Permit Center
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
phone: 360-778-8300
fax: 360-778-8301
www.cob.org

Class B Electrical Program

A pilot project for the City of Bellingham

City of Bellingham Program Information

This is a pilot program for the City. It is similar to Labor & Industries program, but all users should understand that:

■ This is a pilot program running from May 2, 2011 to April 30, 2012.

■ Labels may be used for Class B electrical work on residential or commercial jobs

■ The scope of work for each label may not exceed a valuation of $5,000

■ Fees are based on the number of labels purchased in each transaction:

- 1-4 labels: $107 per label
- 5-9 labels: $80.25 per label
- 10+ labels: $53.50 per label

■ A $107 per trip charge may be added if re-inspection is required

■ Noncompliance with the NEC may result in removal of a contractor from the program

For more information:

If you have questions about Class B labels, contact the Permit Center.

210 Lottie St
Bellingham, WA 98225

www.cob.org ❖ 360-778-8300
permits@cob.org

We want your feedback!

Please direct comments to:

Jim Tinner, Building Official
jetinner@cob.org

Electrical contractors and electricians

If you use Class B labels, please understand these points before using a label:

■ Class B basic electrical work is basic electrical that requires minimal electrical circuit modification, has limited exposure hazards, and may be inspected on a random basis.

■ Do not work out of your allowed scope of work.

■ You must follow all the rules for using Class B labels.

■ The specific rules for use of the Class B labels are in WAC 296-46B-900.

Electrical contractors, assigned administrators and master electricians

You are the primary responsible party for using Class B labels properly.

■ You are responsible for using and posting permits when they are required.

■ You are responsible for ensuring your electricians use and fill in Class B labels properly.

■ Safeguard your Class B labels. They are valuable, and someone else might use them if they are lost or stolen.

■ Return the contractor portion of a Class B label to the Permit Center within one week of when it is used or within 5 days when voided or destroyed.

■ You cannot give or resell a Class B label to anyone for use outside your company.

■ There is no refund for unused Class B labels.

■ Failure to comply with the law might result in written warnings or citations to you.
■ Labels are valid only within the code cycle in which they are sold. It is your responsibility to ensure your label is valid before using.

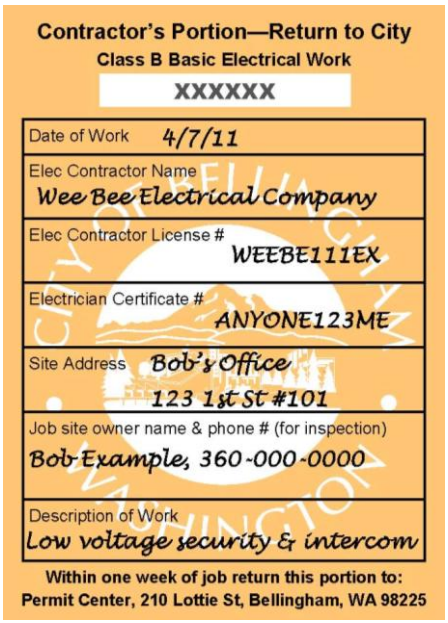
Electricians and telecommunications workers

If you use a Class B label, you are also a responsible party.

■ You are responsible for using and posting permits when they are required.
■ You are responsible for using and filling in Class B labels properly.
■ After you have used a Class B label, you must give your contractor the filled in contractor portion of the label.
■ Except for telecommunications workers, the electrician, or in the case of an unsupervised trainee installing a thermostat cable, the worker's certification number must be written on both copies of the Class B label. Nobody other than the person actually doing the work should fill in the label. Telecommunications workers must put their name in the certification area.
■ Failure to comply with the law might result in written warnings or citations to you.

General instructions for using Class B labels

■ The worker doing the installation must fill in and post the Class B label before beginning work. The Class B label must be completely filled in.
■ Attach the Site portion of the Class B label to the electrical panel, the overcurrent device that supplies power to the affected circuit/equipment, or the equipment itself.
■ Do the work. After completing the work, return the contractor portion of the Class B label to the contractor.
■ The contractor must return the Contractor portion of the Class B label to the Permit Center within one week after it was posted at the jobsite.
■ If an inspection is made, the Permit Center will attempt to arrange access and make the inspection based on the information on the portion of the Class B label returned to the Permit Center. If the inspection cannot be arranged, the contractor must arrange access for the inspector.



How to fill in a Class B label

■ All fields must be filled in completely and accurately. Do not forget any field.
■ The certificate number is the worker's number, not the contractor's or administrator's certificate number.
■ Make certain that the owner's information is complete and accurate. This is critical in arranging an inspection.
■ Make certain the description of work is complete and includes all work done on the label, e.g., thermostat, furnace change, circuit extension.

Class B basic electrical work

Allowed work under this program is defined in WAC 296-46B-908 and includes the following:

■ Extension of not more than one branch electrical circuit limited to 120 volts and 20 amps each where:

(A) No cover inspection is necessary. For the purposes of this section, cover inspection does not include work covered by any surface that may be removed for inspection without damaging the surface; and

(B) The extension does not supply more than two outlets as defined by the NEC.

■ Like-in-kind replacement of:

(A) A single luminaire not exceeding 277 volts and 20 amps; or

(B) A motor larger than 10 horsepower; or

(C) The internal wiring of a furnace, air conditioner, refrigeration unit or household appliance; or

(D) An electric/gas/oil furnace not exceeding 240 volts and 100 amps when the furnace is connected to an existing branch circuit. For the purposes of this section, a boiler is not a furnace; or

(E) An individually controlled electric room heater (e.g., baseboard, wall, fan forced air, etc.), air conditioning unit or refrigeration unit not exceeding 240 volts, 30 minimum circuit amps when the unit is connected to an existing branch circuit; or

(F) Circuit modification required to install not more than five residential load control devices in a residence where installed as part of an energy conservation program sponsored by an electrical utility and where the circuit does not exceed 240 volts and 30 amps.

■ The following low voltage systems:

(A) Repair and replacement of devices not exceeding 100 volt-amperes in Class 2, Class 3, or power limited low voltage systems in one- and two-family dwellings; or

(B) Repair and replacement of devices not exceeding 100 volt-amperes in Class 2, Class 3, or power limited low voltage systems in other buildings, provided the equipment is not for fire alarm or nurse call systems and is not located in an area classified as hazardous by the NEC; or

(C) The installation of Class 2 or 3 device(s) or wiring for thermostat, audio, security, burglar alarm, intercom, amplified sound, public address, or access control systems. This does not include fire alarm, nurse call, lighting control, industrial automation/control or energy management systems; or

(D) Telecommunications cabling and equipment requiring inspection in RCW 19.28.470;

■ The replacement of not more than ten standard receptacles with GFCI receptacles;

■ The conversion of not more than ten snap switches to dimmers for the use of controlling a luminaire(s) conversion.

*Class B basic electrical work **does not include** any work in:*

■ Areas classified as Class I, Class II, Class III, or Zone locations per NEC 500; or

■ Areas regulated by NEC 517 or 680; or

■ Any work where electrical plan review is required; or

■ Fire alarm, nurse call, lighting control, industrial automation/control or energy management systems.