
FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING SAFETY COMMISSION
Department of Homeland Security

Written Interpretation of the State Building Commissioner

Interpretation #: CEB-2021-40-2009 IEC-210.11(C)(1)

Building or Fire Safety Law Interpreted

[675 IAC 17-1.8](#) Indiana Electrical Code, 2009 Edition, Article 210.11 Branch Circuits Required.

(C) Dwelling Units.

(1) Small-Appliance Branch Circuits. In addition to the number of branch circuits required by other parts of this section, two or more 20-ampere small-appliance branch circuits shall be provided for all receptacle outlets specified by 210.52(B).

Issue

Whether the small-appliance branch circuit requirement of Article 210.11(C)(1) of the *2009 Indiana Electrical Code* (IEC) applies to residential units that do not contain permanent provisions for cooking.

Interpretation of the State Building Commissioner

The small-appliance branch circuit requirement of Article 210.11(C)(1) of the *2009 IEC* does not apply to residential units that do not contain permanent provisions for cooking.

Rationale

The small-appliance branch circuit requirements of Article 210.11(C)(1) apply only to dwelling units. "Dwelling Units" is defined in Article 100 of the *2009 IEC* as "a single unit, providing complete and independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation.". A residential unit lacking what are commonly considered necessary and typical permanent (i.e., non-portable) cooking appliances such as an oven and a range/cooktop cannot be considered to contain permanent provisions for cooking. Such units do not meet the definition of dwelling unit, eliminating them from regulation under Article 210.11(C).

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