

**WAC 296-307-36615 What overcurrent protection must be provided?**

(1) The following requirements apply to overcurrent protection of circuits rated 600 volts, nominal, or less.

(a) Conductors and equipment must be protected from overcurrent according to their ability to safely conduct current.

(b) Except for motor running overload protection, overcurrent devices must not interrupt the continuity of the grounded conductor unless all conductors of the circuit are opened at the same time.

(c) Except for service fuses, all cartridge fuses that are accessible to other than qualified persons and all fuses and thermal cutouts on circuits over 150 volts to ground must have disconnecting means. This disconnecting means must be installed so that the fuse or thermal cutout can be disconnected from its supply without disrupting service to equipment and circuits unrelated to those protected by the overcurrent device.

(d) Overcurrent devices must be readily accessible to each employee or authorized building management personnel. These overcurrent devices must be located where they will be protected against physical damage and away from easily ignitable material.

(e) Fuses and circuit breakers must be located or shielded so that employees will not be burned or otherwise injured by their operation.

(f) Circuit breakers must meet the following requirements:

(i) Circuit breakers must clearly indicate whether they are in the open (off) or closed (on) position.

(ii) Where circuit breaker handles on switchboards are operated vertically rather than horizontally or rotationally, the up position of the handle must be the closed (on) position.

(iii) If used as switches in 120-volt, fluorescent lighting circuits, circuit breakers must be approved for the purpose and marked "SWD."

(2) Feeders and branch circuits over 600 volts, nominal, must have short-circuit protection.

[WSR 97-09-013, recodified as § 296-307-36615, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.]050 and [49.17.]060. WSR 96-22-048, § 296-306A-36615, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]