

**To Be Rescinded**

1301:7-7-06 Means of egress.

(A) Section FM-601.0 General

(1) FM-601.1 Scope: The provisions of this rule shall govern the maintenance and utilization of means of egress and provide the minimum requirements for means of egress in all structures.

(2) F-601.2 Unsafe means of egress: In any structure in which the means of egress are deemed inadequate for safety by the code official, additional provisions shall be made for safe means of egress as the code official shall order.

(3) F-601.3 Owner responsibility: The owner or lessee of every structure shall be responsible for the safety of all persons in, or occupying, such premises with respect to the adequacy of means of egress therefrom.

(4) F-601.4 Approval required: An assembly or educational occupancy shall not be maintained, operated or occupied as such without securing approval from the code official.

(5) FM-601.5 Egress plan: A plan complying with paragraph (B)(2)(FM-702.2) of rule 1301:7-7-07 of the Administrative Code shall be submitted to the code official and an approved copy shall be kept on the premises of assembly occupancies.

(6) FM-601.6 Occupant load: The occupant load for all structures shall be calculated in accordance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(7) FM-601.7 Posting of occupant load: An assembly or educational occupancy shall be posted with an approved legible sign in contrasting colors conspicuously located near the main point of egress from the room or space stating the number of occupants permitted within such space. The number of occupants permitted shall be determined in accordance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. Assembly rooms or spaces with multiple occupancy capabilities shall be posted for all such occupancies. The owner shall be responsible for installing and maintaining such signs.

(8) F-601.8 Overcrowding: A person shall not permit overcrowding or admittance of any person beyond the approved occupant load. The code official, upon finding overcrowded conditions or obstruction in aisles, passageways or other means of egress, or upon finding any condition which constitutes a hazard to life and safety, shall cause the occupancy, performance, presentation, spectacle or entertainment to be stopped until such a condition or obstruction is corrected and the addition of any further occupants prohibited until the approved occupant load is reestablished.

(9) F-601.9 Operator responsibility: The operator or the person responsible for the operation of an assembly or educational occupancy shall check egress facilities before such building is occupied to determine compliance with this section. If such inspection reveals that any element of the required means of egress cannot be accessed, is obstructed, locked, fastened or otherwise unsuited for immediate utilization, admittance to the building shall not be permitted until necessary corrective

action has been completed.

(B) Section FM-602.0 Definitions

FM-602.1 General: The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this rule and as stated elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

Egress: See means of egress.

Means of egress: A continuous and unobstructed path of travel from any point in a structure to a public way. A means of egress consists of three separate and distinct parts: the exit access; the exit; and the exit discharge. A means of egress comprises the vertical and horizontal means of travel and shall include: intervening room spaces; doors; hallways; corridors; passageways; balconies; ramps; stairs; enclosures; lobbies; escalators; horizontal exits; courts and yards.

Occupant load: The total number of persons permitted to occupy a building or portion thereof at any one time.

Overcrowding: A condition in which the number of occupants exceeds the total number of persons permitted to occupy a structure at any one time.

(C) Section FM-603.0 Maintenance

(1) FM-603.1 Continued maintenance: All means of egress devices and safeguards which THAT are required by this rule or which were required by a previous statute or another code when the structure was erected, altered or repaired, shall be maintained in good working order.

(2) FM-603.2 Exterior egress: All exit discharge, exterior stairways and fire escapes shall be kept free of snow and ice. Any fire escape or exterior stairway found to be in a state of deterioration or determined to be unsafe by the code official shall be repaired immediately. Depending on the structural condition, a load test of any fire escape shall be conducted before the escape is returned to service in accordance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(D) Section F-604.0 Alterations

(1) F-604.1 Minimum requirements: A structure shall not be occupied or altered in any manner that will reduce the number of means of egress or the capacity of the means of egress below that which was required for the structure according to the building code under which the structure was constructed and the requirements of this code.

(2) F-604.2 Areas under repair: Structures shall not be occupied during repairs or alterations unless all means of egress serving the area are continuously maintained or other approved measures are taken to provide equivalent safety.

(E) Section F-605.0 Obstructions

(1) F-605.1 General: The means of egress from each part of the structure, including exits, stairways, egress doors and any panic hardware installed thereon, aisles, corridors, passageways and similar elements of the means of egress, shall at all times be maintained in a safe condition and available for immediate utilization and free of all obstructions. Security devices affecting means of egress shall be subject to approval.

(2) F-605.2 Display: Aisles, passageways or stairways in any structure shall not be obstructed with tables, showcases, Christmas trees, vending machines or other obstructions during hours when the structure is open to the public, nor shall such obstructions be located in such a manner to interfere with fire-fighting access. Display boards, signs, coat racks and any other movable equipment that obstructs the path of egress travel shall be prohibited. A mirror shall not be placed in or adjacent to any means of egress in such a manner as to confuse the direction of egress. Draperies and similar hangings shall not obscure an exit.

(F) Section FM-606.0 Exits

(1) F-606.1 General: An exit shall not be utilized for any purpose that interferes with its function as a means of egress, except as otherwise approved.

FM-606.1.1 Storage: Combustible or flammable material shall not be placed, stored or kept in any portion of an exit, elevator car or hoistway, or at the bottom of a stairway, fire escape or other means of escape, unless such space is enclosed and protected as required by the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. Such storage shall be located so the presence or burning of the materials will not obstruct or render hazardous the means of egress.

(2) FM-606.2 Number of exits: In nonresidential buildings, every occupied story more than six stories above grade shall be provided with not less than two independent exits. In residential buildings, every story exceeding two stories above grade shall be provided with not less than two independent exits. In stories where more than one exit is required, all occupants shall have access to at least two exits. Every occupied story which is both completely below grade and greater than 2,000 square feet (186 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be provided with not less than two independent exits.

Exceptions: A single exit is acceptable under any one of the following conditions:

(a) Where the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system and an approved automatic fire detection system with smoke detectors located in all corridors, lobbies and common areas.

(b) Where the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic fire detection system, and the exit is an approved smokeproof enclosure or pressurized stairway.

(c) Where an existing fire escape complying with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code is provided in addition to the single exit.

(d) Where permitted by the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

F-606.2.1 Aircraft landing areas: All aircraft landing areas located on structures shall have not less than two independent exits.

(3) FM-606.3 Exit enclosure: Exit enclosures shall be provided in accordance with paragraph (D)(FM-304.0) of rule 1301:7-7-03 of the Administrative Code.

(4) FM-606.4 Exit capacity: The capacity of the exits serving a floor shall be sufficient for the occupant load thereof as determined by the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(G) Section FM-607.0 Exit access

(1) FM-607.1 Corridor enclosure: All corridors serving an occupant load greater than 30 and the openings therein shall provide an effective barrier to resist the movement of smoke. All transoms, louvers, doors and other openings shall be closed or shall be self-closing.

Exceptions

(a) Corridors in occupancies other than in use group H, which are equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(b) Patient room doors in corridors in occupancies in use group I-2 where smoke barriers are provided in accordance with paragraph (G)(4)(FM-607.4) of this rule.

(c) Corridors in occupancies in use group E where each room utilized for instruction or assembly purposes has at least one-half of the required means of egress doors opening directly to the exterior of the building at ground level.

(d) Corridors that are in compliance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(2) F-607.2 Dead-end travel distance: All corridors that serve more than one exit shall provide direct connection to such exits. The length of a dead-end corridor shall not exceed 35 feet (10668 mm) where the building is not equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system. The dead-end travel distance limitation shall be increased to 70 feet (21336 mm) where the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(3) FM-607.3 Aisles: In each room where chairs or tables and chairs are utilized, the arrangement shall provide for ready access by aisle accessways and aisles to each egress door. The minimum clear width of each aisle in occupancies in use groups A, E and I-2 shall be maintained in accordance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. In all other occupancies, aisles shall have a minimum required clear width of 44 inches (1118 mm) where serving an occupant load greater than 50, and 36 inches (914 mm) where serving an occupant load of 50 or less. The clear width of aisles shall not be obstructed by chairs, tables or other objects.

(4) FM-607.4 Smoke barriers: In occupancies in use group I-2 smoke barriers shall be provided to subdivide every story occupied by 30 or more patients for sleeping or treatment into at least two smoke compartments. Such stories shall be divided into smoke compartments with an area of not more than 22,500 square feet (2093 m<sup>2</sup>), and the travel distance from any point in a smoke compartment to a smoke barrier door shall not exceed 200 feet (60960 mm). The smoke barrier shall be constructed in accordance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code, except that the required fire-resistance rating shall be ½ hour. The refuge area in each smoke compartment shall comply with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. A means of egress shall be provided from each smoke compartment created by smoke barriers without having to return through the smoke compartment from which means of egress originated.

(H) Section FM-608.0 Egress doors

(1) FM-608.1 Openable: All means of egress doors shall be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without a key, special knowledge or effort, except as provided in paragraph (H)(3)(FM-608.3) of this rule.

(2) F-608.2 Interior stairway doors: All interior exit stairway doors in required exit stairways shall be openable from both sides without a key, special knowledge or effort at all times the structure or area served is occupied.

Exception: Exit stairway discharge doors shall be openable from the egress side and shall only be locked from the opposite side.

(3) FM-608.3 Locks permitted: Locks or fasteners shall not be installed on egress doors, except in accordance with the following conditions:

(a) In mental, penal or other institutions where the security of inmates is necessary, in which case properly trained supervisory personnel shall be continuously on duty and approved provisions shall be made to remove occupants safely in case of a fire or other emergency.

(b) In problem security areas, special-purpose door alarms or locking devices shall be approved prior to installation. Manually operated edge or surface-molded flush bolts shall be prohibited.

(c) Where the door hardware is in compliance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the

**Administrative Code.**

(4) FM-608.4 Special performance features: All hardware systems or assemblies utilized in the operation of a door, including special performance features, shall be inspected for proper operation. The inspection shall determine that the hardware operates as required by this code and the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(5) FM-608.5 Panic hardware: All doors equipped with latching devices serving rooms or spaces with an assembly or educational occupancy with an occupant load greater than 100 shall be equipped with approved panic hardware in compliance with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(6) FM-608.6 Closing: All fire doors shall comply with paragraph (C)(FM-303.0) of rule 1301:7-7-03 of the Administrative Code.

**(I) Section F-609.0 Emergency escape windows**

(1) F-609.1 Emergency escape: Every sleeping room located in a basement in an occupancy in use group R or I-1 shall have at least one openable window or exterior door approved for emergency egress or rescue, or shall have access to not less than two approved independent exits.

Exception: Buildings equipped throughout with an approved automatic fire suppression system.

(2) F-609.2 Maintenance: All required emergency escape windows and doors shall be maintained operational and available to occupants of sleeping rooms.

(3) F-609.3 Security: Bars, grilles or screens placed over emergency escape windows shall be releasable or removable from the inside without the use of a key, tool or force greater than that which is required for normal operation of the window.

**(J) Section FM-610.0 Illumination and signs**

(1) FM-610.1 Egress illumination: All means of egress shall be equipped with artificial lighting in accordance with the requirements for new buildings in the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. Emergency lighting shall be provided in accordance with the requirements for new buildings in the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(2) FM-610.2 Exit signs: All means of egress shall be indicated with approved exit "EXIT" signs where required by the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code. All exit "EXIT" signs shall be maintained visible, and all illuminated exit signs shall be illuminated at all times that the structure is occupied.

(3) FM-610.3 Information signs: A sign shall be provided at each floor landing in all interior stairways more than three stories above grade, designating the floor level above the floor of discharge. All elevator lobby call stations on all floor levels shall be identified with approved signs in accordance with the requirements for new buildings in the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

Exception: The emergency sign shall not be required for elevators that are part of an accessible means of egress complying with the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code.

(4) F-610.4 Mistaken egress: All doors, passageways and stairways that are neither a means of egress nor provide access to a means of egress and are located or arranged so AS to be mistaken for a means of egress, shall be properly identified as to their purpose.

(5) F-610.5 Sign obscuration: Decorations, furnishings and equipment impairing the visibility of egress signs shall not be permitted. Brightly illuminated signs for other than egress purposes, displays or objects shall not be located in or near the line of vision to the required egress sign when of a character so as to detract attention from the egress sign such that the sign will not be noticed.

(K) Section FM-611.0 Maintenance and testing of emergency power equipment

(1) F-611.1 General: A routine maintenance and operational testing program shall be provided for all emergency power equipment. The routine maintenance and operational testing shall be conducted in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

(2) F-611.2 Testing: Required emergency lighting systems, including exit signs, shall be tested for proper operation for a minimum of 30 seconds every month. An annual test shall be conducted for at least 1 hour. Equipment shall function properly for the duration of these tests.

(3) F-611.3 Battery system: Where battery systems or unit equipment are involved, including batteries utilized for starting, control or ignition in auxiliary engines, routine maintenance shall be provided in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

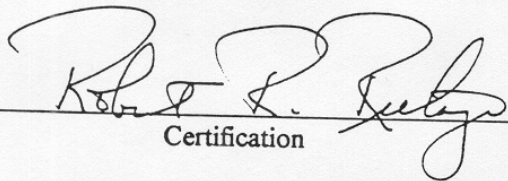
(4) FM-611.4 Emergency generators: Emergency generators required by the building code listed in rule 1301:7-7-44 of the Administrative Code, shall be tested at least annually in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications under anticipated load conditions.

(a) F-611.4.1 Transition test: A transition test shall be conducted annually to ensure that the transfer time from normal power to emergency power is 10 seconds or less.

(b) F-611.4.2 Fuel supply: Where internal combustion engines are utilized as the prime mover for an emergency generator, an on-site fuel supply shall be provided sufficient for not less than 2 hours full-demand operation of the system.

(5) FM-611.5 Records: A written record of tests and maintenance required in paragraphs (K)(1)(F-611.1) through (K)(4)(F-611.4) of this rule shall be kept on the premises. a copy shall be provided to the code official upon request.

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Certification

November 17, 1999  
Date

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Certification

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Date

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