

Q. When and where are GFCI's required by the NC Electrical Code?

A. This is how the requirements for GFCI's have progressed over the years. **Keep in mind that all previous years plus the new requirements make up the current code.**

1968 NEC

GFCI's First permitted as one of the methods of protection for underwater swimming pool lights. Class B GFCI's were developed for use with fixtures prior to 1968 NEC

1971 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Within 20 feet of the pool wall, For underwater pool lights, power to storable pools, constructions sites effective 1974

1975 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Dwelling unit bathrooms, Outdoor receptacles on dwelling units

1978 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Dwelling unit garages, health care facilities (wet locations), mobile homes: outdoors, bathrooms, RV's bathrooms, tub and shower area,

6 feet of sink, exterior of RV, RV Site equipment, Marinas and boatyards, fountains (lighting and submersible equipment), cord and plug-connected fountains, Lighting within 5 feet of a pool

1981 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Within 10 feet of a spa or hot tub, within 5 feet of a therapeutic pool, supplies to a indoor spa or hot tub.

Other Requirements: Outdoor portable signs, lighting over a spa or hot tub, therapeutic pools

1984 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Replacement receptacles, hotel/motel bathrooms, Other requirements: Electrically operated pool covers

1987 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements:

Basements, kitchen sinks (within 6 foot of),
boathouses, commercial garages.

Other requirements: High-pressure spray washers, hydro-massage bathtubs

1990 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Crawl spaces

1993 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Wet bar sinks, all bathrooms, roof tops, elevator machines rooms, elevator car tops, elevator pits.

Other requirements: Spa's and Hot Tubs

1996 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements for Dwelling units: All outdoor receptacles, all kitchen counter top receptacles, all unfinished accessory buildings, all temporary wiring for construction, remodeling, maintenance, repair, demolition or similar activities.

All receptacles within 5 feet of a hydro-massage bath tub

1999 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Temporary wiring added 30 amp 125 volt receptacles, spa and hot tub specified self contained packaged and field assembled units must have GFCI protection, fountains, electric signs located within a fountain.

Carnival, Circus and Fairs – All 15 and 20 ampere 125 volt receptacles that are in use by personnel must be protected by listed GFCI device. Also permitted to be a part of the cord set

2002 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Kitchens other than dwelling units. A kitchen is defined as any area with a sink and Permanent facilities for food preparation and cooking. All bathroom / restroom areas in airports, commercial buildings, industrial facilities, and non-dwelling occupancies. Roof tops of all non-dwelling occupancies that have heating and air condition equipment.

2005 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacles Requirements: Within 6 feet of the outside edge, in any direction of any laundry sink, bar sink or vegetable sink. All Outdoor Public Spaces that is accessible to the public.

2008 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacles in Commercial facilities within six ft. of a sink. Electric drinking fountains, vending machines and direct wired pool motots

2011 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacles in Commercial facilities for indoor wet locations, in locker rooms with associated showers and for garages and service bays and similar areas.

2014 NEC

all 15 & 20 amp 120 volt receptacles in 6' of a sink in other than kitchens shall have GFCI protection, all 15 & 20 amp 120 volt receptacles in 6' of a shower or tub outer edge shall have GFCI protection, all 15 & 20 amp 120 volt receptacles in a laundry area shall have GFCI protection, all 15 & 20 amp 120 volt receptacles in commercial garages shall have GFCI protection except for showrooms and vehicle exhibition halls, all tire inflation and vacuum machines provided for public use shall now have GFCI protection, high pressure spray washer GFCI protection has been expanded to 3 phase equipment that is 60 amp or less, all vending machines must have GFCI protection.