

Lighting Products Frequently Asked Questions



What's Included?

What specific lighting products are covered by state or federal regulations?

California's Title 20

[§1605.1](#) of California's Appliance Efficiency Regulations (Title 20) adopts federal standards verbatim and therefore covers the same lighting products covered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). [§1605.3](#) lists state standards that lighting products that are sold or offered for sale in California must meet. Lighting products covered in either section must be certified to the California Energy Commission (CEC) [Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System \(MAEDbS\)](#).

California's Title 24, Part 6

Under California's Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code or Title 24, Part 6), LED light sources must be certified to the CEC before they can be claimed as "high efficacy," as defined by the [Energy Code's Joint Reference Appendix 8 \(JA8\)](#). [§110.9 \(e\)](#) states that, to qualify as high efficacy, a residential LED luminaire or LED light engine must be certified to the CEC.

Certification to the CEC MAEDbS is required. LED luminaires must also have the following data reported: LED Light Output; LED Efficacy; Nominal Color Correlated Temperature (CCT); and Color Rendering Index (CRI).

What's Changed?

2021 Changes: Effective March 2021

- ✦ Self-contained lighting controls are no longer regulated by Title 20. They are now fully regulated under Title 24, Part 6, [§§110.0, 110.1, and 110.9](#).
- ✦ Portable luminaires no longer have a minimum light output requirement.

2023 Changes: Effective April 2023

- ✦ Self-contained lighting controls are no longer regulated by Title 20. They are now fully regulated under Title 24, Part 6, [§§110.0, 110.1, and 110.9](#).
- ✦ Portable luminaires are no longer regulated by Title 20.

2025 Changes: Effective January 2025

Florescent Lighting Ban

Effective January 1, 2024, Assembly Bill (AB) 2208 banned screw and bayonet base type compact florescent lamps. On January 1, 2025, pin-base compact florescent lamps and linear fluorescent lamps are also not allowed to be sold or distributed in California.

Listing these lamp types in MAEDbS indicates compliance with Title 20 but does not exempt a product from other California or federal laws, including AB 2208. Products that have been previously certified and still maintain certification in MAEDbS are not necessarily legal to sell or distribute in California if they do not meet the requirements of AB 2208.

Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDbs)

The CEC's [MAEDbs](#) lists a variety of products certified as meeting Title 20 and Title 24, Part 6 requirements, including lighting control devices, lamps, ballasts, and ceiling fan light kits.

This online database of products certified to the CEC has a [Quick Search](#) function allowing users to search by product type, brand, or model name.



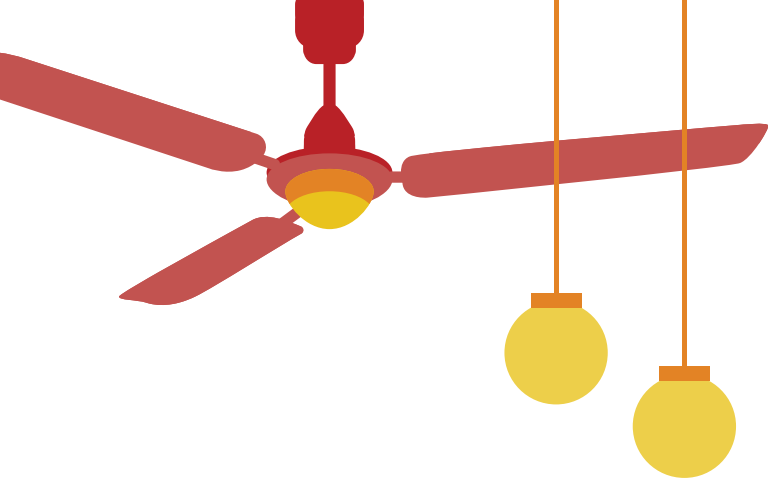
Title 20-Regulated Lighting Products

Section 1605.1 Federal and State Standards for Federally-Regulated Appliances:

- ✦ Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts
- ✦ General Service Fluorescent Lamps
- ✦ Illuminated Exit Signs
- ✦ Traffic Signal Modules and Traffic Signal Lamps Torchieres
- ✦ Metal Halide Lamp Fixtures
- ✦ Ceiling Fan Light Kits
- ✦ Mercury Vapor Lamp Ballasts

Section 1605.3 State Standards for Non-Federally-Regulated Appliances:

- ✦ State-regulated LED Lamps
- ✦ State-regulated Small Diameter Directional Lamps
- ✦ General Service Lamps, including:
 - » General Service Incandescent Lamps
 - » Modified Spectrum Incandescent Lamps
 - » Incandescent Reflector Lamps
 - » Integrated Light Emitting Diode Lamps
 - » Organic Light Emitting Diode Lamps
 - » Medium Base Compact Fluorescent Lamps
 - » GU-24 Base Lamps
 - » Candelabra Base Incandescent Lamps
 - » Intermediate Base Incandescent Lamps
 - » Rough Service Lamps
 - » Vibration Service Lamps
- ✦ Deep-dimming Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts
- ✦ Metal Halide Luminaires
- ✦ Under-Cabinet Luminaires (commercial office only)
- ✦ GU-24 Adapters



What is the structure of the regulations for ceiling fan light kits?

Effective January 2020, ceiling fan light must be packaged with lamps to fill all sockets, and each basic model of lamp included and to each basic model of integrated solid-state light source included in the ceiling fan light kit, must meet minimum efficacy requirements. For more information, visit the [U.S. DOE Appliance and Equipment Standards Program site](#).

Federally-regulated lamps must be certified to the [U.S. DOE Compliance Certification Management System \(CCMS\)](#) and the [MAEDbS](#).

Who Needs to Comply – and How?

Are retailers responsible for complying with Title 20? How about installation contractors?

Yes and yes. Everyone in the sales chain – including manufacturers, distributors, retailers, contractors and importers – is responsible for ensuring regulated products are listed in the MAEDbS. Each party should independently determine applicable regulations for certain product types by referring to Title 20.

Do out-of-state retailers have to meet the Title 20 requirements if they sell lighting products to someone in California via an internet or mail order sale?

Yes. Products sold online from out-of-state retailers to California residents must meet Title 20 requirements since they are being offered for sale and sold into the state of California.

Do lighting showrooms or other retailers have to mark the products in some way to show that they meet the Title 20 requirements?

Currently, neither showrooms nor retailers are required to mark the products to indicate compliance with Title 20 requirements. However, they must ensure that regulated products are compliant by verifying that the model numbers of regulated products are listed in the MAEDbS prior to offering the products for sale in the state of California.

How about the product manufacturers – do they have labeling or marking requirements that have to be followed?

Title 20 specifies marking requirements for manufacturers in [§1607\(b\)](#), which states that the following must be “permanently, legibly, and conspicuously displayed on an accessible place on each unit” of the regulated appliance:

1. Manufacturer’s name or brand name or trademark
2. Model number
3. Date of manufacture, including year and month or smaller increment

[§§1607\(d\)\(5\)](#) and [1607\(d\)\(6\)](#) contain additional requirements for illuminated exit signs, luminaires (torchieres), and emergency lighting, respectfully.

Regulation and Enforcement

Who determines the regulations and why?

The CEC establishes all aspects of the Title 20 regulations. The CEC invites stakeholders to participate by submitting data, comments, and recommendations throughout various stages of the rulemaking process. The regulations aim to cost-effectively regulate certain appliances and equipment sold within the state to reduce the energy demand of California and provide benefits to consumers.

Who enforces the requirements?

The CEC maintains the authority to enforce Title 20 requirements and assess administrative civil penalties for noncompliance. Title 20 [§1609](#) outlines enforcement procedures for violations with Title 20 standards.

Compliance Resources

Where can I find specific requirements for each product? Is there a listing or website where these requirements are listed by type of product?

Currently, the standards can be found in the [California Code of Regulations \(WestLaw\)](#) or the [Energy Code Ace Reference Ace](#). Specifically, lighting standards are located in Title 20.

[§§1605.1 \(j\) through \(n\)](#) and [1605.3 \(j\) through \(n\)](#). [§§1601](#) and [1602](#) define the scope and definitions of appliances and equipment listed in Title 20.

How often are the Title 20 lighting product requirements updated – and when is the next update?

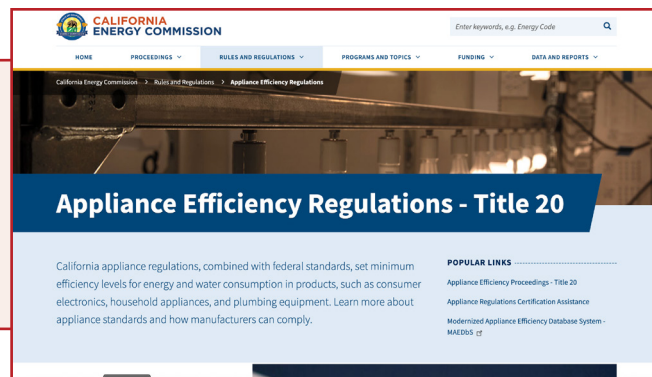
Title 20 standards are not updated according to a regular cycle. Although the Title 20 document is updated roughly every year to ensure that changes to the Federal standards are incorporated, most individual lighting standards are not changed this often. The frequency of updates for lighting products depends, in part, on how rapidly technologies are changing, but most specific lighting product standards can remain in effect for 3 to 10 years before they are updated.

If a particular product is not marked or labeled as Title 20 compliant, how can I find out if that product can be sold in my showroom?

Verifying compliance with Title 20 involves confirming that the model number of the appliance is listed in the MAEDbS. Depending on the date of manufacture of the product, it will be certified to the CEC as compliant with the applicable standard. If approved, the model number, along with manufacturer, brand, and other product metrics will be listed in the appropriate product listing in the MAEDbS. You can search for products from the MAEDbS landing page.

Appliance Efficiency Program

The [CEC's Appliance Efficiency Program site](#) offers numerous Title 20 resources, including information on enforcement and product requirements.



For More Information



**CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION**

energy.ca.gov

- ★ **Appliances Call Center:** (888) 838-1467 or outside California (916) 651-7100. Questions may also be emailed to appliances@energy.ca.gov
- ★ [California Appliance Efficiency Standards Site](#)
- ★ [Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System \(MAEDbs\)](#)

U.S. Department of Energy

- ★ [Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Appliance and Equipment Standards Program](#)
- ★ [Compliance Certification Management System \(CCMS\)](#)

Additional Resources

- ★ California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC) Guide – [Lighting Appliance Efficiency Regulations: What's New in the Title 20 Code?](#)



energycodeace.com

Your one-stop shop for no-cost tools, training, and resources to help you comply with California's Title 24, Part 6 building energy code and Title 20 appliance standards.



A suite of interactive tools to help you understand the compliance process, required forms, installation techniques, and energy efficiency regulations applicable to Title 20 and Title 24, Part 6

- ★ [Title 20 Reference Ace](#) - Navigate the Title 20 Standards using an index, keyword search, and hyperlinked text.



A portfolio of on-demand, live online, and in-person training on Title 20 and Title 24, Part 6, tailored to a variety of industry professionals to address key requirements

- ★ [Title 20 Training Ace](#)
- ★ [Title 20 Essentials: Using MAEDbs for Manufacturers](#)



An array of downloadable materials providing practical and concise guidance on how and when to comply with Title 20 and Title 24, Part 6

- ★ [Title 20 Basics - Manufacturers](#)
- ★ [Title 20 Basics - Retailers, Distributors, and Installers](#)
- ★ [MAEDbs 101](#)
- ★ [Title 20 Fact Sheet: State-regulated Lamps](#)

? Submit a Question – Get your Title 20 questions answered directly by experts. Select the 'Appliances' drop-down menu, navigate to 'Resources,' and select 'Submit a Question.'

Energy Code Ace is here to help you ensure your products meet Title 20 requirements. This website can help prevent issues that impact your sales and bottom line, including civil penalties under Title 20 Section 1609 for non-compliant products. Create an account on the Energy Code Ace website and select an industry role for your profile to receive messages about our offerings!



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