

The following are the Final Florida Specific Amendments to 2015 edition of the *Life Safety Code*® (NFPA 101):

1.1.1 Title.

NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, shall be known as the *Life Safety Code*®, is cited as such, and shall be referred to herein as “this Code” or “the Code.”

1.1.1.1 Anytime a reference is made to NFPA 1 or NFPA 101 within this Code, it shall be the Florida specific version of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101.

1.1.6 Areas Not Addressed.

1.1.7 The Florida Building Code shall be referred to anytime a reference is made to the building code or to NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, in this Code or an adopted standard.

1.3 Application

1.3.1* New and Existing Buildings and Structures.

The Code shall apply to both new construction and existing buildings and existing structures.

1.3.1.1 If deemed necessary by an AHJ for a complete, accurate, and thorough firesafety plans review or inspection, the AHJ may request assistance from the building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical or similar specialty inspector; however, nothing in this rule gives authority or jurisdiction to any person other than a firesafety inspector certified under Section 633.216, Florida Statutes, to perform firesafety inspections required by law, rule, ordinance, or code.

1.7 Conflicts.

1.7.1. When a requirement differs between this Code and a referenced document, the requirement of this Code shall apply.

1.7.2 When a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement occurs, the specific requirement shall apply.

1.8 Florida Fire Prevention Code and Florida Building Code Interrelation. The Florida Fire Prevention Code contains several provisions and requirements that may interrelate with the Florida Building Code. It is not the intent of this Code that such interrelation result in duplicate reviews and inspections by either the firesafety authority or the building official. The authority having jurisdiction over firesafety is responsible for enforcement of the Florida Fire Prevention Code hereof, and, in the event that a dispute arises regarding the enforcement of the Florida Fire Prevention Code as related to the enforcement of the Florida Building Code, the authority having jurisdiction over firesafety shall resolve the dispute by the procedure set forth in Chapter 633 and Chapter 553, Florida Statutes, as required by Section 633.104(5), Florida Statutes.

2.2* NFPA Publications

National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

- NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 11, *Standard for Low-, Medium-, and High-Expansion Foam*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 12, *Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 12A, *Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems*, 2009 edition.

- NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 15, *Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 16, *Standard for the Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 17, *Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 17A, *Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 20, *Standard for Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*, 2014 edition.
- NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 30B, *Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 31, *Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 40, *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Cellulose Nitrate Film*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 45, *Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 54, *National Fuel Gas Code*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 58, *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code*, 2014 edition.
- NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code®*, 2014 edition.
- NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 80, *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 82, *Standard on Incinerators and Waste and Linen Handling Systems and Equipment*, 2014 edition.
- NFPA 88A, *Standard for Parking Structures*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 90A, *Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 90B, *Standard for the Installation of Warm Air Heating and Air-Conditioning Systems*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 91, *Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Noncombustible Particulate Solids*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, 2014 edition.
- NFPA 99, *Health Care Facilities Code*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 101A, *Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 105, *Standard for Smoke Door Assemblies and Other Opening Protectives*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 110, *Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 111, *Standard on Stored Electrical Energy Emergency and Standby Power Systems*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 160, *Standard for the Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 170, *Standard for Fire Safety and Emergency Symbols*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 204, *Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting*, 2012 edition.

- NFPA 211, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel–Burning Appliances*, 2013 edition.
- ~~NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, 2015 edition.~~
- NFPA 221, *Standard for High Challenge Fire Walls, Fire Walls, and Fire Barrier Walls*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 241, *Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 252, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Door Assemblies*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 253, *Standard Method of Test for Critical Radiant Flux of Floor Covering Systems Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 257, *Standard on Fire Test for Window and Glass Block Assemblies*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 259, *Standard Test Method for Potential Heat of Building Materials*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 260, *Standard Methods of Tests and Classification System for Cigarette Ignition Resistance of Components of Upholstered Furniture*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 261, *Standard Method of Test for Determining Resistance of Mock-Up Upholstered Furniture Material Assemblies to Ignition by Smoldering Cigarettes*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 265, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Room Fire Growth Contribution of Textile or Expanded Vinyl Wall Coverings on Full Height Panels and Walls*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 286, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 288, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Floor Fire Door Assemblies Installed Horizontally in Fire Resistance–Rated Floor Systems*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 289, *Standard Method of Fire Test for Individual Fuel Packages*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 400, *Hazardous Materials Code*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 415, *Standard on Airport Terminal Buildings, Fueling Ramp Drainage, and Loading Walkways*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 418, *Standard for Heliports*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 701, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 703, *Standard for Fire Retardant–Treated Wood and Fire-Retardant Coatings for Building Materials*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 720, *Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 731, *Standard for the Installation of Electronic Premises Security Systems*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 750, *Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 914, *Code for Fire Protection of Historic Structures*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 1123, *Code for Fireworks Display*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 1124, *Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles*, 2006 edition.
- NFPA 1126, *Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 2001, *Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*, 2012 edition.

2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections

- NFPA 1, *Fire Code*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 80, *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*, 2013 edition.

- NFPA 88A, *Standard for Parking Structures*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 221, *Standard for High Challenge Fire Walls, Fire Walls, and Fire Barrier Walls*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 252, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Door Assemblies*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 253, *Standard Method of Test for Critical Radiant Flux of Floor Covering Systems Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source*, 2011 edition.
- NFPA 288, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Floor Fire Door Assemblies Installed Horizontally in Fire Resistance– Rated Floor Systems*, 2012 edition.
- NFPA 301, *Code for Safety to Life from Fire on Merchant Vessels*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 415, *Standard on Airport Terminal Buildings, Fueling Ramp Drainage, and Loading Walkways*, 2013 edition.
- NFPA 703, *Standard for Fire Retardant-Treated Wood and Fire-Retardant Coatings for Building Materials*, 2015 edition.
- NFPA 914, *Code for Fire Protection of Historic Structures*, 2010 edition.
- NFPA 921, *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*, 2014 edition.
- ~~ASCE/SEI 7, *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures*, 2010.~~

3.1 General

The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this *Code*. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning included, common usage of the terms shall apply. The following terms, for the purposes of this Code, shall have the meanings given in this chapter, if not otherwise modified by another chapter. Words used in the present tense shall include the future; words used in the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter; the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural number shall include the singular. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using the definition within the Florida Building Code.

3.1.1 Where terms are not defined in this chapter, within another chapter, or the Florida Building Code, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged, shall be a source for ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.3.96 Fire Code. ~~The fire code enforced by the jurisdiction or agency enforcing this Code.~~ The Florida Fire Prevention Code as defined in F.S. 633.202.

6.1.14 Multiple Occupancies.

6.1.14.1.3* Where incidental to another occupancy, areas used as follows shall be permitted to be considered part of the predominant occupancy and shall be subject to the provisions of the *Code* that apply to the predominant occupancy:

- (1) Mercantile, business, industrial, or storage use
- (2) * Nonresidential use with an occupant load fewer than that established by Section 6.1 for the occupancy threshold
- (3) Portions of buildings used as accessory offices or for customary non-hazardous uses necessary for transacting the principal business in storage and industrial occupancies need not be separated from the principal use.

- (4) Industrial occupancies producing, using, or storing low hazard products in accordance with Subdivision 6.2.2 need not be separated by fire-resistant construction from the occupancies to which they are accessory.

6.1.14.1.3.1 Incidental use areas shall be separated as required by Table 508.2.5 of the Florida Building Code where Table 508.2.5 permits an automatic fire-extinguishing system without a fire barrier, the incidental use area shall be separated by construction capable of resisting the passage of smoke.

6.1.14.1.4 The following accessory occupancies shall not be required to be separated from the primary occupancy as required in 6.1.14.4:

- (1) A kitchen in an assembly occupancy does not constitute a mixed occupancy.
- (2) Accessory uses in industrial and storage occupancies as otherwise provided in 6.1.14.1.3(1)
- (3) Rooms or spaces used for customary storage of non-hazardous materials in assembly, business, educational, industrial, mercantile, hotel and dormitory, and apartment occupancies which in aggregate do not exceed 10% of the major floor area in which they are located. Protection from hazards shall be as otherwise provided in the specific occupancy chapter.

6.1.14.4 Separated Occupancies.

6.1.14.4.7 One-story or two-story structures that are less than 10,000 square feet, whose occupancy is defined in the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code as business or mercantile, the authority having jurisdiction shall enforce the wall fire-rating provisions for occupancy separation as defined in the Florida Building Code.

Table 6.1.14.4.1 Footnote:

*Where the building is two stories or less in height and the total building square footage is less than 10,000 square feet, no separation is required.

7.2.1.3 Floor Level.

7.2.1.3.3 Thresholds at door openings shall not exceed ½ in. (13 mm) in height.

7.2.1.3.3.1 Thresholds at exterior sliding doorways serving dwelling units shall not exceed ¾ inch (19.1mm) in height.

7.2.1.14 Horizontal-Sliding Door Assemblies. Horizontal sliding door assemblies shall be permitted in means of egress, provided that all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) The door leaf is readily operable from either side without special knowledge or effort.
- (2) The force that, when applied to the operating device in the direction of egress, is required to operate the door leaf is not more than 15 lbf (67 N).
- (3) The force required to operate the door leaf in the direction of travel is not more than 30 lbf (133 N) to set the leaf in motion and is not more than 15 lbf (67 N) to close the leaf or open it to the minimum required width.
- (4) The door leaf is operable using a force of not more than 50 lbf (222 N) when a force of 250 lbf (1100 N) is applied perpendicularly to the leaf adjacent to the operating device, unless the door opening is an existing special-purpose horizontal-sliding accordion or folding exit access door assembly serving an area with an occupant load of fewer than 50.
- (5) The door assembly complies with the fire protection rating, if required, and, where rated, is self-closing or automatic-closing by means of smoke detection in accordance with 7.2.1.8 and is installed in accordance with NFPA 80, *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*.

- (6) The door, if power operated, shall be capable of being operated manually in the event of power failure.

7.2.2.2.3 Spiral Stairs.

7.2.2.2.3.3 Where the occupant load served does not exceed ~~three~~ five, spiral stairs shall be permitted, provided that all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) The clear width of the stairs shall be not less than 26 in. (660 mm).
- (2) The height of risers shall not exceed 9½ in. (240 mm).
- (3) The headroom shall be not less than 6 ft 6 in. (1980 mm).
- (4) Treads shall have a depth not less than 7½ in. (190 mm) at a point 12 in. (305 mm) from the narrower edge.
- (5) All treads shall be identical.
- (6) Handrails shall be provided on both sides of the stairway.

7.2.2.5.3* Usable Space. Enclosed, usable spaces within exit enclosures shall be prohibited, including under stairs, unless otherwise permitted by 7.2.2.5.3.2.

7.2.2.5.3.1 Open space within the exit enclosure shall not be used for any purpose that has the potential to interfere with egress.

7.2.2.5.3.2 Enclosed, usable space shall be permitted under stairs, provided that ~~both~~ all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) The space shall be separated from the stair enclosure by the same fire resistance as the exit enclosure.
- (2) Entrance to the enclosed, usable space shall not be from within the stair enclosure. *(See also 7.1.3.2.3.)*
- (3) The space is not used for the storage of combustible or flammable liquids, or otherwise hazardous materials.

7.5.2 Impediments to Egress.

7.5.2.3 Hurricane Protection Devices. The temporary installation or closure of storm shutters, panels, and other approved hurricane protection devices shall be permitted on emergency escape and rescue openings in residential occupancies during the threat of a storm. Such devices shall not be required to comply with the operational constraints of 7.2.1.5. While such protection is provided, at least one means of escape from each occupied unit shall be within the first floor of the unit and shall not be located within a garage. Occupants in any part of the unit shall be able to access the means of escape without passing through a lockable door not under their control.

8.2.1 Construction.

8.2.1.1 Buildings or structures occupied or used in accordance with the individual occupancy chapters, Chapters 11 through 43, shall meet the minimum construction requirements of those chapters.

8.2.1.2 The Florida Building Code NFPA 220, Standard on Types of Building Construction, shall be used to determine the requirements for the construction classification.

8.3.2 Walls.

8.3.2.4 Each new Fire Wall, Fire Barrier, Fire Partition, Smoke Barrier, Smoke Partition, or any other new wall required to have protected openings shall be permanently identified with signs or stenciling above any decorative ceiling and in concealed spaces with the wording, "FIRE AND SMOKE BARRIER – PROTECT

ALL OPENINGS," or similar language. Such signs or stenciling shall be in 4 inch high letters, ½ inch stroke, and not more than 15 feet on-center.

9.6.1* General.

9.6.1.1 The provisions of Section 9.6 shall apply only where specifically required by another section of this *Code* or where supervision of a new fire sprinkler system or new fire alarm system is required by the Florida Building Code.

9.6.3.5 Unless otherwise provided in 9.6.3.5.1 through 9.6.3.5.8, notification signals for occupants to evacuate shall be audible, and visible signals in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code.* ~~and ICC/ANSI A117.1, American National Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities, or other means of notification acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction shall be provided~~

11.1.6 Minimum Construction Requirements.

Minimum construction requirements shall be in accordance with the applicable occupancy chapter and with the Florida Building Code.

12.3.5 Extinguishment Requirements

12.3.5.1 ~~The~~ Where the occupant load exceeds 100, the following assembly occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1):

- (1) Dance halls
- (2) Discotheques
- (3) Nightclubs
- (4) Assembly occupancies with festival seating

13.3.5 Extinguishment Requirements.

13.3.5.1 Where the occupant load exceeds ~~100~~ 300, the following assembly occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1):

- (1) Dance halls
- (2) Discotheques
- (3) Nightclubs
- (4) Assembly occupancies with festival seating

17.7.2 Emergency Egress and Relocation Drills.

17.7.2.2 Emergency egress and relocation drills shall be conducted as follows:

- (1) Not less than one emergency egress and relocation drill shall be conducted every month the facility is in session, unless both of the following criteria are met:
 - (a) In climates where the weather is severe, the monthly emergency egress and relocation drills shall be permitted to be deferred.
 - (b) The required number of emergency egress and relocation drills shall be conducted, and not less than four shall be conducted before the drills are deferred.
- (2) All occupants of the ~~building~~ occupancy shall participate in the drill.

- (3) One additional emergency egress and relocation drill, other than for day-care occupancies that are open on a year-round basis, shall be required within the first 30 days of operation.
- (4) Fire emergency egress and relocation drills conducted must include, at a minimum:
 - (a) One fire emergency egress and relocation drill using the established napping or sleeping times.
 - (b) One fire emergency egress and relocation drill using an alternate evacuation route. Occupants of rooms that are not on the ground level or that have a window for rescue shall be permitted to use the main classroom door to exit and then travel in a different direction from that point.
 - (c) One fire drill in the presence and at the request of the authority having jurisdiction.

24.3.5* Extinguishment Requirements.

~~24.3.5.1 All new one and two family dwellings shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 24.3.5.2.~~

31.3.4.3 Notification.

31.3.4.3.5 Emergency Forces notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

31.3.4.3.5.1 Fire Department Notification shall not be required in existing apartment buildings 4 stories or less in height, when all of the following are provided:

- (1) An approved sign is provided at each manual fire alarm pull box reading "Local Alarm Only - In Case of Fire Call 911." The lettering and numbers on approved signs shall have a minimum height of ½ inch, with a minimum ⅛ inch stroke width, and shall be white in color on red background located no higher than 4 inches directly above the manual fire alarm box and;
- (2) A combination visual and audible notification device is provided at an approved location on the outside wall

31.3.5.12 High-Rise Building Sprinklers.

31.3.5.12.1 All high-rise buildings that are condominiums, other than those meeting 31.3.5.12.2 or 31.3.5.12.3, shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.2, not later than December 31, 2019.

31.3.5.12.2 An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required where every dwelling unit has exterior exit access in accordance with 7.5.3.

31.3.5.12.3* An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required in buildings having an approved, engineered life safety system in accordance with 31.3.5.12.4.

31.3.5.12.4 Where required by 31.3.5.12.3, an engineered life safety system shall be developed by a registered professional engineer experienced in fire and life safety system design, shall be approved by the authority having jurisdiction, and shall include any or all of the following:

- (1) Partial automatic sprinkler protection
- (2) Smoke detection systems
- (3) Smoke control systems
- (4) Compartmentation
- (5) Other approved systems

31.3.5.12.4.1 When used to satisfy the requirements of 31.3.5.12.3, the term "Engineered Life Safety System" shall only apply as an alternative to complete automatic fire sprinkler protection in existing high-rise buildings.