

2025 California Electrical Code Significant Changes

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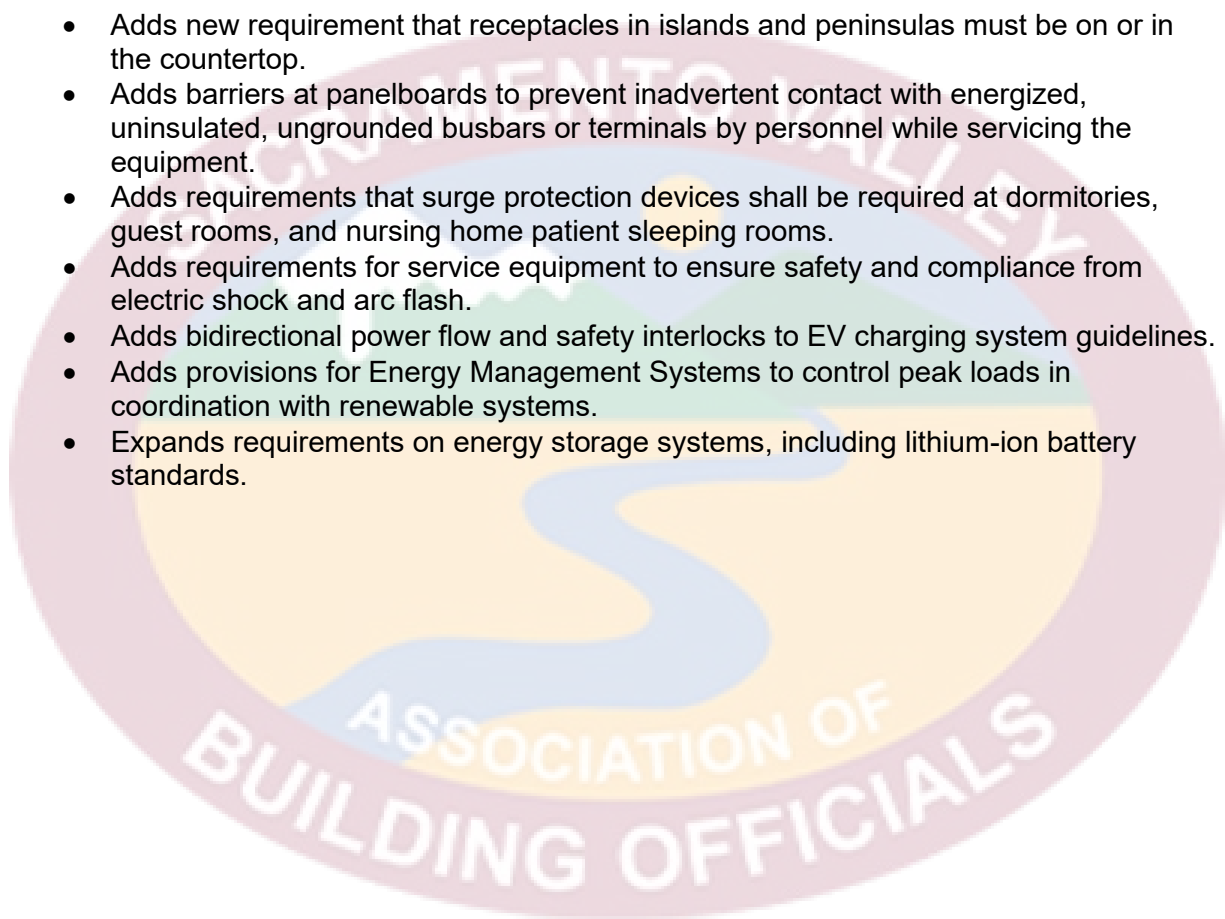
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Summary

Significant Changes Include:

- Addition of OSHPD-6 facility designation and aligned requirements with Health and Safety Code section 1250.3.
- Adds requirements for systems performing life safety functions that are connected to a network to have provisions for cyber security.
- Expanded GFCI requirements to all receptacles in the kitchen including ranges and wall-mounted ovens.
- Adds new requirement that receptacles in islands and peninsulas must be on or in the countertop.
- Adds barriers at panelboards to prevent inadvertent contact with energized, uninsulated, ungrounded busbars or terminals by personnel while servicing the equipment.
- Adds requirements that surge protection devices shall be required at dormitories, guest rooms, and nursing home patient sleeping rooms.
- Adds requirements for service equipment to ensure safety and compliance from electric shock and arc flash.
- Adds bidirectional power flow and safety interlocks to EV charging system guidelines.
- Adds provisions for Energy Management Systems to control peak loads in coordination with renewable systems.
- Expands requirements on energy storage systems, including lithium-ion battery standards.



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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
Article 89 – General Code Provisions				
	x	89.101.3.2	State-Regulated Buildings, Structures, and Applications	(BSC) Amended to align the California Electrical Code with Title 24.
x		89.110	Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development	(OSHPD) Adds a new OSHPD-6 designation for Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospitals not within a hospital or an acute psychiatric facility. Aligns requirements with statutory changes in Health and Safety Code Section 1250.3.
Chapter 1 – General				
	X	100	Definitions	(OSHPD) Moved all definitions from Article 517 to Article 100 to align with model code format.
x		100, 240.6(D), 708.7, 708.8(A)	Cybersecurity	Adds requirement for systems performing life safety functions that are connected to the network, circuit breakers connected to a network that can have their set points changed remotely and equipment in a critical operation power system that is connected to the network.
Chapter 2 – Wiring and Protection				
x		210	Branch Circuits	New clarifications for branch circuit sizing and AFCI/GFCI placement
	X	210.8	Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter Protection for Personnel	Expanded GFCI requirements: GFCI required for all receptacles in the kitchen, including hard-wired appliances like ranges and wall-mounted ovens.
x		210.52(C)(2)	Dwelling Unit Receptacle Outlets	The receptacle in islands and peninsulas must be on or in the countertop to avoid cords of appliances draping over the edge of the countertop.
x		215.5	Barriers	Adds barriers so that no energized, uninsulated, ungrounded busbar or terminal at panelboards, switchboards, switchgear, or motor control centers that are supplied by secondaries of transformers and feeder tap conducts, may be exposed to inadvertent contact by persons or maintenance equipment while servicing load terminations.
	X	220	Branch-circuit, feeder, and load calculations	(OSHPD) Amended to remove additional requirements for load calculations.
x		230.67, 215.8, 225.42	Surge protection	New requirements for surge protection are added to dormitories, guest rooms, and nursing home patient sleeping rooms. Adds a new requirement for minimum nominal discharge current rating of 10kA.

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
x		230.71	Service Equipment	Adds requirements for service equipment to ensure safety and compliance. Requirements are crucial for electricians and property owners to maintain safe working environments from electric shock and arc flash.
Chapter 4 – Equipment for General Use				
	X	406.12	Tamper-resistant receptacles	(HCD) Amends requirements to exclude mobile homes and manufactured homes from the requirement for tamper-resistant receptacles.
Chapter 5 – Special Occupancies				
x		517.1(C)	Health Care Facilities - Scope	(OSHDPD) Amended to require documentation for special seismic certifications.
x		517.4	Electrical power sources, feeders, and services	(OSHDPD) Amended to list requirements for electrical power sources. An “Informational Note” was added to see Section 220.40 for sizing requirements for Electrical Power Sources, Feeders, and Services.
	x	517.18(B)(2)	Receptacle requirements	(OSHDPD) Repealed Exception #3, which stated hospital grade receptacles were not required in patient sleeping areas in nursing homes.
x		517.29	Type I Essential Electrical Systems	(OSHDPD) Amended (A)(1) to include (Surgical Clinics only) to the existing OSHPD 3 banner.
x		517.30(A)(1)	Two Independent power sources	(OSHDPD) Added new section with requirements for two independent power sources for OSHPD 1, 3 (surgical clinics only), 4, and 5.
	x	517.30(B)(1)	Power sources for the ESS	(OSHDPD) Repealed the requirements for power sources for the ESS.
	x	517.30(B)(3)	Battery Systems	(OSHDPD) Repealed the amendments and adopted the model code language.
	x	517.30(B)(4)	Health care microgrid	(OSHDPD) Repealed amendment and adopted the model code language.
x		517.30(B)(5)	Health care microgrid	(OSHDPD) Amended to include requirements for meeting the installation and commissioning requirements in NFPA 99.
x		517.30(D)	Temporary source of power for maintenance or repair of the alternate source of power.	(OSHDPD) Adds new section with requirements for temporary source of power for maintenance and repair of the alternate source of power.

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	x	517.31(D)(1)	Requirements for the Essential Electrical System	(OSHDP) Repealed the requirement for the ESS to have the capacity and rating to meet the maximum actual demand likely to be produced by the connected load.
	x	517.31(E)	Receptacle Identification	(OSHDP) Repealed the amendment and adopted model code language.
x		517.31(H)	On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply	(OSHDP & SFM) Adds new section containing requirements for on-site energy storage systems and fuel supply for OSHPD 1, 4, 5.
x		517.31(H)(1)	On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply	(OSHDP) Adds new section containing requirements for on-site resources to support not less than 24 hours full demand operation for correctional treatment centers, and sources to support not less than 72 hours full-demand operation for acute care hospitals.
x		517.31(H)(2)	On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply	(OSHDP) Adds new section containing requirements for Emergency Power Supply Systems for correctional treatment centers and acute psychiatric hospitals.
x		517.41(A)(1)	Required Power Sources – Two Independent Power Sources	(OSHDP) Adds new section containing requirement for two independent power sources for OSHPD 2, 4, 5.
	x	517.41(B)(1)	Required Power Sources – Types of Power Sources	(OSHDP) Repealed the requirements for power sources for the ESS for OSHPD 2, 4, 5.
	x	517.41(B)(1) through (B)(4)	Required Power Sources – Fuel cell systems	(OSHDP) Repealed the list of approved power sources.
x		517.41(D)	Required Power Sources – Power sources for the ESS	(OSHDP) Added new section which lists the approved power sources for the ESS for OSHPD 2, 4, 5
x		517.41(E)	Required Power Sources – Permanent connection(s) points for ESS maintenance and repairs	(OSHDP) Added new section containing requirements for permanent connection points for ESS maintenance and repair.
	x	517.42(E)	Essential Electrical Systems for Nursing Homes and Limited Care Facilities – Receptacle Identification	(OSHDP) Repealed the amendment and adopted model code language.
x		517.42(G)	Essential Electrical Systems for Nursing Homes and Limited Care Facilities - On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply.	(OSHDP + SFM) Adds new section containing requirements for on-site energy storage systems and fuel supply for OSHPD 2, 4, & 5.

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
x		517.42(G)(1)	Essential Electrical Systems for Nursing Homes and Limited Care Facilities - On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply.	(OSHDP) Adds new section containing requirements for on-site resources to be available at all times to support not less than 6 hours at full output of the EPSS of OSHPD 2, 4, 5
x		517.42(G)(2)	Essential Electrical Systems for Nursing Homes and Limited Care Facilities - On-site energy storage systems and fuel supply.	(OSHDP) Adds new section containing requirements for an alternate source of power for equipment to maintain safe requirements, life saving equipment and oxygen generating devices for OSHPD-2.
	x	517.44(3)(1)	Optional connections to equipment branch.	(OSHDP) Repealed the requirements for optional connections to the equipment branch.
	x	517.45	Essential Electrical Systems for other Health Care Facilities	Repealed the existing language in (E)(1) and replaced it with the existing language from (G). Existing Section (H) became (G). Adds new section (H) which requires not less than 4 hours of full output for the EPSS for OSHPD 3 (Surgical Clinics Only)
Chapter 6 – Special Equipment				
x		625	Electric Vehicle Power Transfer System	Adds bi-directional power flow and safety interlocks to EV charging systems guidelines.
Chapter 7 – Special Conditions				
	x	700.12	General Requirements	(OSHDP) Repealed the exception in Section (C) for battery systems for OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Repealed all exceptions in Section (D)(2) for OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Repealed the exception in Section (G) for OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
x		705.13	Energy Management & Load Shedding	Adds provisions for Energy Management Systems to control peak loads in coordination with renewable systems.
	x	706	Energy Storage Systems	Expands details on energy storage systems, including lithium-ion battery standards.