

Electrical Panel and Electrical Closet Safety

600 Volts, nominal, or less

This subsection applies to electric equipment operating at 600 volts, nominal, or less to ground.

Space about electric equipment. Sufficient access and working space shall be provided and maintained about all electric equipment to permit ready and safe operation and maintenance of such equipment.

Working space for equipment likely to require examination, adjustment, servicing, or maintenance while energized shall comply with the following dimensions, except as required or permitted elsewhere in this part:

The depth of the working space in the direction of access to live parts may not be less than indicated in [Table S-1](#). Distances shall be measured from the live parts if they are exposed or from the enclosure front or opening if they are enclosed;

The width of working space in front of the electric equipment shall be the width of the equipment or 30 inches, whichever is greater. In all cases, the working space shall permit at least a 90-degree opening of equipment doors or hinged panels; and

Working space required by this standard may not be used for storage. When normally enclosed live parts are exposed for inspection or servicing, the working space, if in a passageway or general open space, shall be suitably guarded.

Electrical Closet



Mechanical Room



Electrical safety rule-of-thumb for Whitman College

1. Keep three feet of clear space in each direction around fuse boxes and breaker panels at all times
 - a. Don't store supplies or equipment within three feet
 - b. Don't install shelving or equipment except approved electrical switch/breaker gear within three feet
2. Store nothing in electrical closets
3. If you're not an electrician, stay out of electrical closets