

**INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2013-21 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IES STANDARD 90.1-2013
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings**

Date Approved: March 24, 2021

Request from: Scott Lindgren, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Section 8.4.2 and Table 9.6.1, regarding automatic receptacle control at workstations in spaces otherwise not required to be furnished with occupancy sensors under ASHRAE/IES 90.1.

Background: Section 8.4.2 [a] requires automatic receptacle control for 50% of all 125-volt 15- and 20-amp receptacles at individual workstations in addition to broader areas among a list of spaces. “Workstation” is not defined in ASHRAE/IES 90.1 Chapter 3 and can have many interpretations, from permanent duty stations only, temporary duty stations, or a desk of any type.

Table 9.6.1 contains at least a pair of space types which do not typically fall under any of the exceptions to automatic control of lighting or receptacles, but also have no requirements for automatic on or off: “Dormitory—Living Quarters” and “Fire Station—Sleeping Quarters”. Local Control (Section 9.4.1.1[a]) is the only required lighting control in these spaces.

Frequently, these space types will contain a desk. Treating these desks as “workstations”, these spaces will require occupancy sensors or other means listed in Section 8.4.2 for automatic receptacle control but not for lighting control.

Similar language has been used in 90.1-2016 and 90.1-2019.

Interpretation: Receptacles at desks in spaces which do not require an automatic means of lighting control are also not required to be controlled by automatic means.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: There is no correlation between the automatic receptacle control requirements in 8.4.2 and the lighting control requirements in Table 9.6.1. Desks in dormitory living spaces or fire station sleep quarters are not considered workstations and are not required to have automatic receptacle control.

The intent of the language is to require automatic control in 50% of the receptacles in typical office and classroom settings.