

Colorado Revised Statutes 2022

TITLE 9

SAFETY - INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL

ARTICLE 5.5

Elevator and Escalator Certification

9-5.5-101. Short title. This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Elevator and Escalator Certification Act".

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1412, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-102. Legislative declaration. The general assembly hereby declares that in order to ensure minimum safety standards throughout Colorado, the regulation of conveyances is a matter of statewide concern. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent a local jurisdiction from regulating conveyances.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1412, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-103. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Accredited national conveyance association" means a conveyance association that is accredited to certify conveyance inspectors by a nationally recognized standards association, including, without limitation, ASME or ASCE.

(2) "Administrator" means the director of the division of oil and public safety within the department of labor and employment or the director's designee.

(3) "Approved local jurisdiction" means a local jurisdiction that has been approved by the administrator pursuant to section 9-5.5-112.

(4) "ASCE" means the American society of civil engineers or its successor.

(5) "ASCE 21" means the American society of civil engineers automated people mover standards published as "ASCE standard number ASCE 21-96" as amended by ASCE.

(6) "ASME" means the American society of mechanical engineers or its successor.

(7) "ASME A17.1" means the safety code for elevators and escalators published as "A17.1 - 2000 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators" as amended by ASME international.

(8) "ASME A17.3" means the safety code for elevators and escalators published as "A17.3 - 2002 Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators" as amended by ASME international.

(9) "ASME A18.1" means the safety code for elevators and escalators published as "A18.1 - 2003 Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts" as amended by ASME international.

(10) "Certificate of operation" means a document issued by the administrator or an approved local jurisdiction for a conveyance indicating that the conveyance has been inspected by the administrator, an approved local jurisdiction, or a licensed third-party conveyance inspector and approved under this article.

(11) "Conveyance" means a mechanical device to which this article applies pursuant to section 9-5.5-104.

(12) "Conveyance contractor" means a person who engages in the business of erecting, constructing, installing, altering, servicing, repairing, or maintaining conveyances.

(13) "Conveyance helper or apprentice" means a person who works under the general direction of a certified conveyance mechanic.

(14) "Conveyance mechanic" means a person who erects, constructs, installs, alters, services, repairs, or maintains conveyances.

(15) "Dormant conveyance" means a conveyance that has been temporarily placed out of service.

(16) "Licensee" means a person who is licensed as a conveyance contractor, conveyance mechanic, or conveyance inspector pursuant to this article.

(17) "Local jurisdiction" means a city, county, or city and county or any agent thereof.

(18) "Private residence" means a separate dwelling, or a separate apartment in a multiple-apartment dwelling, that is occupied by members of a single-family unit.

(18.5) "Private residence conveyance" means a powered passenger conveyance that is limited in size, capacity, rise, and speed and is designed to be installed in a private residence or in a multiple-family dwelling as a means of access to a private residence.

(19) "Single-family residence" means a private residence that is a separate building or an individual residence that is part of a row of residences joined by common sidewalls.

(20) "Third-party conveyance inspector" means a disinterested conveyance inspector who is retained to inspect a conveyance but is not employed by or affiliated with the owner of the conveyance nor the conveyance mechanic whose repair, alteration, or installation is being inspected.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1412, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2010:** (10) amended and (18.5) added, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 254, § 1, effective August 11.

9-5.5-104. Scope. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, this article applies to the design, construction, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, alteration, and repair of the following equipment:

(a) Hoisting and lowering mechanisms equipped with a car or platform that moves between two or more landings. Such equipment includes elevators and platform lifts, personnel hoists, and dumbwaiters.

(b) Power-driven stairways and walkways for carrying persons between landings. Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, escalators and moving walks.

(c) Automated people movers as defined in ASCE 21.

(2) This article 5.5 does not apply to the following:

(a) Material hoists;

(b) Manlifts;

- (c) Mobile scaffolds, towers, and platforms;
 - (d) Powered platforms and equipment for exterior and interior maintenance;
 - (e) Conveyors and related equipment;
 - (f) Cranes, derricks, hoists, hooks, jacks, and slings;
 - (g) Industrial trucks within the scope of ASME publication B56;
 - (h) Items of portable equipment that are not portable escalators;
 - (i) Tiering or piling machines used to move materials between storage locations that operate entirely within one story;
 - (j) Equipment for feeding or positioning materials at machine tools, printing presses, and other similar equipment;
 - (k) Skip or furnace hoists;
 - (l) Wharf ramps;
 - (m) Railroad car lifts or dumpers;
 - (n) Line jacks, false cars, shafters, moving platforms, and similar equipment used by a certified conveyance contractor for installing a conveyance;
 - (o) Conveyances at facilities regulated by the mine safety and health administration in the United States department of labor, or its successor, pursuant to the "Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977", Pub.L. 91-173, codified at 30 U.S.C. sec. 801 et seq., as amended;
 - (p) Elevators within the facilities of gas or electric utilities that are not accessible to the public;
 - (q) A passenger tramway as defined in section 12-150-103 (5);
 - (r) Conveyances in a single-family residence; or
 - (s) Stairway chair lifts as defined in ASME A18.1 - 2005.
- (3) This article shall not be construed to prohibit a local jurisdiction from regulating conveyances if the local jurisdiction has standards that meet or exceed the standards established by this article.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1414, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2010:** IP(1), (1)(a), IP(2), (2)(q), and (2)(r) amended and (2)(s) added, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, pp. 254, 255, §§ 2, 3, effective August 11. **L. 2019:** IP(2) and (2)(q) amended, (HB 19-1172), ch. 136, p. 1650, § 28, effective October 1.

9-5.5-105. Similar or higher standards authorized. This article shall not be construed to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, code effectiveness, durability, and safety to those required by this article if technical documentation demonstrates such equivalency or superiority.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1415, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-106. License required. (1) (a) A person shall not erect, construct, alter, replace, maintain, remove, or dismantle a conveyance within a building or structure unless the person is licensed as a conveyance mechanic and is working under the supervision of a certified conveyance contractor. A person shall not wire a conveyance unless the person is licensed as a conveyance

mechanic and is working under the supervision of a certified conveyance contractor. No other license shall be required for work described in this paragraph (a).

(b) A person shall not be required to be a certified conveyance contractor or licensed conveyance mechanic to remove or dismantle conveyances that are destroyed as a result of a complete demolition of a secured building or structure or where the hoistway or wellway is demolished back to the basic support structure and no access that endangers the safety of a person is permitted.

(c) A conveyance helper or apprentice shall not be required to be licensed when working under the supervision of a licensed conveyance mechanic.

(2) A person shall not inspect a conveyance within a building or structure, including but not limited to a private residence, for purposes of the issuance of a certificate of operation unless licensed as a conveyance inspector.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1415, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-107. License qualifications - contractor - mechanic - inspector. (1) (a) To be licensed, a person shall apply solely with the administrator. An applicant shall not be licensed as a conveyance mechanic unless the applicant possesses a certificate of completion of a conveyance mechanic program as approved by the administrator.

(b) In lieu of qualifying pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (1), an applicant shall qualify if the applicant holds a valid license from another state having standards that, at a minimum, are substantially similar to those imposed by this article as determined by the administrator.

(c) In lieu of qualifying pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (1), an applicant shall qualify if the applicant:

(I) Has passed an examination, as determined by the administrator, on the codes and standards that apply to conveyances; and

(II) Furnishes to the administrator acceptable evidence that the applicant worked as a conveyance mechanic for at least three years without direct supervision.

(d) Repealed.

(2) (a) An applicant shall not be licensed as a conveyance inspector unless the applicant is certified to inspect conveyances by a nationally recognized conveyance association.

(b) Repealed.

(c) In lieu of qualifying pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2), an applicant appointed or designated as a conveyance inspector shall qualify if the applicant is eligible to, and intends to, become nationally certified within one year. A license issued pursuant to this section shall expire upon the termination of employment with the local jurisdiction or after one year from the date of licensure, whichever occurs first. A license issued pursuant to this paragraph (c) shall not be eligible for renewal unless the applicant has obtained national certification.

(3) (a) A person who is not qualified to be a conveyance contractor shall not be certified as a conveyance contractor.

(b) To qualify to be a certified conveyance contractor, an applicant shall demonstrate the following qualifications:

(I) The applicant shall employ at least one licensed conveyance mechanic; and

- (II) The applicant shall comply with the insurance requirements in section 9-5.5-115.
- (c) Repealed.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1416, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2008:** (2)(c) added, p. 1996, § 1, effective July 1. **L. 2010:** (3)(c) repealed, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 255, § 4, effective August 11.

Editor's note: (1) Subsection (1)(d)(II) provided for the repeal of subsection (1)(d), effective July 1, 2008. (See L. 2007, p. 1416.)

(2) Subsection (2)(b)(II) provided for the repeal of subsection (2)(b), effective July 1, 2011. (See L. 2007, p. 1416.)

9-5.5-108. License - rules - issuance - renewal - fee. (1) (a) Upon the administrator's approval of an application, the administrator shall license the conveyance contractor, conveyance mechanic, or conveyance inspector.

(b) The administrator shall promulgate rules requiring a conveyance mechanic to obtain at least eight hours of continuing education every two years.

(2) (a) When an emergency exists in this state due to a disaster, act of God, or work stoppage and the number of certified conveyance mechanics in the state is insufficient to deal with the emergency, a certified conveyance contractor may respond as necessary to assure the safety of the public. A person who, in the judgment of a certified conveyance contractor, has an acceptable combination of documented experience and education to perform conveyance work without direct supervision shall seek an emergency conveyance mechanic certification from the administrator within five business days after commencing work for which certification as a conveyance mechanic is required.

(b) The administrator shall issue emergency conveyance mechanic certifications pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2). The certified conveyance contractor recommending a person for an emergency conveyance mechanic certification shall furnish such proof of the person's competency as the administrator may require.

(c) Each emergency conveyance mechanic certification shall be, and shall state that it is, valid for sixty days after the date of issuance and for such particular conveyances or geographical areas as the administrator may designate. Such certification shall entitle the holder to the rights of a certified conveyance mechanic. The administrator shall renew an emergency conveyance mechanic certification during the existence of an emergency. No fee shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of an emergency conveyance mechanic certification.

(3) (a) A certified conveyance contractor shall notify the administrator when there are no certified conveyance mechanics available to perform conveyance work. The certified conveyance contractor may request that the administrator issue a temporary conveyance mechanic certification to a person who, in the judgment of the certified conveyance contractor, has an acceptable combination of documented experience and education to perform conveyance work without direct supervision. Any such person shall immediately seek a temporary conveyance mechanic certification from the administrator and shall pay such fee as the administrator shall determine.

(b) Each such certification shall be, and shall state that it is, valid for thirty days after the

date of issuance and while employed by the certified conveyance contractor who certified the individual as qualified. The certification shall be renewable as long as there is a shortage of licensed conveyance mechanics.

(4) Except for certified inspectors who qualified during the immediately preceding twelve months, the administrator shall not renew a certification issued under this section unless the person meets the qualifications for certification under section 9-5.5-107.

(5) The administrator shall establish and collect annual fees for licenses issued pursuant to this section. The fees shall be in an amount to offset the direct and indirect costs of administering this article.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1417, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-109. License discipline. (1) A certification issued pursuant to this article may be suspended or revoked upon a finding by the administrator of any of the following:

- (a) A false statement in the application concerning a material matter;
- (b) Fraud, misrepresentation, or bribery in applying for certification;
- (c) Failure to notify the owner or lessee of a conveyance and the administrator or approved local jurisdiction, if any, of a condition not in compliance with this article; or
- (d) A violation of any provision of this article or of any rule adopted pursuant to this article.

(2) The suspension or revocation of a license shall be made as a result of a notice of violation in accordance with section 8-20-104, C.R.S.

(3) The administrator shall not issue a license to a person whose license has been revoked within the last two years.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1418, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2010:** (1)(c) amended, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 255, § 5, effective August 11.

9-5.5-110. Accident reports. The owner shall report to the administrator or an approved local jurisdiction, within twenty-four hours, any accident that results in serious injury to an individual.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1419, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-111. Registration of existing conveyances - fund. (1) On or before August 1, 2008, the owner or lessee of every existing conveyance shall register the conveyance with the administrator. The registration shall include the type, rated load and speed, name of manufacturer, location, intended purpose for use, and such additional information as the administrator may require. Conveyances constructed or completed after July 1, 2008, shall be registered before they are placed in service.

(2) (a) The administrator shall set annual fees on conveyances for which the administrator has issued the current certificate of operation in an amount necessary to offset the costs of registration and of the administration of this article in accordance with section 24-4-104, C.R.S.

(b) Fees collected pursuant to this article shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall

credit the same to the conveyance safety fund, referred to in this article as the "fund", which is hereby created in the state treasury. Moneys in the fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly and shall be used to implement this article. The moneys in the fund and interest earned on the moneys in the fund shall not revert to the general fund or be transferred to any other fund.

(3) Repealed.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1419, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2015:** (2)(b) amended, (HB 15-1261), ch. 322, p. 1313, § 4, effective June 5. **L. 2020:** (3) added, (HB 20-1406), ch. 178, p. 811, § 4, effective June 29. **L. 2021:** (3) repealed, (SB 21-266), ch. 423, p. 2795, § 6, effective July 2.

9-5.5-112. Compliance - rules. (1) The administrator shall promulgate rules for the construction, alteration, repair, service, and maintenance of conveyances. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, such rules shall conform to the following standards:

- (a) ASCE 21;
- (b) ASME A17.1;
- (c) ASME A17.3; and
- (d) ASME A18.1.

(2) (a) The administrator shall determine whether a local jurisdiction's standards are equal to or greater than those of this article. If so, then the administrator shall enter into a memorandum of agreement with the local jurisdiction that approves the jurisdiction's authority to regulate conveyances.

(b) The administrator may establish a schedule for a local jurisdiction to adopt updated standards, equaling or exceeding the standards imposed under subsection (1) of this section, which shall be adopted within a reasonable amount of time as needed for a local jurisdiction to update its standards.

(3) (a) (I) Except as provided in subparagraph (II) of this paragraph (a), the administrator shall promulgate rules exempting a conveyance installed before July 1, 2008, from compliance with ASME A17.3 until approval is required by section 9-5.5-113 for substantial alteration or remodeling of the conveyance.

(II) The administrator shall, in cooperation with local jurisdictions, promulgate rules that authorize the administrator or a local jurisdiction to require an elevator to comply with any portion of ASME A17.3 necessary to protect against a material risk to the public safety.

(b) In promulgating the rules required by subsection (1) of this section, the administrator may adopt changes to the standards listed in subsection (1) of this section that the administrator deems to be in the public interest, including, without limitation, adopting modifications to, changing the applicability of, exempting conveyances from, changing inspector witnessing requirements of, and defining events that trigger the applicability of all or a portion of the standards.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1419, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2008:** Entire section amended, p. 1996, § 2, effective July 1.

9-5.5-113. Conveyance - installation and repair - notice of construction and initial inspection. (1) The owner or lessee of a conveyance shall not erect, construct, install, or alter a conveyance within a building or structure unless it conforms to the rules adopted by the administrator under this article and the work is performed by a certified conveyance contractor.

(2) The owner or lessee of a conveyance shall not erect, construct, or install a conveyance within a building or structure unless a notice, including the construction plans, has been sent to the administrator or approved local jurisdiction at least thirty days prior to construction and the administrator or approved local jurisdiction has approved the construction.

(3) The owner or lessee of the property where a new or altered conveyance is located shall not operate or permit it to be operated unless:

(a) The conveyance has passed an initial inspection conducted by the administrator, approved local jurisdiction, or third-party inspector;

(b) The person conducting the inspection determines that the conveyance is safe and complies with the rules adopted by the administrator or approved local jurisdiction; and

(c) The administrator or approved local jurisdiction has issued a certificate of operation for the conveyance.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1419, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2010:** Entire section amended, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 255, § 6, effective August 11.

9-5.5-114. Periodic inspections and registrations - rules. (1) (a) The administrator shall promulgate rules requiring the owner or lessee of a conveyance to periodically certify that the administrator, an approved local jurisdiction, or a licensed third-party conveyance inspector has determined that the conveyance is safe and complies with the rules adopted by the administrator or approved local jurisdiction. Upon such certification, the administrator or approved local jurisdiction shall issue a certificate of operation for the conveyance.

(b) and (c) (Deleted by amendment, L. 2010, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 256, § 7, effective August 11, 2010.)

(2) Upon request, the administrator shall provide notice to the owner of a private residence where a conveyance is located with relevant information about conveyance safety requirements. The penalty provisions of this article shall not apply to private residence owners.

(3) The administrator shall promulgate rules requiring the owner of the conveyance to have it periodically inspected by a third-party conveyance inspector and the periodic expiration of certificates of operation.

(4) The administrator shall promulgate rules allowing the continued operation of a private residence conveyance that was installed prior to January 1, 2008, in a building that is not a single-family residence.

(5) The owner or lessee of a conveyance shall not permit the conveyance to be operated unless the owner or lessee obtains a certificate of operation from the administrator or approved local jurisdiction.

(6) The owner or lessee shall pay a fee in an amount determined by the administrator for a certificate of operation issued by the administrator. The administrator shall set the fee in accordance with section 24-4-103, C.R.S., to approximate the actual cost of issuing a certificate of operation.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1420, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2010:** (1) amended and (4), (5), and (6) added, (HB 10-1231), ch. 75, p. 256, § 7, effective August 11. **L. 2013:** (6) amended, (HB 13-1300), ch. 316, p. 1664, § 11, effective August 7.

9-5.5-115. Insurance. (1) Each conveyance contractor shall submit to the administrator an insurance policy, certificate of insurance, or certified copy of either issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in Colorado. Such policy shall provide general liability coverage of at least one million dollars for injury or death in each occurrence and coverage for at least five hundred thousand dollars for property damage in each occurrence. In addition, a conveyance contractor shall submit evidence of the insurance coverage mandated by the "Workers' Compensation Act of Colorado", articles 40 to 47 of title 8, C.R.S.

(2) Certified conveyance inspectors shall submit to the administrator an insurance policy, certificate of insurance, or certified copy of either issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in Colorado. Such policy shall provide general liability coverage of at least one million dollars for injury or death in each occurrence and coverage for at least five hundred thousand dollars for property damage in each occurrence.

(3) The administrator shall not certify a conveyance contractor or conveyance inspector unless the applicant has delivered the policy, certified copy, or certificate of insurance required by this section in a form approved by the administrator. A certified conveyance contractor or conveyance inspector shall notify the administrator at least ten days before a material alteration, amendment, or cancellation of a policy is made.

(4) This section shall not apply to a local jurisdiction or the employee of a local jurisdiction in the performance of the employee's official duties.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1420, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2008:** (1) and (2) amended and (4) added, p. 1997, § 3, effective July 1.

9-5.5-116. Enforcement - rules. (1) The administrator may adopt rules to administer and enforce this article. The administrator may use certified conveyance inspectors for any investigation of an alleged violation of the rules or this article. The administrator may appoint an advisory board to assist in the formulation of rules authorized by this section.

(2) A person may request an investigation into an alleged violation of the rules or this article, or of a danger posed by any conveyance, by giving notice to the administrator of such violation or danger. Such notice shall be in writing, shall set forth with reasonable particularity the grounds for the notice, and shall be signed by the person making the request. Upon the request of a person signing the notice, such person's name shall not appear on any copy of such notice or any record published, released, or made available.

(3) Upon receipt of such notification, if the administrator determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that such violation or danger exists, the administrator shall investigate in accordance with this article to determine if such violation or danger exists. If the administrator determines that there are no reasonable grounds to believe that a violation or danger exists, the administrator shall notify the party in writing of such determination.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1421, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-117. Liability. This article shall not be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility or liability of a person owning, operating, controlling, maintaining, erecting, constructing, installing, altering, inspecting, testing, or repairing a conveyance for damages to person or property caused by a defect, nor does the state of Colorado assume any such liability or responsibility by the adoption or enforcement of this article.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1421, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-118. Criminal penalties. A person who violates section 9-5.5-106 or 9-5.5-111 commits a petty offense and, upon conviction, shall be punished as provided in section 18-1.3-503.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1421, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2021:** Entire section amended, (SB 21-271), ch. 462, p. 3145, § 104, effective March 1, 2022.

9-5.5-119. Dangerous conveyance - administrative orders. (1) (a) If, upon the inspection of a conveyance, the conveyance is found to be in a dangerous condition, an immediate hazard to those riding or using it, or designed or operated in an inherently dangerous manner, the certified conveyance inspector shall notify:

- (I) The owner;
- (II) The approved local jurisdiction; and
- (III) If the conveyance is not within an approved local jurisdiction, the administrator.

(b) Upon being notified pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (1), the administrator or approved local jurisdiction shall order such alterations or additions as may be deemed necessary to eliminate the danger.

(2) (a) In lieu of repairing or altering a dangerous conveyance pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, an owner or a lessee may have the conveyance made dormant. A dormant conveyance shall not be used until it is made safe in compliance with this article. In order to qualify under this subsection (2), the owner or lessee of a dormant conveyance shall:

- (I) Remove the fuses and lock the mainline disconnect switch in the "off" position;
- (II) Park the car and close and latch the hoistway doors;
- (III) Have a certified conveyance inspector place a wire seal on the mainline disconnect switch; and
- (IV) Prevent the conveyance from being used.

(b) A conveyance shall not be made dormant for more than five years. Upon making a conveyance dormant, a certified conveyance inspector shall report the fact to the administrator.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1422, § 1, effective January 1, 2008.

9-5.5-120. Repeal of article. This article 5.5 is repealed, effective September 1, 2031. Before the repeal, the functions of the administrator are scheduled for review in accordance with section 24-34-104.

Source: L. 2007: Entire article added, p. 1422, § 1, effective January 1, 2008. **L. 2015:** Entire section amended, (HB 15-1353), ch. 318, p. 1298, § 1, effective August 5. **L. 2022:** Entire section amended, (HB 22-1212), ch. 253, p. 1846, § 2, effective May 26.