

or protection of telecommunications cabling and installation of cable trays and ladder racks in telecommunications service entrance rooms, spaces, or closets.

- (11) "Telecommunications service entrance room or space" means a room or space used as the building serving facility in which the joining of inter-building and intra-building backbone facilities takes place. The service entrance room may also house electronic equipment serving any telecommunications function.
- (12) A "telecommunications structured cabling system" is the complete collective configuration of cabling and associated hardware at a given site and installed to perform specific telecommunications functions.
- (13) "Telecommunications systems" means structured cabling systems that begin at the demarcation point between the local service provider and the customer's premises structured cabling system or the wiring, appliances, devices, or equipment as specified by rule of the department.
  - (a) Telecommunications systems include, but are not limited to, all forms of information generation, processing, and transporting of signals conveyed electronically or optically within or between buildings, including voice, data, video, and audio.
  - (b) Telecommunications systems include structured cabling systems, compatible connecting hardware, telecommunications equipment, premises switching equipment providing operational power to the telecommunications device, infrared, fiber optic, radio-frequency, power distribution associated with telecommunications systems, and other limited-energy interconnections associated with telecommunications systems or appliances.
  - (c) Telecommunications systems do not include horizontal cabling used for fire protection signaling systems, intrusion alarms, access control systems, patient monitoring systems, energy management control systems, industrial and automation control systems, HVAC/refrigeration control systems, lighting or lighting control systems, and stand-alone amplified sound or public address systems.
  - (d) Telecommunications systems may interface with other building signal systems including security, alarms, and energy management at cross-connection junctions within telecommunications closets or at extended points of demarcation. Horizontal cabling for a telecommunications outlet, necessary to interface with any of these systems outside of a telecommunications closet, is the work of the telecommunications contractor. Telecommunications systems do not include the installation or termination of premises line voltage service, feeder, or branch circuit conductors or equipment.
- (14) "Telecommunications worker" means a person primarily and regularly engaged in the installation and/or maintenance of telecommunications systems, equipment, and infrastructure as defined in this chapter.
- (15) "Telecommunications workstation" means a building space where the occupant normally interacts with telecommunications equipment. The telecommunications outlet in the work area is the point at which end-user equipment plugs into the building telecommunications utility formed by the pathway, space, and building wiring system.

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#### **19.28.410 Telecommunications systems installations — Subject to this subchapter.**

- (1) All installations of wires and equipment defined as telecommunications systems are subject to the requirements of this subchapter. Installations shall be in conformity with approved methods of construction for safety to life and property. The national electrical code, approved standards of the telecommunications industries association, the electronic industries association, the American national standards institute, and other safety standards approved by the department shall be evidence of approved methods of installation.
- (2) This chapter may not limit the authority or power of any city or town to enact and enforce under authority given by law in RCW [19.28.141](#), any ordinance, or rule requiring an equal, higher, or better standard of construction and an equal, higher, or better standard of materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than that required by this chapter.

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#### **19.28.420 Telecommunications contractor license — Application — Bond — Issuance of license. **\*\*Effective 7/25/21 - Changed by 2021 SSB 5267\*\*****

- (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity to advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or maintaining telecommunications systems without having a telecommunications contractor license. Electrical contractors licensed as general electrical (01) or specialty electrical (06) contractors under [this chapter](#) and their designated administrators qualify to perform all telecommunications work defined in this chapter. Telecommunications contractors licensed under this chapter are not required to be registered under chapter [18.27](#) RCW. All telecommunications licenses expire twenty-four calendar months following the day of their issue. A telecommunications contractor license is not required for a licensed specialty electrical contractor to perform telecommunications installations or maintenance integral to the equipment or occupancy limitations of their electrical specialty. A telecommunications contractor license is not required for persons making telecommunications installations or performing telecommunications maintenance on their own property or for regularly employed employees working on the premises of their employer, unless on:
  - (a) A new building intended for rent, sale, or lease; or
  - (b) Property offered for sale within 12 months after obtaining the property.
- (2) Application for a telecommunications contractor license shall be made in writing to the department accompanied by the required fee. The applications shall state: