

OUTDOOR LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

NYS AGENCY REQUIREMENTS – PUBLIC BUILDINGS LAW

Always refer to actual regulations before making decisions:

[Public Buildings Law, Section 143](#) and [9 NYCRR Part 312](#)

Requirements:

This applies to State Agencies installing, or causing to be installed, any new or replacement permanent outdoor fixtures.

TYPE OF LIGHTING	LIMITS	REQUIRED REFERENCE*
roadway lighting or parking-lot lighting, whether mounted to poles, buildings or other structures	the fixture is fully shielded	Roadways: 1, 2, 3 below Parking-lots - IES – RP-20-14 <i>Lighting for Parking Facilities</i>
building-mounted fixtures not specifically intended for roadway lighting, parking-lot lighting, or facade lighting	the fixture is fully shielded when its initial fixture lumens is greater than 3,000 lumens;	<i>The Lighting Handbook</i> , 10th Edition
facade lighting	the fixture is shielded to reduce glare, sky glow, and light trespass to the greatest extent possible	IES – <i>The Lighting Handbook</i> , 10th Edition
ornamental roadway lighting fixtures	the fixture allows no more than 700 lumens from the fixture above a horizontal plane through the fixture’s lowest light emitting part	Roadways: 1, 2, 3 below
illumination by <u>new</u> permanent outdoor fixtures for applications described above	only illuminance levels that are no greater than those required for the intended purpose may be used, in accordance with the industry standards	See above references
roadway lighting unassociated with intersections of two or more streets or highways	Only permitted when the Department of Transportation has determined that the purpose of the lighting installation or replacement cannot be achieved by installation of reflectorized roadway markers, lines, warnings or informational signs, or other passive means	See above references

* Whenever a State agency uses any of the IES standards identified in this section, such agency shall also refer to *The Lighting Handbook*, 10th Edition in order to properly interpret such IES standards.

Required References:

- (1) American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) – *Roadway Lighting Design Guide* 6th ed. (October 2005).
- (2) Approved American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) – *RP-8-14 Roadway Lighting*.
- (3) IES – *DG-19-08 Design Guide for Roundabout Lighting*.

Exemptions:

1. Federal rule pre-empts
2. Temporary emergency lighting or road repair
3. Navigational lighting (aviation and nautical)
4. Athletic playing areas, provided that all such lighting shall be selected and installed to shield the lamp or lamps from direct view and to minimize upward lighting and glare to the greatest extent possible
5. Safety and security need that cannot be addressed by any other method
6. Replacement of a previously installed permanent outdoor fixture that is “destroyed, damaged or inoperative, has experienced electrical failure due to failed components, or requires standard maintenance”
7. Tunnels and roadway underpasses
8. “if the combined cost of acquiring and operating a fixture complying...is more than 15 percent greater than the cost of acquiring and operating comparable non-compliant fixtures over the life of the lighting system and if a written determination with findings has been made that no compliant fixture exists that would meet the cost limitation”

Selected 312.2 Definitions:

- (b) *Facade lighting* means permanent outdoor fixtures that are specifically intended to illuminate the exterior surfaces of buildings or structures.
- (c) *Fully shielded fixture* means a fixture that allows no direct light from the fixture above a horizontal plane through the fixture's lowest light-emitting part, in its mounted position.
- (h) *Light trespass* means light that falls beyond the property it is intended to illuminate.
- (k) *Ornamental roadway lighting* means a roadway lighting fixture that serves a decorative function in addition to a roadway lighting function, having an historical period appearance or decorative appearance.
- (l) *Parking-lot lighting* means permanent outdoor fixtures specifically intended to illuminate uncovered vehicle parking areas.
- (m) *Permanent outdoor fixture* means a fixture for use in an exterior environment installed with mounting not intended for relocation.
- (n) *Roadway lighting* means permanent outdoor fixtures specifically intended to illuminate public roadways.