



CITY OF BUENA VISTA

Department of Planning & Community
Development
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BUILDING PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE

Section 108 of 2015 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) requires a building permit for the following activities:

- Construction or demolition of a building or structure. Installations or alterations involving (i) the removal or addition of any wall, partition or portion thereof; (ii) any structural component; (iii) the repair or replacement of any required component of a fire or smoke rated assembly; (iv) the alteration of any required means of egress system; (v) water supply and distribution system, sanitary drainage system or vent system; (vi) electric wiring; (vii) fire protection system, mechanical systems, or fuel supply systems; or (viii) any equipment regulated by the USBC.
- For change of occupancy, application for a permit shall be made when a new certificate of occupancy is required by the VEBC (the Virginia Existing Building Code).
- Movement of a lot line that increases the hazard to or decreases the level of safety of an existing building or structure in comparison to the building code under which such building or structure was constructed.
- Removal or disturbing of any asbestos containing materials during the construction or demolition of a building or structure, including additions.

USBC Section 108.2 contains exemptions from application for permit.

A. Residential New Construction

Residential projects are defined as any structure and/or building which is used for a single family and/or a group of individuals as a dwelling. Structures which are income producing are considered COMMERCIAL projects. The requirement for residential plan review is at the discretion of the Building Official based upon the complexity of the building. Documents establishing the construction values must be provided as part of the permit application.

Permit fee determination:

- When the total construction value of project is equal to or less than \$1,000,000, multiply the total construction value x .040% (i.e., .004)

Example: Single-family detached home (1650 square feet with crawl space)

Construction value (on contract): \$140,000

Calculation: \$140,000 x .004

Fee: \$560

- When the total construction value of project is over \$1,000,000, multiply the total construction value x 0.50% (i.e., .005), then add \$4,000

Example: Condominium building; construction value: \$1,500,000
Calculation: \$1,500,000 x .005 + \$4,000
Fee: \$11,500

***Minimum residential permit fee: \$25.00**

B. Residential Remodeling (building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fuel gas)

Permit fee determination:

- For all projects, multiply the total construction value (in contract) x .04

Example 1: Building permit with total construction value of \$22,000
Calculation: \$22,000 x .004 = \$88.00
Fee: \$88.00

Example 2: Electrical permit with total construction value of \$800
Calculation: \$800 x .004 = \$3.20
Minimum permit fee: \$25.00*

Example 3: Plumbing with total construction value of \$8,000
Calculation: \$8,000 x .04 = \$32.00
Fee: \$32.00

C. Residential Electrical Upgrade

There is a \$25.00 flat rate permit fee for all residential service upgrades.

D. Commercial Building Permit

Commercial projects are defined as any structure and/or building used for a business / commercial / industrial usage and are income producing. All trade contractors must obtain their individual trade building permits. Documents establishing the construction values must be provided as part of the permit application.

Permit fee determination:

- When the total construction value is equal to or less than \$1,000,000, multiply the total construction value x .06% (i.e., .006)

Example: Office building (3,000 square feet): Construction cost: \$800,000
Calculation: \$800,000 x .006
Fee: \$4,800

- When the total construction value is over \$1,000,000, multiply total construction value x .075% (i.e., .0075), then add \$6,000

Example: School building (47, 150 square feet); Construction cost: \$5,000,000
Calculation: \$5,000,000 x .0075 + \$6,000
Fee: \$43,500

***Minimum permit fee for all commercial permits: \$100.00**

E. Commercial Electrical Upgrade

Example: Construction cost: \$83,000

Calculation: \$83,000 x .006

Fee: \$498.00

F. Commercial Plan Reviews

The City contracts with an outside firm for all commercial plan reviews. The plan review fee is the total of the outside firm's change plus a \$50.00 administrative fee. All commercial plans SHALL be reviewed

G. Demolition (flat rate)

There is a flat rate permit fee of \$25.00 for all residential demolition permits.

There is a flat rate permit fee of \$100 for all commercial demolition permits.

H. Reinspection (flat rate)

Additional fee of \$100.00 for any re-inspection after the first two for the same items.