

APPENDIX A – ELECTRICAL SAFETY GLOSSARY

1. **Authorized Employee.** A person approved or assigned by the employer to perform a specific type of duty or duties.
2. **Bare-Hand Work.** A technique of performing work on energized electric conductors or circuit parts, after the employee has been raised to the potential of the conductor or circuit part.
3. **Circuit Breaker.** A device designed to open and close a circuit by non-automatic means and to open the circuit automatically on a pre-determined overcurrent without damage to itself when properly applied within its rating.
4. **Confined Space (Permit-Required).** An enclosed space which has limited egress and access, and has an atmospheric hazard (e.g., explosive atmosphere or asphyxiating hazard) and/or other serious safety hazards (e.g., electrical hazard).
5. **Disconnecting Means/Switch.** A device designed to close and/or open an electric circuit.
6. **Electrically Safe Work Condition.** A state in which an electrical conductor or circuit part has been disconnected from energized parts, locked/tagged in accordance to the Indiana University Control of Hazardous Energy Program, tested to ensure the absence of voltage, and grounded if deemed necessary.
7. **Energized Electrical Work.** Repair, maintenance, troubleshooting, or testing on electrical circuits, components, or systems while energized (i.e., live).
8. **Enclosure.** The case or house of apparatus, or the fence or walls surrounding an installation to prevent personnel from accidentally contacting energized parts or to protect the equipment from physical damage.
9. **Exposed Electrical Parts.** Energized parts that can be inadvertently touched or approached nearer than a safe distance by a person. Parts not suitably guarded, isolated, or insulated. Examples include terminal contacts or lugs and bare wiring.
10. **Arc Flash Protection Boundary.** An approach limit distance from exposed live parts within which a person could receive a second degree burn if an electrical arc flash were to occur.
11. **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupt (GFCI).** A device whose function is to interrupt the electric circuit to the load when a fault current to ground exceeds a predetermined value that is less than that required to operate the over-current protective device of the supply circuit.
12. **Grounded (Grounding).** Connected (connecting) to ground or to a conductive body that extends the ground connection.
13. **Incident Energy.** The amount of energy impressed on a surface, a certain distance from the source, generated during an electrical arc event. One of the common units used to measure incident energy is calories per centimeter squared (cal/cm^2).
14. **Interlock.** An electrical, mechanical, or key-locked device intended to prevent an undesired sequence of operation.

15. **Insulated.** Separated from other conducting surfaces by a di-electric (including air space) offering a high resistance to the passage of current.
16. **Limited Approach Boundary.** An approach limit at a distance from an exposed live part within which a shock hazard exists.
17. **Lockout.** The placement of a lock on an energy-isolating device according to procedure, ensuring that the energy isolating device and the equipment being controlled cannot be operated until the lockout device is removed.
18. **Potential (Electric).** The difference in energy between a point and some other reference point in a circuit.
19. **Prohibited Approach Boundary.** An approach limit distance from an exposed live part within which work is considered the same as making contact with the live part.
20. **Overcurrent Protection/Protective Device.** A device, that, when interrupting currents in its current-limiting range, reduces the current flowing in the faulted circuit to a magnitude substantially less than that obtainable in the same circuit if the device were replaced with a solid conductor having comparable impedance.
21. **Qualified Person.** One who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.
22. **Qualified Electrical Employee.** A qualified person trained and knowledgeable of construction and operation of equipment or a specific work method and is trained to recognize and avoid the electrical hazards that might be present with respect to that equipment or work method.
23. **Restricted Approach Boundary.** An approach limit distance from an exposed live part within which there is an increased risk of shock, due to electrical arc-over combined with inadvertent movement, for personnel working in close proximity to the live part.
24. **Tagout.** The placement of a tagout device on an energy-isolating device according to procedure to indicate that the equipment may not be operated until the tagout device is removed.
25. **Voltage (of a circuit).** The greatest root-mean-square (effective) difference of potential between any two conductors of the circuit concerned.
26. **Voltage, Nominal.** An approximate value assigned to a circuit or system for the purpose of conveniently designating its voltage class, e.g., 120/240, 480/277, and 600.
27. **Unqualified Person.** A person who is not a qualified person.