NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
Title 110 – Board of Engineers and Architects

CHAPTER 10; EXEMPTIONS; CLARIFICATION

10.1 Introduction

Any citation to the state building code shall mean the most recent edition of the state building code as adopted in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-6403.

10.2 Definitions; Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-3449 (1) & 81-3453 (1)

The following definitions may be used as an adjunct to that reference:

10.2.1 Above-grade Finished Space: For single-family through 4-dwelling units; this includes all enclosed, potentially-habitable area on any level, up to a maximum of three levels.

10.2.2 Detached sheds or storage buildings and attached or detached garages, up to a maximum of three stalls, are exempted from the area calculations for Residential occupancies.

10.2.3 Occupancy Classification relates to the type of occupancy intended for the built area and shall be as defined in the state building code.

10.2.4 Building area shall be as defined in the state building code.

10.3 Statutory Exemptions to the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act

Notwithstanding other provisions of the E&A Act, persons who are not licensed architects or professional engineers may perform planning and design services in connection with any building, structure, or work as indicated below:

	OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	MAXIMUM BUILDING AREA
10.3.1	A - Assembly	Less than 1,000 square feet
10.3.2	B - Business	Less than 3,000 square feet
10.3.3	E - Educational	Less than 1,000 square feet
10.3.4	F - Factory	Less than 5,000 square feet
10.3.5	H - Hazardous	
	H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4	Less than 2,000 square feet
	H-5	Less than 4,000 square feet
10.3.6	I - Institutional	
	I-1 Personal care	Less than 3,000 square feet
	I-2 Healthcare	Less than 5,000 square feet
	I-1 Detention	Less than 3,000 square feet
	I-4 Day care	Less than 2,000 square feet
10.3.7	M - Mercantile	Less than 3,000 square feet
10.3.8	R - Residential	
	R-1, R-2, R-4	Less than 4,000 square feet
	R-3 single family	Less than 10,000 square feet
10.3.9	S - Storage	Less than 5,000 square feet
10.3.10	U - Utility	Less than 5,000 square feet

10.3.11 Any structure which contains two or more occupancies shall be governed by the most restrictive occupancy for the purpose of utilizing Rule 10.3.

10.4 Renovations and One-Level Additions

10.4.1 Renovations and one-level additions to an existing building, structure, or work shall be exempt from the E&A Act if:

10.4.1.1 The total impacted area is less than the area set by Section 10.3 of this Chapter; and

10.4.1.2 The area of renovation or addition does not adversely impact the mechanical system; the electrical system; the structural integrity; the means of egress; and does not change or come into conflict with the occupancy classification of the existing or adjacent tenant space, building, structure or work.

10.5 The Practice of Engineering and Architecture

10.5.1 The development and utilization of construction means and methods such as schedules, work plans, work orders and directions, procedures, construction calculations, selection, provision and use of temporary facilities in support of construction activities, reports, selection and use of safety procedures and facilities, instructions and similar items customarily used by contractors to implement construction work designed by licensed persons does not constitute the practice of engineering or architecture.

10.5.2 The preparation by employees of construction companies of ancillary drawings and data, such as field details, shop drawings, product data, conceptual drawings, calculations, diagrammatic instructions and similar documents and information, which are typically utilized to implement the construction of a facility designed by a licensed person does not constitute the practice of engineering or architecture.

10.5.3 The performance of field layout and installation work by employees of construction companies on projects designed by a licensed person or persons, including construction work such as field staking and measurement; installation of material or equipment at designed locations or locations selected in the field; field fitup and modification work; and layout of construction installation and support work does not constitute the practice of engineering or architecture.

10.5.4 The estimate of the cost of construction work (including the extent of the cost of changes in the work) by construction companies including such things as preparing and reviewing preliminary concepts of the project, identifying the scope of the construction work, preparing preliminary schedules and sequences for the construction work, and evaluating the estimates of subcontractors and suppliers, does not constitute the practice of engineering or architecture.

10.5.5 The performance of work customarily involved in project management of construction work on projects designed by licensed persons does not constitute the practice of engineering or architecture. Examples would be:

10.5.5.1 The evaluation of the project and its budget;

10.5.5.2 Services relating to financing the project;

10.5.5.3 Recommendations on construction feasibility, timing of design and construction, and factors relating to construction costs such as alternative designs prepared by a licensed professional;

10.5.5.4 Procurement of labor and materials;

10.5.5.5 Coordination and evaluation of subcontractor performance;

10.5.5.6 Preparation of schedules;

10.5.5.7 Estimating the project costs;

10.5.5.8 Performing construction work; and

10.5.5.9 Reporting on the progress and costs of the work.

10.5.6 Preliminary and Final Plats

Preparation of a preliminary plat is not restricted, but the final plat must be prepared and certified by a registered Land Surveyor. If, however, the final plat contains streets (other than rights-of-way), sewers, water lines, or other engineering works, it needs to be prepared and certified by both a registered Land Surveyor and a professional engineer. Mathematical details of the final plat are the responsibility of the registered Land Surveyor. Physical details, such as grading, public works, or construction are the responsibility of the professional engineer and may not be certified by the registered Land Surveyor.

10.5.7 Livestock Waste Permits; Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-3449(13) & 81-3453(12)

Under the E&A Act, the seal of an architect or professional engineer will be required for work related to livestock waste facilities only when the work falls within the definition of practice of architecture (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3420) or practice of engineering (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3421).

10.5.8 Water Based Fire Protection Systems; Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-3449 (11) & 81-3453 (7)

Nothing in the E&A Act shall prevent a certified water-based fire protection system contractor with a responsible managing employee from engaging in the business of installation, repair, alteration, addition, maintenance, or inspection of water-based fire protection systems, or system layout recognized by the State Fire Marshal, in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-5,158 to 81-5,164.

10.5.9 Participation in a Design Competition

Conceptual design services, as provided in a design competition, are a part of the practice of architecture and engineering. Those services are also an offer to practice; therefore, design professionals participating in a Design Competition in Nebraska must be licensed to practice their profession in Nebraska, or procure a temporary permit.

10.5.10 Spill Prevention Containment and Countermeasures

Preparation of Spill Prevention Containment and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan~~s~~ for a project located in Nebraska that requires the seal of a professional engineer ~~from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, or any other state agency~~, constitutes the practice of engineering and must be prepared by a professional engineer licensed by the board.

10.6 Building Officials

Notwithstanding these exemptions, the responsible building official may require plans and specifications to be designed and prepared by an architect and/or professional engineer if the official finds a hazard to life, health, safety, or welfare due to the unusual circumstances of the building or structure or an unusually large number of potential occupants in relation to square footage for a particular occupancy.

10.7 Emergency Services

A person who is not currently licensed in this state, but who is currently licensed in another jurisdiction in the United States, may provide uncompensated (other than reimbursement of expenses) professional services at the scene of a declared emergency at the request of a public officer acting in an official capacity.