



INTERNATIONAL
CODE
COUNCIL®

2024 National Contractor/Trades Examination Information Bulletin

PUBLISHED October 12, 2026

This edition supersedes all previous bulletin editions

*This bulletin answers most questions raised by examination candidates. Please read it carefully.
You will find it a useful reference throughout your registration and examination process.*

International Code Council Vision

Creating safe, affordable, and sustainable buildings and communities.

International Code Council Mission

Provide the codes, tools, and resources that members rely on,
building safety professionals turn to, and manufacturers and the public trust.

Information contained in this bulletin is deemed accurate as of the time of posting.

Contents are subject to change at any time.

For the most updated information, visit the [Exam Catalog](#).

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<https://www.iccsafe.org/credentialing/contractor-trades/>

SUMMARY OF BULLETIN CHANGES

Date of Change	Section Affected	Revision
October 12, 2026	Reformatted Entire Bulletin	Candidate Examination Information Bulletins (EIBs) are now organized by the Code Year to help locate the correct examination information. Bulletins are available for 2015, 2018, 2021, or 2024 Contractor/Trades examinations
October 12, 2026	Candidate Exam Information Bulletin	Effective December 1, 2026: ICC National Contractor/Trades Examinations will offer two examination suites with different passing score requirements: 70% Passing Score Exams 75% Passing Score Exams The required passing score for each examination is identified in the Exam ID. Candidates should verify with their jurisdiction whether a 70% or 75% passing score is required for licensure before registering for an examination at Pearson.

Be sure to completely read this bulletin before scheduling your examination. You are responsible for following all policies and regulations found in this document. Not reading this bulletin does not release your responsibility for following these procedures.

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About Code Council Contractor/Trades Testing

The International Code Council's Contractor/Trades examination program is an independent testing program designed to provide licensing agencies with information regarding qualified contractors and trades professionals. Participating in the Code Council examination program does not guarantee that a licensing agency will award you a license. However, the Code Council examination program serves as an independent appraisal of your competency in the construction field, and your test results may be used by licensing agencies to satisfy the requirements for testing.

The International Code Council is **not** a licensing agency. If you want to become licensed in a city, county, or state that participates with the Code Council, that jurisdiction will require you to take and pass a Code Council examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, contact the jurisdiction for any other requirements in order to become licensed.

Testing Information and Frequently Asked Questions

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide you with information regarding how to schedule and take your contractor/trades examination. Examination requirements, including registration/scheduling, dates, locations, fees, and references are subject to change. Please make sure that you have the most current information before registering for/scheduling any examination.

All candidates are required to adhere to all ICC Council Policies and ICC Credentialing rules and policies provided in the [Administrative Rules and Procedures](#).

What examination do I need to take?

As requirements for employment differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, the Code Council cannot recommend specific examinations to you. We strongly encourage you to contact the jurisdiction in which you wish to work for more information on their specific exam requirements for licensure.

How often can I test?

You must wait **10** days before retaking a failed exam. It is strongly recommended that you allow time to study the approved references before registering for the test a second time.

What type of question format will be included in the examination?

Test questions are in four-option, multiple-choice format, with one answer on each question scored as correct. Due to the rigorous psychometric processes used by the Code Council in exam development, questions do not follow patterns (e.g., "the most common answer is 'B'").

Can't I just look up all of the answers in the books?

Because of the time constraints, you will not have time to look up all of the answers. For those answers you must look up, you must be VERY familiar with the references to avoid wasting time searching for information. First impressions are often the most accurate, but you may change your answers if time allows.

Should I guess if I don't know the answer to a question?

There is no guessing penalty, so it is to your advantage to answer every question. Remember to base your answers on the listed references for each exam, not solely on long-time field practices.

When will I receive my results?

Results for examinations taken electronically are available immediately after completion of the examination.

How do I find out examination specific information?

Visit the [Exam Catalog](#) for the following information for each exam:

- Content outline,
- Approved references,
- Open/Closed book,
- Length of exam
 - Number of items
 - Time Limit
- Passing score, and
- Link to register for the Pearson exam.

NOTE: For important information about Exam Day procedures, approved resources, materials, testing policies and examination rules, click [here](#).

How do I schedule/register for an exam?

Code Council contractor examinations are administered through Pearson. Access www.pearsonvue.com/ICC for more information on the ICC examination program at Pearson to include, but not limited to the ability to:

- Create an account,
- View and/or schedule an exam,
- Locate a test center,
- Purchase test vouchers, and
- Request testing accommodations.

How do I make comments about an exam I took?

To have Code Council Credentialing staff review comments or challenges on specific exams, exam items, or any issues encountered during your examination, you must submit a [Technical Challenge](#) to the Code Council.

Our experience shows that the best comments are those that come as soon after the testing process as possible. Include sufficient amount of detail to aid staff in the review of your challenged question(s) or issues related to the exam experience. Following receipt of your challenge, Credentialing staff will investigate each comment for merit and final determination of approval or denial of your challenge.

You will be mailed a response from Code Council staff within 15 business days from receipt of the form by the Code Council; a request for staff review is based solely upon the most recent examination taken.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you retake a failed exam on which you have submitted a challenge, you will forfeit your challenge opportunity for that exam attempt.

How do I request a duplicate pass letter?

If you took an ICC Contractor/Trades examination at a Pearson Test Center on or after January 1, 2014, please contact Pearson via phone (1-877-234-6082) or chat to request a duplicate letter at no charge.

All other candidates, please visit the ICC Credentialing Candidate Requests/Forms [page](#) request a [Replacement Result Letter](#).

How do I change my name and address?

NOTE: Your ICC email address is the Pearson email address used to register for an ICC Contractor/Trades examination. To update your candidate demographic information (Address, Phone Number, Email, and Legal Name), log in to your myICC account. Click [here](#) for additional information.

National Contractor/Trades Examination Information

Based on the 2023 NEC and 2024 International Codes

Exam Overview					
Exam ID	Questions	Format	Time Limit	Vendor	Price
R16-N-75% National Master Electrician	100 multiple-choice	Open book	5 hours	Pearson	\$120
Content Outline					
Content Area	%	Topics Covered	Reference(s)		
General Knowledge	12%	- Electrical Theory and General Electrical Load Calculations - Code Definitions and Terms - Plan Reading	2023 National Electrical Code Ugly's Electrical Reference (any edition)		
Services and Service Equipment	16%	- Services and Fault Current - Service Load Calculations - Service Equipment and Service Conductors - Transformers, System Grounding and Bonding, Temporary Service Wiring			
Feeders	4%	- Load Calculations - Equipment Grounding			
Branch Circuits and Conductors	16%	- Branch Circuit Calculation - Overcurrent Protection, Conductors - Required Outlets & GFCI/AFCI Protection - Equipment Grounding			
Wiring Methods and Materials	19%	- Raceway Installation, Underground Wiring Methods - Boxes and Enclosures, Cabinets, Panel Boards, and Switchboards - Clearance and Guarding - Flexible Cords and Cables			
Equipment and Devices	10%	- Luminaires, Receptacles, Switches and Other Devices - Appliances and Other Equipment, Other Utilization Equipment - Heating and Cooling Equipment			
Control Devices	3%	Switches, Disconnects, and Controllers			
Motors and Generators	8%	- Motors - Generators			
Special Occupancies, Equipment, and Conditions	12%	- Special Occupancies, Swimming Pools, and Similar Installations - Mobile Homes and RV Parks - Data Processing Equipment - Miscellaneous Special Equipment - Emergency Systems, Signaling and Fire Alarm Systems			
Total	100%				

Exam Overview					
Exam ID	Questions	Format	Time Limit	Vendor	Price
R17-N-70% National Journeyman Electrician	80 multiple-choice	Open book	4 hours	Pearson	\$120
Content Outline					
Content Area	%	Topics Covered	Reference(s) 2023 National Electrical Code Ugly's Electrical Reference (any edition)		
General Knowledge	6%	• Electrical Theory and General Electrical Load Calculations • Code Definitions and Terms • Plan Reading			
Services and Service Equipment	11%	• Services and Fault Current • Service Load Calculations • Service Equipment and Service Conductors • Transformers, System Grounding and Bonding, Temporary Service Wiring			
Feeders	4%	• Load Calculations • Equipment Grounding			
Branch Circuits and Conductors	19%	• Branch Circuit Calculation • Overcurrent Protection, Conductors • Required Outlets & GFCI/AFCI Protection • Equipment Grounding			
Wiring Methods and Materials	26%	• Raceway Installation, Underground Wiring Methods • Boxes and Enclosures, Cabinets, Panel Boards, and Switchboards • Clearance and Guarding • Flexible Cords and Cables			
Equipment and Devices	13%	• Luminaires, Receptacles, Switches and Other Devices • Appliances and Other Equipment, Other Utilization Equipment • Heating and Cooling Equipment			
Control Devices	4%	• Switches, Disconnects, and Controllers			
Motors and Generators	6%	• Motors • Generators			
Special Occupancies, Equipment, and Conditions	11%	• Special Occupancies, Swimming Pools, and Similar Installations • Mobile Homes and RV Parks • Data Processing Equipment • Miscellaneous Special Equipment • Emergency Systems, Signaling and Fire Alarm Systems			
Total	100%				

Exam Overview					
Exam ID	Questions	Format	Time Limit	Vendor	Price
R18-N-70% National Residential Electrician	60 multiple-choice	Open book	3 hours	Pearson	\$120
Content Outline					
Content Area	%	Topics Covered	Reference(s)		
General Knowledge	12%	• Electrical Theory and General Electrical Load Calculations • Code Definitions and Terms	2023 National Electrical Code (NEC) Ugly's Electrical Reference (any edition)		
Services and Service Equipment	22%	• Service Load Calculations • Service Equipment, Service Conductor • System Grounding and Bonding			
Feeders	13%	• Load Calculations • Equipment Grounding			
Branch Circuits and Conductors	25%	• Branch Circuit Calculation • Required Outlets and GFCI/AFCI Protection • Overcurrent Protection • Equipment Grounding • Conductor			
Wiring Methods and Materials	13%	• Raceway Installations • Boxes and Enclosures • Flexible Cords and Cables			
Equipment and Devices	8%	• Luminaires • Receptacles, Switches and Other Devices • Appliances and Other Equipment			
Special Occupancies, Equipment, and Conditions	7%	• Swimming Pools and Similar Installations • Low Voltage Circuits • Alarm and Similar Systems			
Total	100%				

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2026

ICC will offer two examination suites:
70% Passing Score Exams | 75% Passing Score Exams

The required passing score for each examination is identified in the Exam ID.

Verify with your jurisdiction which passing score is required for licensure.

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Content Outline					
Content Area	%	Topics Covered	Reference(s) 2023 National Electrical Code Ugly's Electrical Reference (any edition)		
General Knowledge	6%	- Electrical Theory and General Electrical Load Calculations - Code Definitions and Terms - Plan Reading			
Services and Service Equipment	11%	- Services and Fault Current - Service Load Calculations - Service Equipment and Service Conductors - Transformers, System Grounding and Bonding, Temporary Service Wiring			
Feeders	4%	- Load Calculations - Equipment Grounding			
Branch Circuits and Conductors	19%	- Branch Circuit Calculation - Overcurrent Protection, Conductors - Required Outlets & GFCI/AFCI Protection - Equipment Grounding			
Wiring Methods and Materials	26%	- Raceway Installation, Underground Wiring Methods - Boxes and Enclosures, Cabinets, Panel Boards, and Switchboards - Clearance and Guarding - Flexible Cords and Cables			
Equipment and Devices	13%	- Luminaires, Receptacles, Switches and Other Devices - Appliances and Other Equipment, Other Utilization Equipment - Heating and Cooling Equipment			
Control Devices	4%	Switches, Disconnects, and Controllers			
Motors and Generators	6%	- Motors - Generators			
Special Occupancies, Equipment, and Conditions	11%	- Special Occupancies, Swimming Pools, and Similar Installations - Mobile Homes and RV Parks - Data Processing Equipment - Miscellaneous Special Equipment - Emergency Systems, Signaling and Fire Alarm Systems			
Total	100%				

Exam Overview					
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Services and Service Equipment	22%	• Service Load Calculations • Service Equipment, Service Conductor • System Grounding and Bonding			
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Total	100%				