



Elevator Variance Application

Phone: 360-902-6130

www.Lni.wa.gov/Elevators

Please allow a minimum of 2 — 4 weeks for processing. For current fees, see [WAC 296-96-01035](#).

Definition:

A variance is an allowable deviation from the prescriptive requirements of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-96 and/or other safety standards adopted by the department.

Making Application for a Variance:

- Only a license elevator contractor may make application for a variance. They are permitted to make the application on behalf of the owner or other related parties (e.g. general contractor, building owner, or owner's representative, etc.).
- All applications for a variance request must be uploaded into the plan review system for proper tracking.
- Emailing a request may delay processing.

Limitation of a Variance:

- A variance will not avoid compliance with the intention of the code requirement or WAC rule.
- A variance is not a way to recover from an installation or design error.
- A variance will not be granted if the alternate method would reduce the safety of the installation.

If a variance is granted, it shall be limited to the particular issue covered in the application and pursuant to [RCW 70.87.110](#), and cannot be applied to other existing or future installations or equipment.

- If the request applies to a common area utilized by more than one conveyance in or at a single building, identify all affected conveyances on the form.
- If the request is unique to a particular design and is applicable to more than one conveyance, a separate request form is required for each conveyance.
- **Do not** combine multiple requests on one form. Use a separate request form for each deviation from the code requirement or WAC rule

RCW 70.87.110 (for reference only)

Exceptions authorized.

*The requirements of this chapter are intended to apply to all conveyance except as modified or waived by the department. They are intended to be modified or waived whenever any requirements are shown to be impractical, such as involving expenses not justified by the protection secured. **However, the department shall not allow the modification or waiver unless equivalent or safer construction is secured in other ways.** An exception applies only to the installation covered by the application for waiver.*

(Bolded for emphasis)

Granting of Variances:

- A variance is granted only by the Chief Elevator Inspector or his/her designee.
- If granted, the variance must be posted in the elevator machine/control room or other designated area for the life of the unit(s).
- A variance may be revoked for cause (e.g. incorrect or fraudulent information provided).



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Include required processing fee. See WAC 296-96-01035 for applicable fee.

Submittal Date	Conveyance Number
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Elevator Contractor Information			
Company Name	Contractor License Number	License Expiration Date	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code +4
Company Representative	Company Representative Email	Company Representative Phone Number	
Request Made For: <input type="checkbox"/> Property Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Owner's Representative <input type="checkbox"/> General Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> This Elevator Contractor			

Owner Information			
Owner Name	Contact Name	Contact Phone Number	Contact Email
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code +4

Site Information			
Building or Residence Name	Building Address	City	State WA Zip Code +4
Existing Building <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Type <input type="checkbox"/> Alteration <input type="checkbox"/> New Construction	Is this violation common to more than one conveyance? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	List other affected conveyance numbers
Has the installation been made? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Was the equipment cited for correction? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If so, when?	Inspector's Name

Correction(s) Cited or Code Issue(s)	
Enter only code or rule numbers that were cited and related to this request.	
ASME A17.1/CSA B44	Code Edition (if known)
WAC 296-96	Code Edition (if known)
ASME A18.1	Code Edition (if known)
ASME A90.1	Code Edition (if known)
ASME A17.3	Code Edition (if known)
ASSE A10.4 or A10.5	Code Edition (if known)
RCW 70.87 Violation	
Additional Information Not Noted Above	

Statement of existing condition(s) and explanation of why it is not feasible to comply with the prescriptive requirements:

Provide the following information as relevant:

1. Photographs;
2. Diagrams, drawings;
3. Manufacturers' information regarding the operation and/or installation;
4. A copy of the initial correction notice, if issued; and
5. Any other information that technically supported the proposed variance.

The proposal must describe an alternate method, device, or system that will be used in lieu of complying with the prescriptive requirements of the code and/or WAC rule.

This section must be completed — the request will not be processed without this information.

Provide an alternate solution that ensures an equivalent or higher level of safety than the prescriptive requirement(s).

For L&I Use Only

Denied | By: _____ | Date: _____

Reason for Denial:

Approved | By: _____ | Date: _____

Conditions of Approval (if any): These conditions will also appear on the approval letter that is required to be posted in the elevator machine/control room or other designated area.