OKLAHOMA

UNIFORM BUILDING CODE COMMISSION
Existing Rule Review Form

Tracking Number: NECTC-1

Code Change Information:

New Edition Year Under Review: 2026 NEC

Page Number in New Edition Under Review: 96-97

Originating Committee: ECT committee

Original Edition Year Modified: 2020

Current Rule Numbering: 748:20-10-8 (1) and 748:20-6-44

Section/Table/Figure Modified: Chapter 2 Wiring and Protection, 210.8 (F)

Existing Rule:

NEC:
210.08 (F) Outdoor Outlets. All outdoor outlets for dwellings, other than those covered in 210.8 (A), Exception No 1, including outlets installed in the following locations, and supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground, 50 amperes or less shall be supplied with GFCI protection:
1. Garages that have floors located at or below grade.
2. Accessory buildings.
. Boathouses.
If equipment supplied by an outlet covered under the requirements of this section is replaced, the outlet shall be provided with GFCI protection.
Exception No. 1. GFCI protection shall not be required on lighting outlets other than those covered by 210.8(C).
Exception No. 2. GFCI protection shall not be required for listed HVAC equipment.

IRC:

E3902.14 Outdoor outlets. All outdoor outlets, including outlets installed in the following locations, and supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground, 50 amperes or less, shall be provided with GFCI protection:

1. Garages that have floors located at or below grade level.
2. Accessory buildings.
3. Boathouses.

Exception 1. GFCI protection shall not be required on lighting outlets other than those covered in Section 210.8(F) of NFPA 70.

Exception 2. GFCI protection shall not be required for receptacles that are not readily accessible and are supplied by a branch circuit dedicated to electric snow-melting, deicing, or pipeline and vessel heating equipment where such equipment is protected as required by NFPA 70.

Exception 3. GFCI protection shall not be required for listed HVAC equipment.

Exception 4. GFCI protection shall not be required for refrigerators or freezers in garages.

Historical information:

NEC:

This change was submitted by the 2020 NEC committee. At the time ,the change deleted the section from the code, but during the public hearing a proposal was submitted that deleted the expiration date in Exception 2 rather than the entire section from the code.

In the 2023 code, the section contained revised language but still had the expiration language in Exception 2. The committee reviewed the revised language felt it was fine as published but still removed the expiration language in the Section.

The 2026 language for this section has been modified and contains a third exception. OUBCC staff recommends the committee review the section to determine what if any changes are needed.

IRC:

The change to the IRC language for the same verbiage was originally made by the 2020 NEC committee and was a correlating change. It deleted the expiration date in the 3rd exception. The IRC had an extra exception (#2). A code change was submitted to the 2024 IRC RETC committee to add a fourth exception to not GFCIs for refrigerators or freezers. The submitter cited anecdotal and personal experience with customers after surges or lightning strikes tripping GFCI and AFCI receptacles and breakers causing spoilage of food in freezers and refrigerators. The committee denied the request, but during the presentation to the Commission, the commission liaison spoke in favor of the change and a fourth exception was added to the section.

Staff recommends reviewing the language to determine if any of it should be brought into the 2026 NEC language. Otherwise staff recommendation is to motion to delete the language from the 2024 IRC as a formal action since the residential electrical requirements will be moved to the adoption of the NEC and removed from the adoption of the IRC