≥ 45 lumens per watt
- » Outdoor LED luminaires; high intensity discharge (HID) luminaires; hardwired high frequency generator and induction luminaires; decorative lighting using colored inseparable solidstate lighting (SSL)

Additionally, hotel/motel guest room, fire station, dormitories, and senior living dwelling area lighting must meet the requirements of §150.0(k) single-family lighting per §130.0(b).

Where to Find Certified Products

The National Appliance Efficiency Conservation Act (NAECA) and/or the California Appliance Efficiency Regulations (Title 20) regulate most lighting equipment installed in California homes, including luminaires, ballasts, and Joint Reference Appendix JA8 lamps. Installers should confirm and document that only certified products are installed. Use the Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDbS) tool to find certified products.

2. Recessed Downlight Luminaires in Ceilings:

- » Must not contain screw-base sockets; and
- » Meet the clearance and installation requirements of the California Electrical Code Article 410.116; and
- » Be marked "JA8-2025-E (or JA8-2016-E, JA8-2019-E, JA8-2022-E)" indicating they are certified as meeting the elevated temperature requirements of Joint Reference Appendix JA8; and
- » When installed in insulated ceilings, and not marked for use in fire-rated installations, have:
 - A certified zero clearance insulation contact and
 - Certified as meeting airtight can (ICAT) requirements (except when exhaust fan housing has integral lighting) and
 - Gasket or caulk sealing between the luminaire's housing and ceiling for all air leak pathways between conditioned and unconditioned spaces or be installed per manufacturer's instructions to maintain airtightness between housing and ceiling.



Lighting Controls

> Sections 110.0, 110.1 and 110.9, 150.0(k)1E, 150.0(k) 2-5, 160.5(a)1E, 160.5(a) 2-3



Mandatory Requirements

Energy Code single-family §§150.0(k)1E, 150.0(k)2, 150.0(k)3, 150.0(k)4, 150.0(k)5, and multifamily dwelling unit 160.5(a)1E, 160.5(a)2, and 160.5(a)3 detail lighting control requirements for permanently installed luminaires. In addition, lighting controls must meet minimum functionality requirements per §§110.0, 110.1, and 110.9. Table 1 summarizes residential lighting control requirements. Portable lighting (lighting that is plugged in) is not subject to these regulations.

Special Considerations

Bypass of control functions

→ Bypass of control functions dictated by the Energy Code, such as dimming and occupancy/vacancy sensors, is not allowed

Dimmers

- → Dimmers must be readily accessible wall-mounted dimming controls that allow the lighting to be manually adjusted up and down. Forward phase-cut dimmers controlling LED light sources must comply with NEMA SSL 7A
- → Dimmers are not required when:
 - » Vacancy or occupancy sensors programmed to be auto-off are used
 - » Single-family occupancy only: Luminaires connected to a circuit with lighting power < 20 Watts that are controlled by an occupancy or vacancy sensor programmed to be auto-off
 - » Ceiling fan integral lighting using a remote control
 - » Kitchen range hood and bathroom exhaust fan integral lighting

Energy management control systems (EMCS)

→ EMCS can be used if they meet Energy Code lighting control requirements and comply with §150.0(k)2 or §160.5(a)2 EMCS requirements

Garages

→ Lighting for residential parking garages for eight or more vehicles must comply with the applicable requirements for nonresidential garages §130.1 and §140.6

Manual Area Controls are required for all luminaires

- → Manual on/off switches must be readily accessible wall-mounted manual controls, allowing occupants easy control of lighting in the space
 - » Ceilings fans with integral lighting can use a remote control. Lighting must be controlled separately from fan functions
 - » Undercabinet, undershelf, and display case lighting must be switched separately from ceiling-installed lighting within the space
 - » Exhaust fans must be controlled separately from any integrated lighting



All hardwired lighting to be controlled with manual on/off controls in addition to the control requirements supported in the following table.

Table 1: Residential Indoor Mandatory Lighting Control Requirements for Hard-wired Luminaires

Location	Automatic-off Control	Dimmer Control	
Location	Required?	Required?	
Habitable Spaces: Such as kitchens, bedrooms, living rooms, dining rooms	Not Required	YES	
	YES: Sensor with automatic-off functionality		
Bathrooms, Laundry Rooms, Utility Rooms, Walk-in Closets, or Garages	 At least one luminaire in each of these rooms must be controlled with vacancy/ occupancy sensor with auto-off function 	Not Required	
Other Non-habitable Spaces: Such as attic spaces, non-walk-in closets, detached storage buildings, storage rooms, and hallways	Not Required	Not Required	
	YES: Sensor with automatic-off functionality		
Hotel/Motel Rooms	 All lighting must shut off within 20 minutes of vacancy, except for one high-efficacy luminaire's on/off switch located within six feet of the door 	YES	
	 Automatic-off sensor controls can include captive card key, occupancy sensors or any other automatic controls meeting the automatic-off requirements 		
Navigation Lighting (located anywhere): Night		YES	
lights, step lights, path lights	Not Required	→ Not required when lighting is < 5 Watts	
Blank Electrical Boxes Within the Dwelling Unit: When > 5 ft above floor	YES: One of the options (see below)	YES: One of the options (see below)	
Number of blank electrical boxes to be no more than the number of bedrooms. They can be located anywhere within the dwelling unit.	◆ Each box must be controlled by a vacancy sensor, dimmer, low voltage wiring, or a fan speed control	◆ Each box must be controlled by a vacancy sensor, dimmer, low voltage wiring, or a fan speed control	
	YES: Automatic-off		
Lighting internal to drawers and cabinetry with opaque fronts or doors	 Lighting automatically turns off when the drawer or door is closed 	Not Required	
	» Does not apply to cabinets and drawers that are non-opaque fronted, such as glass		



Table 2: Residential Outdoor Lighting Mandatory Control Requirements for Installed Luminaires

Location	Automatic-off Control Required?	On/Off Switch Control Required?
Outdoors: Lighting attached to a single-family home, duplex or townhome, or any other building on the property Outdoors: Lighting attached to the outside of the building and controlled from within multifamily dwelling unit or hotel/motel room	Required? YES → Sensor types allowed include: » Photocell and motion sensor OR » Photocell and time switch OR » Astronomical time clock OR	Required?
	 EMCS that works like any of the above Controls that override to ON are not allowed unless the override automatically returns the automatic control to normal operation within six hours 	YES → On/off switches are required to allow all other outdoor control functions to work automatically
	 Single-family: Internally illuminated address signs must use ≤ 5 watts. If > 5 watts, then the nonresidential sign lighting power requirements in §140.8 apply 	
	→ Multifamily: Illuminated signs must meet §§160.5(c)2C and 170.2(e), and hotel/motel signs must meet §§130.3 and 140.8	

Exceptions:

- → Landscape lighting not attached to a building on the property
- → Lighting not attached to buildings on single-family, duplex, or townhome properties
- → Multifamily buildings: Property lighting attached to the outside of the building not controlled from within dwelling units must comply with §§160.5(c) and 170.2(e)6
- → Hotel and motel lighting: Property lighting attached to the outside of the building and not controlled from within the units must comply with §§130.2 and 140.7



Additions and Alterations

> Sections 150.0(k), 150.2(b)1K, 160.5(a) and 180.2(b)4A



Mandatory Requirements

Energy Code lighting requirements for Additions and Alterations to residential spaces include the same Mandatory requirements for New Construction when the project is subject to a building permit. It is recommended to verify with the local AHJ, typically the building department, if the project scope is required to pull a permit.

Residential Lighting Requirements for Additions and Alterations



These projects typically require a building permit: Required to meet Title 24, Part 6 Lighting Requirements

- → When adding onto a home, the new areas of the home must meet the applicable requirements of the Energy Code
- When remodeling a home, only the work being done under the building permit scope must meet the applicable requirements
 - » Existing recessed ceiling luminaires with screw-base sockets do not need to be replaced when Joint Reference Appendix JA8 trim kits, or lamps approved for recessed or enclosed light fixtures, are used
- ◆ When altering existing lighting controls, the applicable control requirements will apply. Example: When replacing a manual on/off control (See page 6 for the manual on/off control requirements of the Energy Code)



These projects typically do *not* require a building permit:

NOT Required to meet Title 24, Part 6 Lighting Requirements

- → Changing light bulbs does not trigger Title 24, Part 6
- → Spaces not being renovated in a renovation project do not have to meet Title 24, Part 6 lighting requirements
- Confirm with your local AHJ when a project involves the following, and if a building permit is required, the Energy Code requirements will apply:
 - » Replacing lighting fixtures
 - » Moving lighting fixtures

Note: The Energy Code has no requirements when doing the following:

- → Adding outdoor lighting not attached to a building
- + Adding a sign that is not illuminated



Compliance Forms for Residential Indoor and Outdoor Lighting

Forms for Single-family Buildings

In addition to permits, lighting projects in single-family homes require the following forms, called Certificates of Installation, in which the form name will start with CF2R. The forms are available on the Energy Code Ace "Get Forms" landing page.

There are no **Certificate of Compliance** (CF1R) form requirements for single-family indoor and outdoor lighting. Mandatory notes should be included in the design documents.

A **Certificate of Installation** (CF2R) must be provided on-site by the installing contractor, or contractors, before final inspection. If Energy Code Compliance (ECC, formerly known as HERS in previous code cycles) measures are required for the overall project (typically associated with HVAC and IAQ systems), then the CF2R must be registered with an ECC provider. If there are no ECC measures associated with the project, then the CF2R must be provided but does not need to be registered.

Table 3: Required Forms for Lighting for Single-family Buildings

ECC Requirement	Project Type	Certificates of Compliance	Certificates of Installation ¹	Certificates of Verification
When Project Overall Requires ECC Registration	New Construction, Additions, and Alterations	Not Applicable	CF2R-LTG-01-E Registered via an ECC Provider	Not Applicable
When Project Does Not Require ECC Registration	Additions	Not Applicable	CF2R-ADD-02-E allowed, or use CF2R-LTG-01-E	Not Applicable
When Project Does Not Require ECC Registration	Alterations	Not Applicable	CF2R-ALT-05-E allowed, or use CF2R-LTG-01-E	Not Applicable

These forms must be completed and signed by the installing contractor and made available for the building department's final inspection.



Compliance Forms for Residential Indoor and Outdoor Lighting

Forms for Multifamily Building Dwelling Units and Hotel or Motel Guest Rooms

Multifamily, hotel, and motel guest room indoor and outdoor lighting projects require the Certificate of Installation forms (LMCI or NRCI) listed in Table 4. The Certificates of Installation are available via the Energy Code Ace Virtual Compliance Assistant (VCA)—a tool available through Energy Code Ace at no cost.

There are no **Certificate of Compliance** (LMCC or NRCC) form requirements for multifamily dwelling unit and hotel/motel guest room indoor, nor outdoor lighting controlled within dwelling unit. Mandatory notes supporting these Mandatory requirements should be included in the design documents.

- **LMCC Low-rise Multifamily:** Certificate of Compliance used to document compliance for Multifamily Building ≤ 3 Habitable Stories
- → NRCC Nonresidential: Certificate of Compliance used to document compliance for Multifamily Building > 3 Habitable Stories and Hotel or Motel Buildings of any size

Certificates of Installation (LMCI or NRCI) are required to be provided on-site by the installing contractor, or contractors, before final inspection. ECC registration is not required for the following LMCI and NRCI forms.

- **+ LMCI Low-rise Multifamily:** Certificate of Installation used to document compliance for Multifamily Building ≤ 3 Habitable Stories
- → NRCI Nonresidential: Certificate of Installation used to document compliance for Multifamily Building > 3 Habitable Stories and Hotel or Motel Buildings of any size



See the Nonresidential and Multifamily Lighting Fact Sheet for Energy Code requirements for all lighting associated with multifamily common use areas, nonresidential occupancies in a mixed-use building, sign lighting and outdoor lighting not controlled from within the dwelling unit, hotel, or motel room.

Table 4: Required Forms for Dwelling Unit/Guest Room Lighting for Multifamily and Hotel/Motel Buildings

Occupancy or Building Type	Certificates of Compliance	Certificates of Installation ¹	Certificates of Verification	Certificates of Acceptance
Multifamily Buildings ≤ 3 Habitable Stories	Not Applicable	LMCI-LTI-E	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Multifamily Buildings > 3 Habitable Stories and Nonresidential, Hotel, and Motel Buildings	Not Applicable	NRCI-LTI-E	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

¹These forms must be completed and signed by the installing or general contractor and made available for the building inspector before final inspection.



For More Information



energycodeace.com

Your "one-stop-shop" for no-cost tools, training, and resources to help you comply with California's Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6) and Appliance Efficiency Standards (Title 20).



Create an account on the EnergyCodeAce.com website and select an industry role for your profile in order to receive our newsletter and messages about all our offerings!



Did you know you can get your questions answered by an industry expert?

Use our <u>"Submit a Question"</u> option on our website to connect with our team or scroll through **Q&Ace** to find answers to commonly asked questions.

Ace *Tools**

energycodeace.com/tools

Explore this suite of interactive tools to understand the compliance process, required forms, installation techniques, and efficiency regulations in California.

- <u>Reference Ace:</u> Navigate Title 24, Part 6 using an index, keyword search, and hyperlinked text.
- Q&Ace: Search our online knowledge base or submit your question to Energy Code Ace experts.
- Product Finder: Find Title 24, Part 6 compliant products.

Ace * Training™

energycodeace.com/training

On-demand, live in-person, and online training alternatives are tailored to a variety of industry professionals and address key measures.

Of special interest:

→ 2025 Title 24, Part 6 Essentials –
Residential Standards: What's New

Ace ★ Resources[™]

energycodeace.com/resources

Downloadable materials provide practical and concise guidance on how and when to comply with Title 24, Part 6 and Title 20.

Of special interest:

- ◆ 2025 Title 24, Part 6: What's New Multifamily fact sheet
- ◆ 2025 Title 24, Part 6: What's Changed Multifamily fact sheet
- → 2025 Title 24, Part 6: What's New Single-family fact sheet
- ◆ 2025 Title 24, Part 6: What's Changed Single-family fact sheet





California Energy Commission (CEC) energy.ca.gov

Learn more about the CEC and its programs.

- → 2025 Building Energy Efficiency Standards: Explore the main CEC web portal for the 2025 Energy Code, including information, documents, and historical information.
- → 2025 California Energy Code Fact Sheet:

 Download this brief summary of the Title 24,
 Part 6 purpose, current changes, and impact.
- California Appliance Efficiency Standards Site: Visit this site for information on California's Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations.
- **→** Energy Code Hotline
 - » Call: 1-800-772-3300 (Free)
 - » Submission Form
- ★ Energy Code Support Center: Use these online resources developed for building and enforcement communities to learn more about Title 24, Part 6.
- Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDbS): Search this database to find products that comply with Title 24, Part 6 and Title 20.

Additional Resources

Title 24 Stakeholders title24stakeholders.com

The Codes and Standards Enhancement (CASE) initiative presents recommendations to support the CEC's efforts to update Title 24, Part 6 to include new requirements or to upgrade existing requirements for various technologies. Three California investor-owned utilities sponsor this effort. The Statewide CASE Team encourages the open exchange of comments and concerns from all stakeholders engaged in the Title 24, Part 6 code change process. Contact them and they will put you in touch with the appropriate CASE Team members.

Reach Codes localenergycodes.com

Collaborating with cities, counties, and stakeholders to drive reach code development and adoption for long-term climate and energy efficiency benefits. View a list of adopted ordinances at the link provided.

CALGreen

calgreeninfo.com

CALGreen is a mandatory green building code with additional voluntary provisions. CALGreen is Part 11 of the California Building Standards Code, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. Codes are updated and adopted on an 18-month cycle, triennial and intervening. The current code is effective through December 31, 2025.

University of California, Davis California Lighting Technology Center cltc.ucdavis.edu

The California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC) accelerates the development and commercialization of energy-efficient lighting and daylighting technologies.









This program is funded by California utility customers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E®), and Southern California Edison Company (SCE) under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

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