



OKLAHOMA UNIFORM BUILDING CODE COMMISSION RULES

Title 748 - Uniform Building Code Commission

Chapter 20 - Adopted Codes

Subchapter 3 - International Fire Code®[®], 2009 Edition (IFC®[®], 2009)

748:20-3-1 through 748:20-3-14

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Chapter 20 - Adopted Codes

[Authority: 59 O.S. 59 § 1000.23]
[Source: Codified 7-15-11]

Subchapter 3 - IFC® 2009

[Source: Reserved at 28 Ok Reg 2122, eff 7-15-11]

748:20-3-1. Adoption of International Fire Code ®, 2009 Edition (IFC® 2009)

The Uniform Building Code Commission hereby adopts the International Fire Code®, 2009 Edition as amended and modified in this subchapter as the minimum code for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 O.S. 1000.23.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-2. Effect of Adoption

The International Fire Code®, 2009 Edition (IFC® 2009), as amended and revised by these rules, are hereby established and adopted as the statewide minimum standards for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems in Oklahoma pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1000.23, and may only be amended or altered by other jurisdictions pursuant to Oklahoma law and the administrative rules of the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission as set forth in Title 748, Chapter 15 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-3. IFC ® 2009 Appendices

(a) None of the appendices of the IFC® 2009 have been adopted by the Commission for inclusion in the minimum standards for commercial building construction in the State of Oklahoma.

(b) Appendices A through J are not adopted as the minimum standards for commercial building construction within the State of Oklahoma. However, other jurisdictions within this State may adopt any or all of said appendices in accordance with 59 O.S. § 1000.29.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-4. IFC® 2009 Provisions Adopted and Modified

All chapters and provisions within chapters, including exceptions, of the IFC® 2009 not specifically addressed within these rules as being modified, deleted, moved or removed are hereby adopted without modification as the minimum standards for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems within the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1000.23. Chapters and provisions within chapters, including exceptions adopted with modifications are specifically addressed in these rules.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-5. Participation in Federal Programs and/or Federally Funded or Financed Projects

In order to maximize federal financial aid, assistance, participation, financing and/or funding in any public project(s) and/or federal financial aid, participation, funding for and participation in any federal program(s) by the State of Oklahoma, its agencies, public trusts and instrumentalities, or by any Oklahoma municipalities and other political subdivisions, that receive financial aid, assistance, participation, financing and/or funding for and participate in any federal program(s), the State of Oklahoma, its agencies and instrumentalities, and any Oklahoma municipalities and other political subdivisions, may cooperate with the United States

Government and any agency or instrumentality thereof, in the manner authorized and provided by federal law and regulation and in doing so may perform all necessary functions and take all necessary actions for accomplishing such federal purposes and programs, including but not limited to, following and/or complying with federal laws, regulations and/or requirements arising from or related to federal financial aid, assistance, participation, financing and/or funding, in the construction, alteration, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, improvement, expansion, operation, maintenance, removal, and demolition of buildings and structures or any appurtenances attached to such buildings or structures, notwithstanding any provisions of any and all uniform building codes and standards adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission to the contrary.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-6. IFC® 2009 Chapter 1 Scope and Administration

Chapter 1 the Oklahoma adopted IFC® 2009, includes the following Preamble at the very beginning of the chapter:

- (1) Pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1000.23, the Uniform Building Code Commission has adopted the International Fire Code®, 2009 Edition (IFC® 2009) as amended and revised by the Commission, as the minimum standards to be used by all entities for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems in jurisdictions throughout the State of Oklahoma. However, the Commission's adoption of Chapter 1 "Scope and Administration" of the IFC® 2009 is for continuity purposes and the Commission's adoption of Chapter 1 recognizes the methods of best practice in fully implementing the minimum standards for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems.
- (2) All provisions of the adopted IFC® 2009, including Chapter 1, as amended and revised by the Commission, are hereby established and adopted as the statewide minimum standards for residential and commercial fire prevention and fire protection systems in Oklahoma pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1000.23, which may only be amended or altered pursuant to Oklahoma law and the administrative rules of the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission as set forth in Title 748, Chapter 15 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code. However, the provisions of Chapter 1 adopted herein are only intended to be in force and effect to the extent that the respective provisions do not conflict with State law or the lawful exercise of code administration and enforcement jurisdiction by entities empowered to do so pursuant to applicable law.
- (3) The Commission's adoption of Chapter 1 in this manner is made with the recognition that the legal authority granting state and local code administration and enforcement jurisdictions the power and discretion to administer and enforce codes arises from Oklahoma laws governing those jurisdictions. Furthermore, the Commission also recognizes that many state and local code administration and enforcement jurisdictions have already created, or have the lawful authority to create, departments, offices and administrative policies pursuant to various applicable laws and other adopted model codes with "Scope and Administration" provisions similar to Chapter 1 of the adopted IFC® 2009
- (4) This limited adoption of Chapter 1 is made in recognition of the authority and discretion possessed by jurisdictions to administer and enforce building codes. Exercising such authority and jurisdiction in a manner inconsistent with Chapter 1 must be supported by Oklahoma law. Code administration and enforcement jurisdictions shall not use the Commission's limited adoption of Chapter 1 to circumvent the remainder of the requirements

established by the Oklahoma adopted IFC® 2009 and the Commission will strongly oppose any such practice.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-7. IFC 2009® Chapter 2 Definitions

Chapter 2 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) The definition for Residential Group R-1 has been modified to clarify the International Residential Code® 2009 can be utilized so long as the facilities have a fire sprinkler system. This definition has been modified to read: R-1 Residential occupancies containing sleeping units where the occupants are primarily transient in nature including: Boarding houses (transient), Hotels (transient), Motels (transient), Congregate living facilities (transient) with 10 or fewer occupants are permitted to comply with the construction requirements for Group R-3, except as otherwise provided for in this code, or shall comply with the International Residential Code®, provided the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.2.8.

(2) The definition for Residential Group R-2 has been modified to clarify the International Residential Code® 2009 can be utilized so long as the facilities have a fire sprinkler system. This definition has been modified to read: R-2 Residential occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including Apartment houses, Boarding houses (non-transient), Convents, Dormitories, Fraternities and sororities, Hotels (non-transient), Live/Work units, Monasteries, Motels (non-transient), Vacation timeshare and Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer occupants are permitted to comply with the construction requirements for Group R-3, except as otherwise provided for in this code, or shall comply with the International Residential Code®, provided the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.2.8.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-8. IFC® 2009 Chapter 5 Fire Service Features

Chapter 5 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modification: Section 508.1.3 Size has been modified to include an exception to make the fire command center smaller when approved by the fire code official. This section has been modified to read: Section 508.1.3 Size. The fire command center shall be a minimum of 200 square feet (19 square meters) in area with a minimum dimension of 10 feet (3048 mm). Exception: When approved by the fire code official the fire command center can be reduced in size to not less than a minimum of 96 square feet (9 square meters) with a minimum dimension of 8 feet (2438 mm).

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-9. IFC® 2009 Chapter 6 Building Services and Systems

Chapter 6 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) Section 604.5 Supervision of maintenance and testing has been modified to change the section number to Section 604.6 to allow a new section to be inserted before this section. The section number has been modified to read: Section 604.6 Supervision of maintenance and testing. Routine maintenance, inspection and operational testing shall be overseen by a properly instructed individual.

(2) Section 604.5 Emergency lighting equipment has been added to the code to outline a procedure for testing emergency lighting equipment. This section has been added to read:

Section 604.5 Emergency lighting equipment. Emergency lighting shall be inspected and tested in accordance with Sections 604.5.1 through 604.5.2.1

(3) Section 604.5.1 Activation test has been added to the code to outline the activation testing requirement for testing emergency lighting. This section has been added to read: Section 604.5.1 Activation test. An activation test of emergency lighting equipment shall be completed monthly. The activation test shall ensure the emergency lighting activates automatically upon normal electrical disconnect and stays sufficiently illuminated for a minimum of 30 seconds.

(4) Section 604.5.1.1 Activation test record has been added to the code to outline the requirements for record keeping of the monthly activation test. This section has been added to read: Section 604.5.1.1 Activation test record. Records shall be maintained on the premises for a minimum of three years and submitted to the fire code official upon request. The record shall include the location of the emergency lighting tested, whether the unit passed or failed, the date of the test, and the person completing the test.

(5) Section 604.5.2 Power test has been added to the code to outline a procedure for testing battery powered emergency lighting equipment. This section has been added to read: Section 604.5.2 Power test. For battery powered emergency lighting, a power test of the emergency lighting equipment shall be completed annually. The power test shall operate the emergency lighting for a minimum of 90 minutes and shall remain sufficiently illuminated for the duration of the test.

(6) Section 604.5.2.1 Power test record has been added to the code to outline the requirements for record keeping of the annual power test. This section has been added to read: Section 604.5.2.1 Power test record. Records shall be maintained on the premises for a minimum of three years and submitted to the fire code official upon request. The record shall include the location of the emergency lighting tested, whether the unit passed or failed, the date of the test, and the person completing the test.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-10. IFC® 2009 Chapter 8 Interior Finish, Decorative Materials and Furnishings

Chapter 10 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modification: Section 803.5.1 Textile wall coverings has been modified to clarify the language that the flame spread can be in accordance with either ASME E 84 or UL 723 but in both applications the textile wall covering must be protected with automatic sprinklers. This section has been modified to read: Section 803.5.1 Textile wall coverings. Textile wall coverings shall comply with one of the following:

(1) The coverings shall have a Class A flame spread index in accordance with either ASME E 84 or UL 723 and be protected by automatic sprinklers installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

(2) The covering shall meet the criteria of Section 903.5.1.1 or 803.5.1.2 when tested in the manner intended for use in accordance with NFPA 265 using the product-mounting system (including adhesive) of actual use, or

(3) The covering shall meet the criteria of Section 803.1.2.1 when tested in accordance with NFPA 286 using the product-mounting system (including adhesive) of actual use.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-11. IFC® 2009 Chapter 9 Fire Protection Systems

Chapter 9 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) Section 901.4.5 Pump and riser room size has been added to the code to provide the designer clarification for the maintenance clearances needed for these rooms. This section has been added to read: Section 904.4.5 Pump and riser room size. Fire pump and automatic sprinkler system riser rooms shall be designed with adequate space for all equipment necessary for the installation, as defined by the manufacturer, with sufficient working space around the stationary equipment. Clearances around equipment to elements of permanent construction, including other installed equipment and appliances, shall be sufficient to allow inspection, service, repair or replacement without removing such elements of permanent construction or disabling the function of a required fire resistance-rated assembly. Fire pump and automatic sprinkler riser rooms shall be provided with a door(s) and unobstructed passageway large enough to allow removal of the largest piece of equipment.

(2) Section 903.2.7 Group M has been modified to reword subsection 4 to provide a reasonable limit for these occupancies and adequate protection without excessive burden on Group M occupancies with small areas of upholstered furniture and mattresses. This section has been modified to read: Section 903.2.7 Group M. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings containing a Group M occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- (A) A Group M fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet (1115 square meters).
- (B) A Group M fire area is located more than three stories above grade plane.
- (C) The combined area of all Group M fire areas on all floors, including any mezzanines, exceeds 24,000 square feet (2230 square meters).
- (D) A group M occupancy where the cumulative area used for the display and sale of upholstered furniture or mattresses exceeds 5,000 square feet (464 square meters).

(3) Section 906.1 Where required has been modified to remove the exceptions to where portable fire extinguishers are required in Groups A, B, and E occupancies, and to allow an exception to the requirement for portable fire extinguishers under certain conditions in R-2 occupancies. This section has been modified to read: Section 906.1 Where required. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in the following locations:

- (A) In new and existing Group A, B, E, F, H, I, M, R-1, R-2, R-4 and S occupancies. Exception: In Group R-2 occupancies, portable fire extinguishers shall be required only in locations specified in items 2 through 6 where each dwelling unit is provided with portable fire extinguisher having a minimum rating of 1-A:10-b:C.
- (B) Within 30 feet (9144 mm) of commercial cooking equipment.
- (C) In areas where flammable or combustible liquids are stored, used or dispensed.
- (D) On each floor of structures under construction, except Group R-3 occupancies, in accordance with Section 1415.1.
- (E) Where required by the section indicated in Table 906.1.
- (F) Special-hazard areas, including but not limited to laboratories, computer rooms and generator rooms, where required by the fire code official.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-12. IFC® 2009 Chapter 10 Means of Egress

Chapter 10 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) Section 1005.1 Minimum required egress width has been modified to include two more exceptions to modify egress width for all occupancies other than H and I-2 occupancies with sprinklers and a voice evacuation system. This section has been modified to read: Section 1005.1 Minimum required egress width. The means of egress width shall not be less than

required by this section. The total width of means of egress in inches (mm) shall not be less than the total occupant load served by the means of egress multiplied by 0.3 inches (7.62 mm) per occupant for stairways and by 0.2 inches (5.08 mm) per occupant for other egress components. The width shall not be less than specified elsewhere in this code. Multiple means of egress shall be sized such that the loss of any one means of egress shall not reduce the availability capacity to less than 50 percent of the required capacity. The maximum capacity required from any story of a building shall be maintained to the termination of the means of egress. Exceptions:

(A) Means of egress complying with Section 1028.

(B) For other than H and I-2 occupancies, the capacity, in inches (mm), means of egress stairways shall be calculated multiplying the occupant load served by a stairway by a means of egress capacity factor of 0.2 inches (5.08 mm) per occupant in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.1.1 or 903.1.2 and an emergency voice/alarm communication system in accordance with Section 907.5.2.2.

(C) For other than H and I-2 occupancies, the capacity, in inches (mm), means of egress components other than stairways shall be calculated multiplying the occupant load served by such component by a means of egress capacity factor of 0.15 inches (3.81 mm) per occupant in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.1.1 or 903.1.2 and an emergency voice/alarm communication system in accordance with Section 907.5.2.2.

(2) Section 1022.1 Enclosures required has been modified to add an eighth exception to the code that will direct users to the correct reference for exemptions to allowances for open stairs. This section has been modified to read: Section 1022.1 Enclosures required. Interior exit stairways and interior exit ramps shall be enclosed with fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the International Building Code® or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 712 of the International Building Code®, or both. Exit enclosures shall have a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours where connecting four stories or more and not less than 1 hour when connecting less than four stories. The number of stories connected by the exit enclosure shall include any basements but not any mezzanines. Exit enclosures shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than the floor assembly penetrated, but need not exceed 2 hours. Exit enclosures shall lead directly to the exterior of the building or shall be extended to the exterior of the building with an exit passageway conforming to the requirements of Section 1023, except as permitted in Section 1027.1. An exit enclosure shall not be used for any purpose other than means of egress.

Exceptions:

(A) In all occupancies, other than Group H and I occupancies, a stairway is not required to be enclosed when the stairway serves an occupant load of less than 10 and the stairway complies with either Item 1.1 or 1.2. In all cases, the maximum number of connecting opening stories shall not exceed two.

(i) 1.1 The stairway is open to not more than one story above its level of exit discharge; or

(ii) 1.2 The stairway is open to not more than one story below its level of exit discharge.

(B) Exits in buildings of Group A-5 where all portions of the means of egress are essentially open to the outside need not be enclosed.

(C) Stairways serving and contained within a single residential dwelling unit or sleeping unit in Group R-1, R-2 or R-3 occupancies are not required to be enclosed.

(D) Stairways in open parking structures that serve only the parking structure are not required to be enclosed.

(E) Stairways in Group I-3 occupancies, as provided for in Section 408.3.8 of the International Building Code®, are not required to be enclosed.

(F) Means of egress stairways as required by Section 1015.6.1 of this code and Section 410.5.3 of the International Building Code® are not required to be enclosed.

(G) Means of egress stairways from balconies, galleries or press boxes as provided for in Section 1028.5.1 are not required to be enclosed.

(H) Stairways complying with exception 3 or 4 of Section 1016.1 are not required to be enclosed.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-13. IFC® 2009 Chapter 46 Construction Requirements for Existing Buildings

Chapter 46 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) Section 4601.1 Scope has been modified to include an exception allowing for structures complying with the International Existing Building Code® be considered safe enough to where the provisions of Chapter 46 would not apply and resolve discrepancies between the two codes. This section has been modified to read: Section 4601.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to existing buildings constructed prior to the adoption of this code. Exception: Buildings or portions of a building that comply with the latest edition of the International Existing Building Code® or the edition that was adopted at the time a remodel occurred.

(2) Section 4603.3.2 Three to five stories has been modified to add a fourth exception to provide relief from this section of the code when vertical openings comply with the requirements of Section 703.2.1 of the International Existing Building Code®. This section has been modified to read: Section 4603.3.2 Three to five stories. In other than Group I occupancies, interior vertical openings connecting three to five stories shall be protected by either 1-hour fire-resistant-rated construction or an automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout the building in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

Exceptions:

(A) Vertical opening protection is not required for Group R-3 occupancies.

(B) Vertical opening protection is not required for open parking garages and ramps.

(C) Vertical opening protection for escalators shall be in accordance with Section 4603.3.5, 4603.3.6 or 4603.3.7.

(D) Vertical openings that comply with the requirements of Section 703.2.1 of the International Existing Building Code®.

(3) Section 4604.1 General has been modified to allow the means of egress in an existing building to be considered as complying if in the opinion of both the building code official and the fire code official they do not constitute a distinct hazard to life and the requirements of a life safety evaluation have been stricken from the code. This section has been modified to read: Section 4604.1 General. Means of egress in existing buildings shall comply with the minimum egress requirements when specified in Table 4603.1 as further enumerated in Section 4604.2 through 4604.23 or means of egress conforming to the requirements of the building code under which they were constructed shall be considered as complying means of egress if, in the opinions of the building official and the fire code official, they do not

constitute a distinct hazard to life. Existing buildings that were not required to comply with a building code at the time of construction shall comply with the minimum egress requirements when specified in Table 4603.1 as further enumerated in Sections 4604.2 through 4604.23.

(4) Section 4604.18.2 Dead ends has been modified to add another exception to the requirements of this section provided the dead ends comply with the requirements of Section 705.6 of the International Existing Building Code®. This section has been modified to read: Section 4064.18.2 Dead ends. Where more than one exit or exit access doorway is required, the exit access shall be arranged such that dead ends do not exceed the limits specified in Table 4604.18.2. Exceptions:

(A) A dead-end passageway or corridor shall not be limited in length where the length of the dead-end passageway or corridor is less than 2.5 time the least width of the dead-end passageway or corridor.

(B) Dead ends that comply with the requirements of Section 705.6 of the International Existing Building Code®.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]

748:20-3-14. IFC® 2009 Chapter 47 Referenced Standards

Chapter 8 of the IFC® 2009 is adopted with the following modifications:

(1) The reference to the International Building Code® has been modified to include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission". This section has been modified to read: IBC-09 International Building Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

(2) The reference to the International Existing Building Code® has been added to the reference section and will include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission" and provide the sections to be referenced. This section has been added to read: IEBC-09 International Existing Building Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission. Sections 4601.1, 4603.3.2, 4604.18.2

(3) The reference to the International Fuel Gas Code® has been modified to include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission". This section has been modified to read: IFGC-09 International Fuel Gas Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

(4) The reference to the International Mechanical Code® has been modified to include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission". This section has been modified to read: IMC-09 International Mechanical Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

(5) The reference to the International Plumbing Code® has been modified to include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission". This section has been modified to read: IPC-09 International Plumbing Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

(6) The reference to the International Residential Code® has been modified to include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission". This section has been modified to read: IRC-09 International

Residential Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

(7) The referenced standard for NFPA 70® National Electrical Code® has been modified to change the edition year from 2008 to 2011 and include after the title the words "as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission".

This section has been modified to read: 70-11 National Electrical Code® as adopted and modified by the State of Oklahoma through the Uniform Building Code Commission.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1646, eff 11-1-12]