

# Electrical Utility Safety Rules

## Significant changes coming in 2024



Be the first to know about new safety requirements for the electrical and utilities industry. Effective January 1, 2024, IHSA's updated Electrical Utility Safety Rules (EUSR) book will include the following significant changes.

The term **Testing Facility** will replace **Certified Laboratory** throughout the EUSR. A **Testing Facility** tests in accordance with applicable standards and has established specific testing standards for electrical equipment, tools, protective equipment, and aerial devices.

**Rule 103 "Personal Conduct"** will specify that electronic devices must not be used in **workplace(s)** where they will affect the safety of work being performed.

**Rule 110 "First Aid"** will be modified to require that AEDs be provided, maintained, and suitably located on site when two or more **workers** are working in an **energized** electrical environment.

**Rule 114 "Safe Conditions for Work"** will explain that:

- Work requiring the application of the **Utility Work Protection Code (UWPC)** must be strictly followed.
- Recertification in the **UWPC** must be completed every 27 months or earlier.
- All **UWPC** training must be given exclusively by Hydro One, IHSA, or an IHSA Member Employer who maintains certification through the Train the Trainer program.

**Rule 119 "Use of Temporary Grounds"** will require that temporary grounds be tested annually and marked with a legible expiry date.

**Rule 122 "Working Alone"** will outline that, when a second **worker** is required, they shall be:

- Knowledgeable in the hazards associated in the task being performed.
- A suitably equipped, **competent worker** who can perform rescue operations including CPR and AED.
- Available and positioned to see the **worker** performing the work.

The **IHSA Supplemental rule on Line Clearing Operations** will include a new addition—called the "Ground-to-Ground Rule for Line Clearing Operations"—specifying that **authorized workers** may be permitted to ascend/descend vegetation without rubber gloves provided that it's outside the restricted zone, according to Rule 129 "Safe Limits of Approach: For **Authorized Workers**," and that all climbing equipment and the climber can remain outside of proximity while ascending/descending. Once aloft, appropriately rated gloves must be worn when entering proximity, maintaining the **Safe Limits of Approach** for tools, equipment, and the **authorized worker** while removing vegetation.

**Beginning in January 2024, visit IHSA's website to purchase the updated EUSR book and learn more about the new requirements:**

[ihsa.ca/products/RB-ELEC](https://ihsa.ca/products/RB-ELEC)