

Course Description Sheet

COURSE TITLE

2026 NEC Changes: Life Safety and Standby Systems

COURSE DURATION

1 Hour(s)

OVERVIEW

This course reviews key 2026 NEC requirements for emergency systems, legally required standby systems, optional standby systems, and fire pump installations. It explores Code provisions governing system reliability, power continuity, and protection for critical electrical infrastructure used in life safety applications. Participants will examine requirements related to feeder protection, transfer equipment, bypass and isolation provisions, and surge protection for emergency and standby power systems. The course also discusses interconnection equipment, lighting system allowances, and electrical requirements associated with fire pumps and fire alarm systems. These topics provide an overview of how the NEC addresses the design and protection of electrical systems that support essential building safety functions.

PREREQUISITES

No prior knowledge is required.

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVES

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- List the options for fire protection of fire pump feeder circuits within buildings
- Describe the requirements for the permanent switching means required for certain emergency systems
- Explain when bypass and isolation are required for emergency system transfer switches
- List when fire protection of emergency system feeder circuits is required
- Discuss the allowances for Class 2 and Class 4 lighting in emergency systems
- Recall the rules for interconnection equipment for emergency systems
- Explain the requirements for Class 4 lighting in emergency systems
- Explain when bypass and isolation are required for legally required standby system transfer switches
- List the surge protection requirements for legally required standby systems
- Describe the new allowance for optional standby systems supplied by multimode inverters
- Indicate where the surge protective device for fire alarm control panels is required

COURSE OUTLINE

Chapter	Minutes
Introduction	2
Article 695 Fire Pumps	9
Chapter 7 Specific Conditions and Systems - Article 700 Emergency Systems	28
Article 701 Legally Required Standby Systems	5
Article 702 Optional Standby Systems	7
Article 760 Fire Alarm Systems	2
Conclusion	2
Course Total	55
+ Study Exercises (TS)/Checkpoints (RV) (10% Course Total)	5.5

= Grand Total	60.5
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AVAILABILITY

This course is offered online and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY & EVALUATION

This course is self-paced online training. Review exercises reinforce the content, and students are evaluated with a multiple-choice exam. Upon completion, students are prompted to submit a course evaluation.

REFERENCES

2026 NEC Code Book