

*St. Louis County Department of Public Works
Division of Code Enforcement*

When is a Mechanical Permit required for Commercial Projects?
(Commercial includes Multifamily Residential)

MECHANICAL WORK

A Mechanical Permit is required to erect, install, enlarge, alter, reconstruct, repair, remove, convert, or replace a mechanical system.

Mechanical systems are composed of components, devices, appliances, and equipment and include, but are not limited to, heating and/or air-conditioning systems, refrigeration systems, exhaust systems, piping systems, duct systems, venting systems, hydronic systems and ventilation systems.

The following types of work shall be considered as ordinary repairs or minor work for which a Mechanical Permit will not be required:

1. Ordinary repairs for the purpose of maintenance and service. This includes items such as the repair or replacement of any minor part of a piece of equipment that does not alter the approval of the equipment, the replacement of piping within heating or cooling equipment, replacement of leading or defective valves, fittings or connections of system components, changing of belts, parts, filters and lubrication of equipment, recharging, testing and balancing of equipment and similar service work. (Note: All other repairs and replacements to mechanical systems and equipment requires a permit);
2. Installing, replacing, or repairing portable heating appliances, portable ventilation appliances and equipment, portable cooling units, portable evaporative coolers, and portable fuel cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid;
3. Replacing or repairing steam, hot water or chilled water piping within any heating or cooling equipment or appliance;
4. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter the approval of equipment or an appliance or make such equipment or appliance unsafe;
5. Installing, replacing, or repairing self-contained refrigeration systems that contain 10 pound (4.5 kg) or less of refrigerant, or that are actuated by motors of 1 horsepower (0.75 kw) or less.