



A Word from the Chair

What's the Going Rate for Electricians in Minnesota?

by Clayton Schenck, Chair, Board of Directors

Everybody wants to know the going rate for electricians these days! We'll let you know in April! Over the next few weeks the Electrical Association staff will be collecting Wage & Benefit Surveys for 2021. Please return the enclosed survey to their office before **MARCH 31**, and in early April you'll receive your copy of the Wage & Benefit Report.

Data collected includes the following:

- Compensation by Union / Open-shop
- Compensation for Journeyworkers and Apprentices
- Health insurance and retirement packages
- Perks offered

The Electrical Association's goal is to always provide the best products and services for its members and the industry. Your information will remain **completely anonymous**. Participants will be identified only by the general area of Minnesota in which their business is located.

You will learn what other employers in your area are offering their journeyworkers and apprentices (pay, vacation, retirement, health insurance, etc.) as well as employers located around the state.

Please take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to answer the survey. The more responses we receive, the better the data we can provide. Members who choose not to participate can purchase a report for \$49.

Chair—cont. on pg 3

\$10 Million Available in Lighting Rebates for 2021

Get substantial rebates for your customers through the Center for Energy and Environment's *One-Stop Efficiency Shop*® lighting program. Sponsored by Xcel Energy, the program offers business owners:

- Rebates up to 60% of installed cost
- Below market-rate financing
- Completion and submittal of all rebate & financing paperwork

For more information or to see if your customers qualify contact:
Cindy Kelly | 612-244-2427 | ckelly@mncee.org



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From the Executive Director

Do you want to be a hero to your employees? Do you need to attract new talent?

by Clara Albert, CAE, Executive Director

First and foremost, thank you for your loyalty and dedication to the Association by continuing to be a member and supporting the industry

through your dues dollars. We use the profits of the Association to continue to enhance the products and services for you and your business. We have developed two brand new offerings that you may want to review.

Offering benefits is key in attracting and keeping the electrical talent you have worked so hard to develop. Employees consider health insurance and benefits when accepting a job as well as when considering leaving for another shop.

401(k) Savings Plan (MEP)

We have teamed up with the Northwestern Lumber Association to provide an opportunity for you to start a 401(k) for yourself and your employees. Fiduciary liability, plan expenses, and

many administrative activities will be managed by the program. Enjoy the benefits of matching contributions and safe harbor options at a fraction of the cost. See their ad on page 3 and contact Dan Gardner for details at (612) 743-4961 or dgardner@fscadvisor.com.

Health Insurance

Maybe you already offer health insurance, but are looking for a more economical option. Maybe you would like to increase the options, flexibility and coverage while simplifying the amount of paperwork on your end. We've teamed up with the professionals at North Risk Partners to offer you a health insurance plan called Trovia. It is a pre-tax plan that can reduce the employer's FICA costs and the employee's state & federal tax amounts. It allows the employee more flexibility in choice of coverage. See their ad below for details and contact Gary Helm at (651) 379-7906 or gary.helm@northriskpartners.com.

Director—cont. on pg 3



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Contact Gary Helm to learn about Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements (ICHRA) and their benefits platform powered by TROVIA

(651) 379-7906 | GARY.HELM@NORTHRISKPARTNERS.COM

Chair—cont. from pg 1

If you prefer to participate in the survey online, you can find it on Survey Monkey:

www.SurveyMonkey.com/r/Q6WT9Y8

Thank you to Northwestern Lumber Association and North Risk Partners for sponsoring the 2021 Wage & Benefit Report. We have teamed up with these professionals in order to offer our members a wonderful opportunity to provide a 401(k) and health insurance to their own employees!

Learn a little more about these companies in their ads below. If you have any questions you can call Michelle (612-827-6117) or you can contact the companies directly at the information provided in their ads below.



Director—cont. from pg 2

Increased Advocacy for Membership

Michelle Dreier came to the Electrical Association as a Compliance & Workforce Development expert. Her role in Government Affairs has continued to morph and grow as would be expected with her expertise in the regulatory process. In 2021, she will become our primary lobbyist advocating for membership at the Capitol and administrative agencies such as MN DLI and Commerce. As the Association’s Member Engagement Manager, she has had hundreds of conversations with members about business needs and what would make

the electrical industry better. Her knowledge, industry expertise and wherewithal puts us in a great position as Government Affairs continues to be a high priority for our membership. We appreciate all of the work that **Bill Strusinski** has done for the Association for the past couple of decades, and we look forward to the future with our own lobbyist on staff!

We are grateful to continue being your resource for information and resources as you run successful contracting businesses.



Electrical Association Multiple Employer 401(k) Savings Plan (MEP)
 This MEP brings together member plans into one group 401(k) managed by our partners at Northwestern Lumber Association. That means you can hand over many of those responsibilities—freeing you up to spend your time where it counts: **focused on your business.**

The Electrical Association 401(k) MEP delivers:

- ✓ Competitive cost
- ✓ Less administrative work
- ✓ Relief from fiduciary obligations while maintaining your current plan design

Already offer a 401(k)? Considering a plan for your employees? Find out if the Electrical Association 401(k) MEP is right for your company.

Dan Gardner
 612-743-4961
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2021 Education Calendar

Masters! We've added a ton of dates to help you fit 16 CE into your busy schedule—Due Feb 28!

CODE TRAINING Based on the 2020 NEC®

16 Continuing Ed. Credits

Classroom—Multi-State Approval; check our website. (2 days; 8am-5pm)

- Feb 4-5 St Cloud** Code Highlights; You Be the Inspector ***NEW!** Mike Miller, Trainer.
Feb 11-12 Worthington Code Highlights; Motor Installations; NFPA 70E (incl 4 Tech CEs). Mike Miller.
Feb 18-19 Baxter Grounding & Bonding, Motor Install Reqt's, Overcurrent Protection. Jeff Kunkel, Trainer.
Feb 26-27 Marshall Code Highlights; You Be the Inspector ***NEW!** Mike Miller, Trainer.

8 Continuing Ed Credits

South Dakota Classroom with Mike Miller, Trainer—Multi-State Approval; check our website. (1 day; 8am-5pm)

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|---|--|
| Feb 6 Watertown. You Be the Inspector. | Feb 13 Aberdeen. Code Highlights. |
| Feb 20 Sioux Falls. Grounding & Bonding. | Feb 27 Brookings. Code Highlights. |
| March 20 Mitchell. Code Highlights. | March 27 Yankton. You Be the Inspector. |

Live, Online—Multi-State Approval; check our website.

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|-------------------------|--|
| Feb 19 (8AM-5PM) | 2020 NEC® Overcurrent Protection, Motor Installations. Mike Miller, Trainer. |
| Feb 20 (8AM-5PM) | 2020 NEC® Grounding & Bonding, Parts 1-4. Tim Zinniel, Trainer. |

2 & 4 Continuing Ed Credits

Live, Online—Multi-State Approval; check our website.

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|--------------------------|---|
| Feb 10 (8AM-10AM) | 2020 NEC® Motor Installations. Tim Zinniel, Trainer • More Dates Online! |
|--------------------------|---|

Self-Paced Online Anytime, Anywhere—MN-State Approval

Grounding & Bonding • Overcurrent Protection • You Be the Inspector, Pt 1-2 (4 CE) • Code Highlights, Pt 1-2 (4 CE)

EXAM PREP COURSES Based on the 2020 NEC®

- Feb 20-21 Bloomington** at Federated Insurance. 2020 NEC®. Chad Kurdi, Trainer.
Feb - Apr 9-week online course Feb 4 through April 15. Live, online training with Jeff Keljik.

PLUS Online Options at www.electricalassociation.com/examprep






ARE YOU ENROLLED IN DSG PLUS?

We invite you to enroll in our rewards program, **DSG Plus**. We appreciate your loyalty and partnership and want to help you achieve your next destination! Request a **DSG Plus** account today by visiting DSGSupply.com and start getting rewarded!

100% EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY  More information at DSGSUPPLY.COM

Who Will Benefit:

Anyone concerned with electrical safety including safety managers, electrical engineers, plant managers, facility maintenance personnel, electricians, electrical contractors, electrical inspectors, risk managers, and project managers.

The safety of your employees and customers is of the utmost importance to your company!

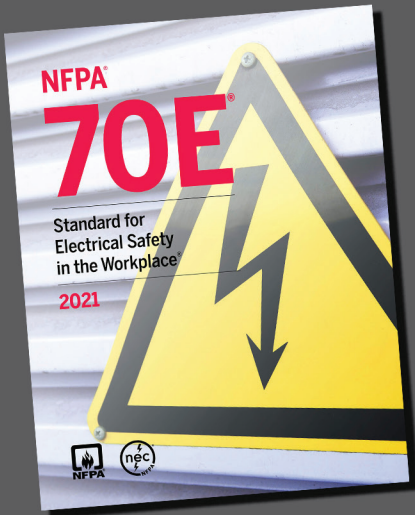
- Save Lives & Increase Employee Loyalty
- 70E testing provides documentation of training
- Licensed - Qualified – Experienced instructor will keep your employees interested and engaged



PRIVATE CLASSROOM

Our trainer will come to your location. We can customize safety training for your workplace and your employees!

Call Alex to schedule private NFPA 70E training: (612) 827-6117



Keep your Workplace Safe—
with NFPA 70E Updated for 2021!

- The latest on effects of arc flash, arc blast, dc hazards, PPE
- Helps you comply with OSHA 1910 Subp S and 1926 Subp K

\$76 Nonmembers // \$74 Members
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(\$79 retail)

**** MEMBERS ****

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