

**2009 International Fire Code (IFC)**  
**City of Norman and State of Oklahoma-Uniform Building Code Amendments**

*\* Note to users of this code: Please review the City of Norman (CoN) amendments and State of Oklahoma (OK) amendments listed below (7 pages total) before viewing the code and consider the amendments as they pertain to your area of interest. Feel free to contact a member of the City's Development Services Division if you have any questions about the code or any of the amendments.\**

**Sec.5-214 Adoption of the 2009 International Fire Code as adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission pursuant to 59 O.S. 1000.23**

- (a) Amend, delete or substitute within the following sections as indicated:
  - (1) Delete the Preamble referenced in Title 748:20-3-6 from the International Fire Code as amended and adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission pursuant to 59 O.S. 1000.23.

**OK: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.

**OK: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).

**OK: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.

**OK: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.

### **OK: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.

**OK: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.

**OK: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®.

### **OK:748:20-3-14 IFC® 2009 Chapter 47 Referenced Standards**

Chapter 47 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.