

WHO IS ESA?

The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) exists to make sure that everyone in Ontario is safeguarded from electrical harm through education, regulation, and compliance. As an administrative authority acting on behalf of the Government of Ontario, ESA has specific responsibilities under the Electricity Act and the Safety and Consumer Statutes Administration Act.

ESA's primary activities are identifying and targeting leading causes of electrical risk; monitoring and enforcing regulations; promoting awareness, education, and training; and collaborating with stakeholders to improve electrical safety in Ontario.

ESA is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Ontario Electrical Safety Code; licensing of Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians; electrical distribution safety; and electrical product safety.



OUR VISION:

An Ontario where people can live, work, and play safe from electrical harm.

For more expert tips, as well as information about ESA, electrical inspections, and the right questions to ask to ensure your electrical work is done safely and according to the law, visit [esasafe.com](https://www.esasafe.com).

For more information or to file a notification of work, call **1-877-ESA-SAFE (372-7233)**.



**Electrical
Safety
Authority**



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What you need to know about

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS



Keeping you and your family safe

[esasafe.com](https://www.esasafe.com)

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS FOR YOUR SAFETY & PEACE OF MIND



Inspections are there for the safety of you and your family to help ensure electrical work complies with the Ontario Electrical Safety Code.

HIRING AN UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR IS DANGEROUS.



If they get hurt on the job, you're responsible.



Insurers may deny claims tied to unlicensed work.



Their work has been found to have 4X more safety issues when compared to an LEC.

HIRING A LICENSED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR (LEC) PROTECTS YOU.



If they get hurt on the job, they're responsible as they are insured and bonded.



They can provide an ESA Certificate that is useful for insurance and home resale.



They are licensed and have the expertise and equipment to do the job safely.

THREE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hire only a Licensed Electrical Contractor (LEC).

By law in Ontario, if you hire someone to do electrical work it must be an LEC. Their licence number proves they are qualified, trained and WSIB-insured for the job. This number should be on their business card, estimate and their vehicle—always ask to see it!

You can verify or find an LEC in your area at findacontractor.esasafe.com.



Ensure you file a notification of work (i.e. permit) with ESA.

Almost all electrical work requires a notification to ESA. An electrical notification of work creates a permanent record of the electrical work that has been done in your home and triggers a review process by ESA. This is an added safeguard for you and your family.



Ask for an ESA Certificate of Acceptance.

This document is important for resale, insurance and peace of mind. Only ESA can issue a Certificate of Acceptance for electrical work in Ontario. The certificate is issued to the notification holder once the review process is complete.

No matter if your project is big or small, complex or simple, a Certificate of Acceptance provides peace of mind that your work has been reviewed by ESA.

THE ESA NOTIFICATION & INSPECTION PROCESS

ESA inspectors review all notifications and assess the need for an inspection (in-person or remote). This helps ensure electrical work complies with the Code, all in service of keeping you and your family safe from harm.

1 NOTIFICATION OF WORK

Whoever is doing the electrical work (you or your Licensed Electrical Contractor) must file a notification of work (i.e. permit) with ESA. This creates a permanent record of the electrical work that has been done in your home. Note: An ESA notification is different than a building permit, as a building permit does not cover electrical work.

To file a notification, call 1-877-ESA-SAFE (372-7233).

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

ESA inspectors review and assess the electrical installation, product or device described in the notification. The nature of the inspection is based on several aspects, including the complexity of the project and who is doing the electrical work. Depending on the level of risk involved in the electrical wiring work, the ESA inspector will determine the most appropriate response, including whether an in-person visit is required.

3 FINAL INSPECTION

The notification holder must call ESA for a final review of the work as soon as possible once the electrical installation is complete and all identified defects (if any) have been corrected.

4 CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE

Once the electrical work has been reviewed, ESA will issue a Certificate of Acceptance to the notification holder. The Certificate is an important document that may be requested by a homeowner's insurance company.

REMEMBER: Do not conceal any wiring as part of your installation without prior approval from the ESA.

