

# What You Need to Know About RBO



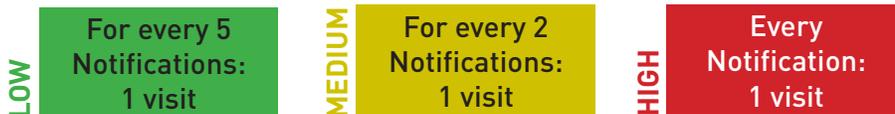
**Risk-based Oversight will launch in early 2020.**

## What does Risk-based Oversight (RBO) mean?

It means ESA will spend more effort on high-risk electrical wiring work, and less effort on low-risk work. Notifications will have a risk level assigned to them based on criteria such as:

1. **Who** does the installation work
2. **What** the installation is
3. **Where** the installation is

It will be recommended that all high-risk work receive a visit, and medium and low-risk work will be subject to selective inspection. For example:



## Why is ESA moving to a risk-based approach?

- To allow you to spend more time and resources running your business
- To allow all contractors in the province to benefit from RBO
- To allow ESA to shift more effort to higher priority safety activities like cracking down on the underground economy and spending more time with you on complex or high risk sites

## What happens to the Authorized Contractor Program (ACP)?

The ACP will end when RBO comes into effect; however, any ACP-eligible notifications created before the launch of RBO will be treated under ACP rules until the notification is closed.

Under RBO, all contractors will be eligible for the same benefits (if they meet eligibility requirements) and pay the same fees. ACP is a voluntary program and it was never intended to be a competitive advantage for bidding on electrical work. The end of ACP includes the end of the yearly membership fee and ACP fee-related discounts. Benefits that ACP currently offers, like pre-authorized connections, will still be available for LECs that meet eligibility criteria.

## Fees

**ESA is not increasing existing fees as published in its fee guide.**

ACP membership fees and ACP-associated wiring fees will end when RBO goes live.

## Defects

**A defect ratio** is the percentage of wiring work that fails to meet Ontario Electrical Safety Code standards. Under RBO, a higher defect ratio could mean ESA visits you more often, or you may not qualify for RBO benefits.

ESA is sending all contractors their defect ratio every three months, to allow contractors to reduce high defect ratios before RBO goes live.

**A defect ratio is calculated using the formula below:**

$$\frac{\text{Number of site(s) with defects}}{\text{Number of site(s) visited}} = \% \text{ Defect Ratio}$$

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## Do you still have to apply for a notification through ESA?

Yes and you will be able to apply using the same method you do today. Inspectors will notify you if they aren't visiting that day.

- An ESA Inspector will contact you to let you know the inspection is either passed or scheduled to another day
- Sites are to be open until 4:30 pm if you weren't advised of a no-visit
- ESA certificates can be issued with or without a site visit
- LECs will still be able to request a site visit, regardless of the risk ranking. If your customer wants a visit, you can get a visit

## Will all contractors be eligible for RBO benefits?

Yes, if they meet eligibility requirements.

For example, you'll get pre-authorized, same day and after hour emergency reconnections if:

- You maintain a defect ratio of less than 10%
- You take out more than 10 notifications in a 12-month period
- Five of those notifications are for services (these five notifications need to be by the same line of business e.g. residential or industrial/commercial/institutional/agricultural)

### **You can still request a site visit.**

A contractor can request a site visit on any notification regardless of the risk ranking.

### **All contractors are eligible for RBO benefits.**

All contractors are eligible if they meet the requirements above.

Want more information about RBO?  
Visit [esasafe.com/rbo](https://esasafe.com/rbo)

Have questions? Email  
[rbo@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:rbo@electricalsafety.on.ca)