

# 2020 National Electric Code 210.8(F) Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection for Personnel

## CRITICAL UPDATE FOR ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS, CONTRACTORS, AND HVAC INSTALLERS

In 2021, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards Council voted to issue a Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA 20-13) into



the 2020 National Electric Code (NEC) 210.8, *Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter (GFCI) Protection for Personnel. (F) Outdoor Outlets.*



**The 2020 NEC 210.8(F)** states: “All outdoor outlets for dwellings, other than those covered in 210.8 (A)(3), Exception to (3), that are supplied by single-phase branch circuits



rated 150 volts to ground or less, 50 amperes or less, shall have ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for personnel.

This requirement shall become effective on January 1, 2023 for mini-split-type heating/ventilating/air-conditioning (HVAC) equipment and other HVAC units employing power conversion equipment as a means to control compressor speed.

*Informational Note: Power conversion equipment is the term used to describe the components used in HVAC equipment that is commonly referred to as a variable speed drive. The use of power conversion equipment to control compressor speed differs from multistage compressor speed control.”*

### To find out if equipment meets this TIA allowance and does not need a GFCI installed with it:

- Review the product specification sheet and instruction manual;
- Look for wording that denotes 1) adjustable speed, 2) variable speed, or 3) inverter-driven compressor;
- Contact the manufacturer and provide the model and serial numbers and the product application; or
- Contact your local jurisdiction regarding the application of 210.8 (F).

For more information,  
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