



Decoding the 2024 MN Commercial Energy Code

ASHRAE 90.1 SECTION NUMBERS

1. **Purpose** – Why we have this standard (C-23)
2. **Scope** – Which projects the code applies to (C-25)
3. **Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms** – What the italicized terms in the standard mean (C-27)
4. **Administration and Enforcement** – Start all projects here to determine which subsequent sections to follow. This is also where you can find verification, testing, and commissioning requirements (C-63)
5. **Building Envelope** – Requirements for the thermal envelope of the building (C-71)
6. **Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning** – Requirements for HVAC design, installation, and controls (C-99)
7. **Service Water Heating** – Requirements for water heating controls and equipment (C-171)
8. **Power** – Requirements for building power distribution and equipment (C-177)
9. **Lighting** – Requirements for interior and exterior lighting (C-181)
10. **Other Equipment** – Requirements for pumps, motors, and other equipment (C-205)
11. **Energy Cost Budget Method** – Performance-based compliance pathway based on a projected annual energy cost (C-215)

Appendices To Know

- **Appendix A** – Alternative typical construction envelope designs (C-237)
- **Appendix G** – Additional performance-based modeling compliance pathway (Performance Rating Method) (C-315)
- **Appendix H** – Additional guidance for Verification, Testing, and Commissioning (C-357)

ASHRAE 90.1 SUBSECTION NUMBERING

Subsections within Sections 4-9 follow a uniform theme, with the following meanings:

- **X.1 – General Content** – General information regarding the section, including how it applies to additions and alterations.
- **X.2 – Compliance Path** – How to apply code requirements based on which compliance path the project is following.
- **X.3 – Simplified Approach** – An optional “sub-path” within the prescriptive pathway with fewer requirements available only to projects that meet certain criteria. Only available for Lighting and HVAC.
- **X.4 – Mandatory Provisions** – These requirements apply to all projects except when using the simplified paths in Section 6 & 9, and where exceptions apply.
- **X.5 – Prescriptive Compliance Path** – These requirements apply to projects following the prescriptive pathway. They do not apply to projects following the Energy Cost Budget or Performance Rating Method compliance pathways.
- **X.6 – Alternative Compliance Path** – These provisions are an optional alternative “sub-path” along the prescriptive compliance pathway available to any project. The most used alternative compliance paths are in Section 5 (envelope tradeoff) and Section 9 (space-by-space method for lighting).
- **X.7 – Submittal Documents** – These are additional, section-specific requirements beyond those listed in Section 4.2.2.
- **X.8 – Product Information** – These requirements largely note the labeling, installation, rating and efficiency requirements. They only exist in Sections 5 and 6.
- **X.9 – Verification, Commissioning and Testing Requirements** – These items will note verification, commissioning and testing requirements, and point back to Section 4.2.5 for more detailed information.



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