



## NC STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

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# EXAM PREPARATION FAQ

## What books do I need to study?

1. National Electrical Code, 2020 edition.
2. National Fire Alarm Code, 2013 edition (*Required for the Limited, Intermediate, Unlimited, SP -SFD, SP -FA/LV only*).
3. Electrical Contractors Licensing Law (*General Statutes Chapter 87, Article 4*). Located in Exam Handbook.
4. The Board's Rules for the Implementation of the Electrical Contractors Licensing Law (*Title 21, North Carolina Administrative Code, Chapter 18B*). Located in Exam Handbook.
5. NASCLA Contractors' Guide to Business, Law and Project Management: North Carolina Electrical Edition.
6. Lighting and Power Plans (*Required for the Limited, Intermediate, and Unlimited classifications only*).

## Where can I find the books I need?

1. **National Electrical Code, 2020 Edition**
  - Purchase from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) at <https://catalog.nfpa.org>.
2. **Laws Applicable to Electrical Contractors in North Carolina (General Statutes, Chapter 87, Article 4) and the Board's Rules (Title 21, NCAC, Chapter 18B)**
  - Both are included in the Examination Information Handbook: download at [www.ncbeec.org/examinations/](http://www.ncbeec.org/examinations/).
  - OR you can find both on our Laws & Rules page here: [www.ncbeec.org/](http://www.ncbeec.org/).
3. **Lighting and Power Plans**
  - Plans are included at the back of the Examination Information Handbook.
  - Download the handbook at [www.ncbeec.org/examinations/](http://www.ncbeec.org/examinations/).
4. **NASCLA Contractors Guide to Business, Law and Project Management: North Carolina Electrical Contractors' Edition**
  - Purchase from the NASCLA online bookstore at [www.nascla.org/store/](http://www.nascla.org/store/).
5. **National Fire Alarm Code, 2013 Edition**
  - Required for the Limited, Intermediate, Unlimited, SP-SFD and SP-FA/LV classifications only.
  - Purchase from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) at <https://catalog.nfpa.org>.

## How should I begin studying?

1. Start with the Examination Information Handbook. Read the handbook in its entirety, cover to cover. This will be your most valuable resource!
2. Use the examination content outline found in the Handbook under *Examination Subject Matter Scope* as the basis of your study.

## What else can I do to prepare for my exam?

1. **Study frequently!**
  - Your studies will be most effective if you study daily for around an hour per day.
2. **Study an illustrated guide** for exam preparation book (you can search for one online).
  - Many books are available that show illustrations associated with difficult to understand concepts, calculations, grounding and bonding etc.
3. **Practice your calculations!**
  - The more experience you gain, the easier the calculations will be when taking the exam.
4. **Consider attending a course** such as a Board approved continuing-education course or an exam prep course.
  - There are many approved continuing-education courses available that review the NEC and major concepts. (THE BOARD DOES NOT OFFER A PREP CLASS and we cannot recommend any specific class to you, but you can search for one in your area online.)
  - To find an approved course, use the *CE Class Search* function on our homepage at [www.ncbeec.org](http://www.ncbeec.org).