

2018 CANADIAN ELECTRICAL CODE

SUBJECT: Section 26 - Installation of electrical equipment

Rule 26-600 Location of panelboards

Concerns were expressed with the requirement for mounting panelboards in dwelling units with no overcurrent device being more than 1.7 m above finished floor level. This could create a situation where the non-metallic-sheathed branch circuit cables may come within the 1.5m from the floor described in Rule 12-518.

The rationale for Rule 26-600 is for panelboards to be located in areas where they will not be subject to damage and be readily accessible. The rationale for Rule 12-518 is to protect cables from mechanical damage when they come within 1.5m of the floor or be installed in a location where there is no potential for damage. Given that panelboards are installed in an area not subject to damage, then the non-metallic-sheathed cable entering the panelboard would meet the intent of Rule 12-518, not requiring additional mechanical protection.

Rule 26-706 Tamper-resistant receptacles

Receptacles in child care facilities

A child care facility is a facility which requires a license under the Alberta Child Care Licensing Act & Regulations.

Rule 26-724 d) iv) Receptacles for dwelling units

Safety codes officers have raised concerns about the possibility of damage to non-metallic sheathed cable feeding receptacles in island counters not permanently fixed to the building structure.

Some building contractors are designing island counters so that they may be easily moved to different locations in a kitchen. A movable island counter is not a “**fixed island counter**” and therefore does not require a receptacle as outlined in Rule 26-724 d) iv). Island counters are deemed to be “**fixed**” when secured to the structure with nails, screws or equivalent method.

Electrical contractors should consult with the building contractor to determine if the kitchen island counter is movable or fixed, and should only install receptacles in fixed island counters.

Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by
the Provincial Electrical Administrator

[Original Signed]

Clarence C. Cormier, P.Eng.



Alberta
Government