



City of Fairfax
Fire Department
Office of Code Administration
10455 Armstrong St. #208
Fairfax, VA 22030

LOW VOLTAGE WIRING AND EQUIPMENT

1. Low Voltage wiring and equipment is exempt from Application for Permit when:
 - a. Installation of wiring and equipment that operates at less than 50 volts,
 - b. Installation of wiring and equipment that is for broadband communications systems,
 - c. Installation of wiring and equipment that is installed by a publicly regulated utility service [Ref. VCC Section 102.3(1) for additional information],
 - d. Installation of wiring and equipment that is installed for radio, broadcast, telecommunications wireless transmission [Ref. VCC Section 102.3(4) for additional information]
 - e. Installation of wiring and equipment that is installed for monitoring or automation systems in dwelling units.
2. Low Voltage wiring and equipment is **NOT EXEMPT** from Application for Permit when:
 - a. Any such installations noted in #1 above are located in a plenum (a separate space provided for air circulation for heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning and usually provided in the space between the structural floor and a drop-down ceiling. A plenum may also be under a raised floor),
 - b. Any such installations noted in #1 above penetrate fire rated or smoke protected construction
 - c. Any such installations noted in #1 above are a component of any of the following:
 - i. Fire alarm system.
 - ii. Fire detection system.
 - iii. Fire suppression system.
 - iv. Smoke control system.
 - v. Fire protection supervisory system.
 - vi. Elevator fire safety control system.
 - vii. Access or egress control system or delayed egress locking or latching system.
 - viii. Fire, smoke and/or combination damper.
 - ix. Door control system.

- d. Any such installation noted in #1 above that requires permanent connection to the building electrical system.
- 3. Installation of wiring, equipment, or components of such as noted in #2 above requires one or more of the following Application for Permits.
 - a. Electrical (permanent connection to the building electrical system)
 - b. Building (located in plenum, penetration of rated construction)
 - c. Fire Alarm (fire alarm system, elevator fire safety controls, access control, door release, special locking / latching system, fire, smoke and/or combination dampers, two-way communication system)