

The logo features the NECA acronym with a stylized flag above it, followed by "North Florida Chapter" in a smaller font, and "CONNECTION" in large, bold, white capital letters. The background is a dark blue with a glowing circuit board pattern.

NECA North Florida Chapter CONNECTION

In an effort to keep Members up to date with what is happening at the local and National levels, the North Florida Chapter of NECA will be periodically issuing a newsletter throughout the year.

Membership Meetings

- August 18th

2020 Board of Directors

President: Henry Brown

Director: Stan Brandies

Vice President: Byron Overstreet

Director: Brent Zimmerman

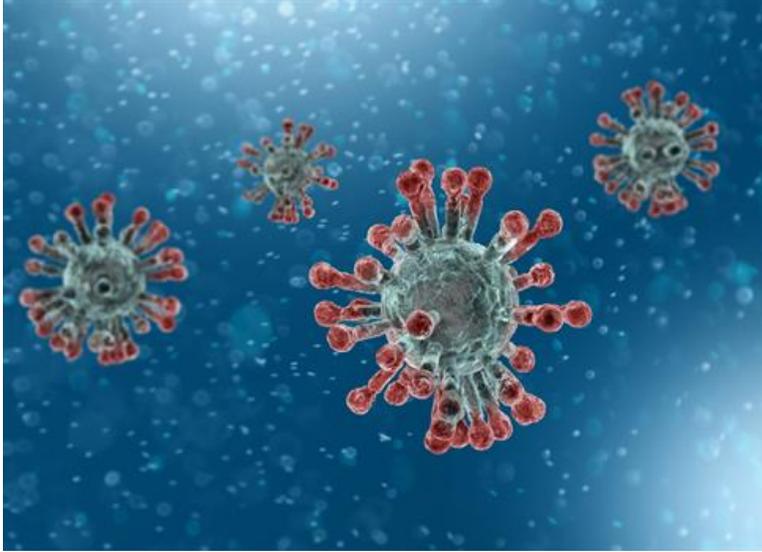
Governor: Edward Witt Jr.

Director: Scott Sullivan

Treasurer: Kevin Flanigan

Director: Brad Giles

Coronavirus Resource Center



NECA has collected numerous materials from a wide variety of sources to provide our contractors, chapters, and many partners with the most comprehensive information available. We will continue to monitor the situation and update the information on our [Google Drive page](#). All documents from the NECA website are compiled here into one PDF for convenience.

North Florida Offering Continuing Education 2020

July 22nd, 12pm - 4pm EST

Labor Cost- Convert Your Biggest Risk to Your Biggest Advantage

Case studies demonstrate common myths of field productivity due to a fundamental misunderstanding of what productivity really is. Case studies provide step by step illustration for participants to simply and clearly define productivity and production. Case studies illustrate methodologies for measuring and managing jobsite productivity for sustainable, breakthrough performance gains.

Following this course, participants will be able to:

- Define and appropriately measure productivity
- Define and understand the mechanics of production
- Understand blind spots existing project management approaches have to productivity improvement and what to do about it
- Gain an introductory understanding, based on case studies, of how to measure cost of lost production and how to implement effective improvement routines

This course will have a seating limit of 40 participants. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

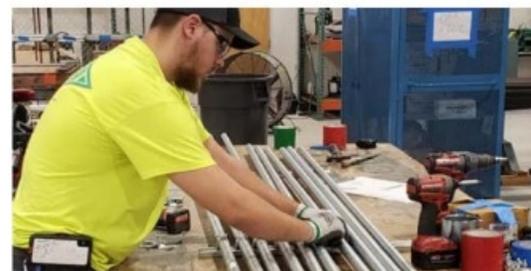
**Course will be held at NECA office: 4951 Richard St. Jacksonville, FL
32207**

Check out Powering America article posted in the newest edition of Innovate Jacksonville! Also available online as an ebook! [Check it out here.](#)



Electricity is a vital component of the American economy and way of life. The Powering America team supplies the determined, dependable talent that all this critical work requires. Between our 16,000 electrical contractors and 300,000 skilled construction professionals in the US, we have established a track record in virtually every electrical enterprise. This team consists of craftspeople who are members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and members of the National Electrical Contractors Association.

Critical to our every day lives but often operating in the background is industrial work: plants, factories, and refineries, each manufacturing or producing the things we use daily without a second thought. No team in the past 100 years has been more active than Powering America in building and maintaining the facilities that collectively make up America's industrial might. We understand the financial and environmental risk of the owner that must be satisfied before these facilities go online as well as have trained professionals with skills to complete these complex facilities successfully and safely.



EEOC Issues Updated COVID-19 Technical Assistance Publication Addressing Antibody Testing



U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Contains Q&A Linking to CDC Interim Guidelines on Antibody Testing

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) today posted an updated and expanded technical assistance publication addressing questions arising under the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Laws related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new question added to the publication, "[What You Should Know About COVID-19 and the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and Other EEO Laws](#)" explains that in light of current CDC Interim Guidelines, the ADA at this time does not allow employers to require antibody testing before allowing employees to re-enter the workplace. This information is provided in Q&A A.7.

Please note that an antibody test is different from a test to determine if someone has an active case of COVID-19 (i.e., a viral test). The EEOC has already stated that COVID-19 viral tests may be [permissible under the ADA](#).

In response to inquiries from the public, the EEOC has [provided resources on its website](#) related to the pandemic in an employment context. The agency will continue to monitor developments and provide assistance to the public as needed.

The EEOC advances opportunity in the workplace by enforcing federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination. More information is available at www.eeoc.gov. Stay connected with the latest EEOC news by subscribing to our [email updates](#).

Electrical Contractor License Renewal Resources

Here at NECA, we are working consistently to provide solutions for the difficulties that are being experienced in these hard times. With EC licencing renewals coming up, and current limitations on in-seat options, we have put together several resources that can be used to help contractors renew their EC license online.

<https://ez-ce.com/electrical-contractors-electricians-continuing-education-courses-license-renewal/> [Florida Renewals Only]

<https://www.mikeholt.com/previewstatecourses.php?id=20>

<https://www.tradesmance.com/florida-electrical-continuing-education#>

<https://www.electricallicenser renewal.com/Electrical-Continuing-Education-Courses.php?state=FL&trade=Electrical>

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions.

NECA 2020 Live

NECA 2020 LIVE

The show must go on!

In disappointing news, the 2020 NECA Convention and Trade Show set in Chicago has been canceled for the safety of the public. Unfortunately, the state of Illinois has not given McCormick Place approval to reopen, so NECA had to adjust. Our entire team is working to prepare a robust virtual event for our valued exhibitors, NECA members, and the entire electrical construction industry. This amazing virtual event will be streaming starting October 5th, and will run through the 7th. This event is still in the process of being put together. There will be several exhibit options to choose from and they will be presented in early July. Visit the [NECA 2020 Live](#) page for more information and any updates.

Electrical Training Alliance of Jacksonville 2020 Graduates

The Northeast Florida NECA membership is pleased to recognize the 2020 graduates of the Jacksonville Electrical Training Alliance. These dedicated men and women have completed a 5 year, State of Florida registered apprenticeship program where they mastered electrical theory, the National Electrical Code, leadership, Safety and OSHA, along with critical electrical systems including fire alarm, motors, controls, grounding and other emerging technologies. These graduates also spent many hours in the lab perfecting their hands on installation skills in conduit bending, circuitry, device installation, troubleshooting, transformers and other skills used on the job.

Congratulations on becoming Journeyman Electricians and we look forward to your contributions to our industry!

Armand, Hunter
Bartlett, Garrett
Gantt, Mark
Patacca, Matthew
Saucer, Derek
Spaulding, Kevin
Riddle, Ryan
Lambert, Jared
Madrid, James
Radford, Channing
Johns Iii, James
Brown, Monica
Crutcher, Dustin
Deleon, Jeremiah
Evans, Ryan
Geoghagan, Aaron
Hable, Vincent
Henson, Joshua

Logan, Joshua
Marell, William
McKendree, Christopher
Mickler, Aaron
Mitchell, Brandon
Morash, Willard
Morgan, Hunter
Neal, John
Nichols, John
Nolan Ii, Marcus
Noles, Casen
Pickering, Matthew
Schlachter Ii, Lee
Smith, Mark
Smith, Michaelangelo
Stephens, Dallas
Frost Jr., Rayford
Burt, Austin

Codes and Standards Report

In Compliance | National Electrical Code

How much electrical safety training do you need? More than you might think.

In October, a construction worker at a residential project in New Jersey was electrocuted and killed when scaffolding touched a high-tension power line. That same month, a worker at a construction site in Maryland died when the articulating boom he was operating reportedly touched a power line. In December, an Amtrak worker in New York died when he placed a ladder against a substation transformer that he thought was off, but was in fact still energized.

In light of these fatalities, we need to examine how much and what kind of electrical safety training employers are required to provide their employees, and what that training should accomplish. A common misconception is that a little training is all you need; I'm continually surprised by people who believe that an eight-hour course on [NFPA 70E®](#), [Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace®](#), qualifies them to do energized electrical work. It's a great place to start, but there's much more to learn. The idea that a minimal amount of safety training allows us to put ourselves or our employees into dangerous situations simply because they know how to pull on a set of personal protection equipment (PPE) is unfortunately very much alive in the electrical world.

A genuine understanding of the training that is necessary starts with the definition of a "qualified person" in NFPA 70E—one who has demonstrated skills and knowledge related to the construction and operation of electrical equipment and installations and has received safety training to identify the hazards and reduce the associated risk. NFPA 70E includes specific items that a qualified person must be trained on. They must be trained and knowledgeable in the construction and operation of equipment or a specific work method. They must be trained to identify the electrical hazards associated with that specific equipment or work method and be able to avoid them. They must demonstrate this knowledge to their employer who is ultimately the one who makes the determination that they are indeed qualified. Additionally, they must be trained in special precautionary techniques, the use of special tools such as insulated tools or test instruments, and any applicable policies or procedures.

This last part often comes from the employer's electrical safety program and can include procedures such as risk assessments, lockout/tagout procedures, and chain-of-command details related to approval of energized work. Selection, inspection, and proper use of any PPE is also critical, since even the act of placing equipment in an electrically safe work condition might require an employee to resort to PPE as a protection method. Qualified persons might also find themselves within the limited approach boundary—the distance at which a shock hazard exists—and must be able to identify exposed electrical parts and their operating voltage.

While standards like NFPA 70E lay out the basics for many of these topics, it is also often necessary to obtain site-specific information. When, for example, is energized work allowed or justified? NFPA 70E states that when an employee is within the limited approach boundary or interacts with equipment in a manner that poses an increased likelihood of an arc flash, the equipment must be placed in an electrically safe work condition. Exceptions to that rule exist—the risk may increase if the equipment is de-energized, or the task may be impossible without the power on—but many site-specific or employer-specific electrical safety programs prohibit energized work for any reason. In that case, qualified persons must receive training above and beyond what is contained in the standard itself.

NFPA 70E says that electrical safety training must be conducted in a classroom or on the job or through a combination of the two. Beyond that, the amount of training needed by an employee isn't specified—that depends solely on the electrical risk faced by the employee. Whatever training is undertaken must be enough for the employee to demonstrate to their employer that they meet the definition of a qualified person. This might mean four hours of training or 40 hours—ultimately, it's up to the employer.

Bottom line: Being a qualified person means knowing when to shut it off.

Apprenticeship Director Reports

Jacksonville Electrical JATC

To the members of the North Florida Chapter of N.E.C.A. -

The Electrical Training Alliance of Jacksonville is in the process of wrapping up our 2019-2020 school year. As of 6/29/20 only one class remains to complete their Final Exam out of the 14 classes held. Once this class has completed their exam, physical classes at the facility will not resume until the new class year begins in September. We hope that by the beginning of the new class year, the COVID-19 Virus will be significantly tempered.

During the implementation of the state quarantine and social distancing protocols, as recommended by the CDC, students worked diligently on their curriculum via online. Instructors were recommended to maintain weekly contact with students in the effort to maintain accountability and continue course work. When easing of quarantine procedures were recommended, classes returned on a limited basis following social distancing guidelines. This was needed so the proctored exams required in our standards could be administered. To ensure the safety of the students, we took measures to provide the best and safest environment possible for gathering.

Measures included...

- Limiting each of the classes to 1 night a week
- Splitting each class into two groups with each group assigned a specific class night
- Increased disinfecting practices by having the cleaning contractor at the facility 4 days a week.
- While at the facility, students only sit for the required proctored tests.

As a result, we are glad to report we had no outbreaks at the facility and only 1 apprentice tested positive when school returned due to job related exposure.

As for applications, we had another banner year with 363 total applicants as of the original deadline of May 17, 2020. This surpassed last year's number of 277. Due to the disruption caused by Covid-19, the Trustees extended the application deadline to June 19, 2020. The deadline extension by one month netted another 20 applications!! This gave us a final number of 383 for the Inside Program and 42 for the Voice, Data and Video Program.

This is a 19% increase based on the original deadline and a 38% increase with the extended deadline.

The Trustees will continue interviewing through the middle of July to select the best students for apprenticeship. We believe an increased presence in our recruiting, as well as advertisement funding by our J.L.M.C.C., are the main drivers for this.

We are glad to announce our new Assistant Training Director has started. Daniel McEachern was hired by the Trustees in April and he has hit the ground running. We know he will do a good job for us and his help was greatly needed due to how large our school has become and is continuing to grow.

As always am here to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact me if I can help with anything. On behalf of the Trustees of the Apprenticeship Committee, thank you for your continuing support.

Daniel Van Sickle
Apprenticeship and Training Director

Daytona Beach Electrical JATC

Hello from Daytona Beach.

This month once again the topic is COVID-19, This month we had Daytona State college inform us that they will have us continue distance learning for the fall semester.

We have 56 students working from home to complete their courses. We have been using the LMS system and online virtual Classroom to satisfy classroom hours. We had 20 applicants come in and we put 15 CW's to work. We put 3 apprentices to work and have 0 apprentices available.

We have resumed aptitude test and have continued doing virtual interviews. We also had had our committee meetings virtually.

Apprenticeship expansion has led to a redrawing of ATR (Apprenticeship Training Representation) on a state level. We have been transferred from region 2 to region 3 as of July 1,st 2020 and will no longer have Steve Lindas but instead will have Bill Lauver as our rep.

Looking Forward

- August 18th, 2020: **NECA Membership Meeting** Jacksonville, FL
- October 5-7th, 2020: **NECA 2020 Live Virtual**

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