

2026 Code Change 2

Lightwave Learning

Electrical Continuing Education Outline

4 Hours | 4 Credits

This curriculum outlines 50 lessons drawn directly from the 2023 and 2026 editions of NFPA 70, the National Electrical Code. Each lesson documents a specific change between editions — whether technical, editorial, relocated, or newly added — Lessons are organized in ascending code section order within each chapter group.

ARTICLE 100 — DEFINITIONS

Lesson 1 100 — Accessible, Readily (Readily Accessible) [REVISED]

Students will learn that "Readily Accessible" received editorial refinements in the 2026 NEC — correcting "inspections" to "inspection" and removing archaic phrasing — with no change to installation requirements.

Lesson 2 100 — Cable Tie Fixing Device [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new definition of "Cable Tie Fixing Device," which distinguishes cable management-only ties (Types 1, 11, 2, 21) from structurally rated ties approved to support cable, flexible conduit, and flexible tubing (Types 2S and 21S).

Lesson 3 100 — Electric Self-Propelled Vehicle (ESV) [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new definition of "Electric Self-Propelled Vehicle (ESV)" covering electrically powered vehicles and vessels outside the EV definition — such as golf carts, farm equipment, and boats — and how this definition anchors the new Article 624 charging requirements.

Lesson 4 100 — Generator (Generator Set) [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC removed "and/or inverter" from the Article 100 Generator definition, correcting a technical inaccuracy and clarifying that generators and inverter-based systems are distinct equipment types governed by separate Code articles.

Lesson 5 100 — Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter, Special Purpose, Class C (Class C SPGFCI) [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new definition of the Class C Special Purpose GFCI, part of a broader set of SPGFCI classifications added to Article 100, and how it addresses personnel protection needs on circuits up to 300 volts ac to ground where standard Class A GFCIs are not appropriate.

Lesson 6 100 — Line-to-Line [NEW]

Students will learn the new 2026 NEC definition of "Line-to-Line" as an electrical reference between two current-carrying conductors other than a neutral, and how this terminology applies to equipment ratings and voltage measurements in the field.

Lesson 7 100 — Microgrid [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC simplified the "Microgrid" definition from a 47-word operational description to a concise two-part test based on system composition and independence from the utility.

Lesson 8 100 — Transformer Secondary Conductor [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new definition of "Transformer Secondary Conductor" and how it directs overcurrent protection to 240.21(C) rather than feeder rules for conductors originating at transformer secondary winding terminals.

CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (ARTICLES 110–130)

Lesson 9 110.14 — Electrical Connections [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC replaced "suitable" with "identified" throughout Section 110.14 and added listing requirements for connectors serving finely stranded conductors, clarifying which connection hardware must be used for each conductor type.

Lesson 10 110.17 — Servicing of Equipment [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC removed "and Maintenance" from Section 110.17's title and body and deleted the NFPA 70B informational note, clarifying that Article 110 governs installation requirements only — not ongoing maintenance obligations.

Lesson 11 110.26(C)(2) — Large Equipment [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC expanded the dual-egress requirement in 110.26(C)(2) to include feeder disconnect assemblies under 225.33(A), in addition to service disconnects, when the 1200 A and 6-foot combined width thresholds are both met.

Lesson 12 110.40 — Electrical Connections [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC revised Section 110.40 electrical connection requirements for systems over 1000 volts, including updated termination standards and how those changes affect medium-voltage installation and inspection practices.

Lesson 13 120.5(C) — Floor Area [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that detached garages were explicitly added as a floor area exclusion in 2026 NEC 120.5(C), formerly 220.5(C), eliminating ambiguity about accessory structures in residential service and feeder load calculations.

Lesson 14 120.6 — Noncoincident Loads [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that noncoincident load rules were relocated from Section 220.60 to new Section 120.6 in the 2026 NEC and restructured into two subsections distinguishing usage-based and equipment-based load reduction for feeders and services.

Lesson 15 120.41 — Dwelling Units, Minimum Unit Load [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC reduced the general lighting unit load for dwelling unit service and feeder calculations from 3 VA/ft² to 2 VA/ft², relocated from Section 220.12, while branch circuit minimum counts remain governed by Section 120.13.

Lesson 16 130.60 — Conductors and Equipment [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new Section 130.60 requirements for Power Control System conductors and equipment, including the prohibition on using OCPDs as the sole protection for PCS conductors in non-branch-circuit applications.

CHAPTER 2 — WIRING AND PROTECTION (ARTICLES 200–285)

Lesson 17 **206.4(A) — Sizes and Use** [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that non-power-limited remote-control and signaling circuit conductor size rules were relocated from 300.26(C)(1) to new Section 206.4(A) in the 2026 NEC, with technical revisions including expanded conductor types, stronger mandatory language, and a new ampacity calculation requirement.

Lesson 18 **210.8(B) — GFCI Protection, Other Than Dwelling Units** [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC split item (8) "Indoor damp or wet locations" into two separate items and added aquatic vessel locations, shifting all subsequent item numbers and expanding GFCI coverage in commercial and industrial work.

Lesson 19 **210.12(E) — Branch Circuit Wiring Extensions, Modifications, or Replacements** [REVISED]

Students will learn that "or switch outlet" was added to 210.12(E)(2) in the 2026 NEC, expanding the permitted installation locations for a listed outlet branch-circuit-type AFCI device when extending, modifying, or replacing existing branch-circuit wiring.

Lesson 20 **210.70(A)(1) — Habitable Rooms, Kitchens, Laundry Areas, and Bathrooms** [REVISED]

Students will learn that "wall switch or" was added throughout 210.70(A)(1) in the 2026 NEC and that new Exception No. 3 permits the lighting outlet and its switch to be located outside laundry areas housed within a closet or compact enclosure.

Lesson 21 **225.18 — Clearance for Overhead Conductors and Cables** [REVISED]

Students will learn that 225.18 received a single editorial correction in the 2026 NEC — "and accessible" changed to "and is accessible" in item (1) — with no changes to vertical clearance values or overhead conductor installation requirements.

Lesson 22 **225.41(A)(1) — Emergency Disconnect — Location** [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC reformatted 225.41(A)(1) into a numbered list structure, added a cross-reference to Section 110.29, and introduced an exception for duplicate disconnects that are readily accessible and plainly visible from each other.

Lesson 23 **230.68 — Meter Sockets** [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that meter socket requirements were relocated from 230.66(B) to standalone Section 230.68 in the 2026 NEC, removing the listing mandate, eliminating the utility exception, and adding a new exception for fire pump circuits.

Lesson 24 **230.70(B) — Service Disconnect Marking** [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC replaced the general marking language in 230.70(B) with specific mandated label text and required color specifications, including red background and white lettering for emergency disconnect labels on one- and two-family dwellings.

Lesson 25 **250.4(A)(5) — Effective Ground-Fault Current Paths** [REVISED]

Students will learn that 250.4(A)(5) was restructured from a single paragraph into three lettered sub-items and renamed from "Path" to "Paths" in the 2026 NEC, with no technical changes to ground-fault current path design requirements.

Lesson 26 **250.53(A)(4) — Rod and Pipe Electrodes** [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC restructured 250.53(A)(4) into lettered subdivisions, explicitly added "vertically" as the required installation method for rod and pipe electrodes, and formalized the angled and horizontal burial exceptions into titled subdivision language.

Lesson 27 250.94(A) — Intersystem Bonding Termination Devices [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC added the building or structure itself as a permitted IBT mounting location when a 6 AWG copper GEC is present, and expanded the listing requirement to include equipment listed specifically as communications grounding and bonding equipment.

CHAPTER 3 — WIRING METHODS AND MATERIALS (ARTICLES 300–393)

Lesson 28 300.6(E) — Wiring Methods and Materials in or Under Roof Decking [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC revised 300.6(E) to extend protection requirements to all roof decking types by replacing the "metal-corrugated" limitation and "cables, raceways, or boxes" language with broader terms, and added a new concrete-encasement exception.

Lesson 29 310.5(A) — Minimum Size of Conductors [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that minimum conductor size rules were relocated from 310.3(A) to 310.5(A) in the 2026 NEC and that copper-clad aluminum now carries its own separate minimum of 14 AWG, distinct from the 12 AWG minimum that applies to aluminum.

Lesson 30 330.30(A) — Securing and Supporting — General [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC added cable cleats as an explicitly named securing method, required staples to be listed, and expanded the support sentence to include connectors alongside fittings in Section 330.30(A) for Type MC cable installations.

Lesson 31 340.104 — Conductors [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC gave copper-clad aluminum conductors in Type UF cable their own 14 AWG minimum size, separating them from the 12 AWG aluminum minimum that previously applied to both materials under a shared table entry.

Lesson 32 393.14(A) — General Requirements [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC replaced the "neat and workmanlike manner" language in 393.14(A) with a binding requirement that low-voltage suspended ceiling power distribution system components be installed by qualified persons, a defined Article 100 term.

CHAPTER 4 — EQUIPMENT FOR GENERAL USE (ARTICLES 430–480)

Lesson 33 430.3 — Reconditioned Equipment [RELOCATED]

Students will learn that reconditioned motor requirements were relocated from 430.2 to 430.3 and retitled "Reconditioned Equipment" in the 2026 NEC, with the hazardous location sentence removed and language aligned with NEC Style Manual 2.2.1.

Lesson 34 440.15 — Split-System Indoor Unit Identification [NEW]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC added Section 440.15 requiring outdoor disconnects for split-system HVAC equipment, in other than one- and two-family dwellings, to be marked with the location of all indoor units they supply.

Lesson 35 480.1 — Scope [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC removed "standby" from Article 480's scope, expanding coverage to all stationary battery systems exceeding 1 kWh that are not listed as energy storage systems under Article 706, and added a new informational note for calculating kWh from nameplate data.

CHAPTER 5 — SPECIAL OCCUPANCIES (ARTICLES 500–555)

Lesson 36 **500.5(D)(1)(a) & (b) — Class III, Division 1, Combustible Fibers/Flyings** [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC split 500.5(D)(1) into separate subparagraphs for nonmetal and metal fibers, with combustible metal fibers/flyings now explicitly classified as Class II, Division 1, Group E rather than Class III.

Lesson 37 **511.10(B) — Electric Vehicle Power Transfer Systems** [REVISED]

Students will learn how Section 511.10(B) was retitled from "Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment" to "Electric Vehicle Power Transfer Systems" in the 2026 NEC, adopted Article 625 defined terms, and added a new identification requirement for overhead cable suspension hardware.

Lesson 38 **517.15 — Multiwire Branch Circuits** [NEW]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC added Section 517.15 prohibiting life safety lighting and power circuits in healthcare facilities from being part of a multiwire branch circuit, requiring each such circuit to have its own dedicated neutral.

Lesson 39 **525.11 — Generators** [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new requirements for generators supplying power at carnivals, circuses, fairs, and similar events, including listing and installation requirements designed to protect the public and workers at temporary electrical installations.

Lesson 40 **525.31 — Equipment Grounding** [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC revised Section 525.31 equipment grounding requirements for carnivals, circuses, fairs, and similar events, and how those changes affect grounding conductor sizing and connection methods at temporary power installations.

Lesson 41 **545.2 — Listing Requirements** [NEW]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC elevated the wiring method listing requirement for manufactured buildings into standalone Section 545.2, shifting from permissive to mandatory language and requiring both the wiring system and its fittings to be listed.

Lesson 42 **555.14 — Equipotential Planes and Bonding of Equipotential Planes** [REVISED]

Students will learn how the 2026 NEC restructured 555.14 to define four specific construction methods for equipotential planes at marina service equipment, triggered when system voltage exceeds 250V to ground or equipment is within 3 m (10 ft) of water.

CHAPTER 6 — SPECIAL EQUIPMENT (ARTICLES 620–680)

Lesson 43 **620.16(C) — Available Fault Current Field Marking** [NEW]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC added Section 620.16(C) requiring elevator control panels to be field-marked with available fault current and calculation date, and that the marking must be updated whenever upstream electrical modifications affect available fault current at the panel.

Lesson 44 625.41 — Continuous Loads [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC retitled Section 625.41 from "Overcurrent Protection" to "Continuous Loads" and explicitly codified that all EVSE and WPTE — including bidirectional devices — are continuous loads requiring 125% conductor and OCPD sizing.

Lesson 45 625.43 — Disconnecting Means [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new Section 625.43 requirements for disconnecting means on electric vehicle power transfer equipment, including where disconnects must be located and how those requirements affect EVSE installation planning and inspection.

Lesson 46 680.26(B)(2) — Perimeter Surfaces [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC expanded the below-water equipotential bonding zone in 680.26(B)(2) from 2 ft to 3 ft, added copper-clad steel as a permitted conductor material, and extended the grid listing compliance deadline to January 1, 2029.

CHAPTER 7 — SPECIAL CONDITIONS (ARTICLES 700–720)

Lesson 47 700.10(D)(2) — Feeder-Circuit Wiring [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC restructured the concrete encasement option for emergency system feeders into two distinct paths — 2 inches with PE-documented fire rating or 5 inches measured from all cable surfaces — and added a new exception for underground installations.

Lesson 48 700.10(D)(2)(5) — Feeder-Circuit Wiring, Concrete Encasement [REVISED]

Students will learn the specific revision to 700.10(D)(2)(5) that increased the minimum concrete encasement for emergency feeders from 2 inches to 5 inches measured from every surface of the cable or raceway, based on fire safety research documenting the limitations of 2-inch cover under extended fire exposure.

Lesson 49 720.11 — Limited-Energy System Raceways in Wet Locations Above Grade [NEW]

Students will learn the 2026 NEC's new Section 720.11 requirements for raceways used in limited-energy system installations at wet locations above grade, including which raceway types are permitted and how this section affects low-voltage wiring in outdoor and exposed-wet environments.

CHAPTER 8 — COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (ARTICLE 800)

Lesson 50 800.1 — Scope [REVISED]

Students will learn that the 2026 NEC narrowed Article 800's scope to communications wires and cables outside and entering buildings, removing the umbrella language that previously made Article 800 the default reference for all Chapter 8 communications work.
