

**WASHINGTON STATE  
BUILDING CODE**

**CHAPTER 51-52  
2009 Edition**

**INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE**

**Includes adoption of and amendments to  
The 2009 International Fuel Gas Code  
the 2009 National Fuel Gas Code (NFPA 54)  
and  
the 2009 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code (NFPA 58)**



**Washington State Building Code Council**

**Effective July 1, 2010**

Copies of the State Building Codes and  
complete copies of the 2010 Model Codes  
may be obtained from:

Washington Association of Building Officials  
Post Office Box 7310  
Olympia, Washington 98507-7310  
(360) 586-6725      [www.wabo.org](http://www.wabo.org)  
or toll free in Washington State at (888) 664-9515

International Mechanical Code  
Chapter 51-52 WAC  
Effective July 1, 2010  
Printed April 2010

Third Edition based on  
WSR 10-03-099

## *Preface*

**Authority:** The International Mechanical Code (Chapter 51-52 WAC) is adopted by the Washington State Building Code Council pursuant to Chapters 19.27 and 70.92 RCW. This code was first adopted by reference by the Washington State Legislature in 1974. In 1985, the Legislature delegated the responsibility of adoption and amendment of these codes to the State Building Code Council.

**Supersession of Previous Codes:** Chapter 51-52 WAC supersedes Chapter 51-42 WAC.

**Code Precedence:** The State Building Code Act, Chapter 19.27 RCW, establishes the following order of precedence among the documents adopted as parts of the State Building Code:

International Building Code, Standards and amendments -WAC 51-50;  
International Residential Code, Standards and amendments – WAC 51-51;  
International Mechanical Code, Standards and amendments - WAC 51-52;  
International Fire Code, Standards and amendments - WAC 51-54;  
Uniform Plumbing Code, Standards and amendments - WAC 51-56, 51-57.

Where there is a conflict between codes, an earlier named code takes precedence over a later named code. In the case of conflict between the duct insulation requirements of the International Mechanical Code and the duct insulation requirements of the Energy Code, the Energy Code, or where applicable, a local jurisdiction's energy code, shall govern.

Where, in any specific case, different sections of this Code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern. Where there is conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable.

**Organization and Numbering:** These rules are written to allow compatible use with the International Mechanical Code. All sections which are amended, deleted, or added are referenced.

**Enforcement:** The State Building Code Act requires that each local jurisdiction enforce the State Building Code within its jurisdiction. Any jurisdiction can contract with another jurisdiction or an inspection agency to provide the mandated enforcement activities.

### **Amendments to the State Building Code:**

The State Building Code Council has adopted review procedures and approval criteria for local amendments. These procedures and criteria are found in Chapter 51-04 WAC. The Council has exempted from its review any amendments to the administrative provisions of the various codes.

- A. **Amendments of Statewide Application:** On a yearly basis the State Building Code Council will consider proposals to amend the State Building Code. The Council is not scheduled to enter formal rulemaking until 2012 as part of its consideration of adoption of the 2012 series of codes.

Proposals to amend the State Building Code shall be made on forms provided by the Building Code Council.

Code Change Proposal Submittal Deadline: March 1st of each year.

- B. **Local Amendments:** Any jurisdiction may amend the State Building Code provided the amendments do not reduce the minimum performance standards of the codes. There are two areas where local amendments are limited or prohibited:

**Prohibited Amendments:** Residential provisions of the State Energy Code (WAC 51-11), the ventilation requirements in the IMC and IRC (WAC 51-52 and 51-51); any provision of the International Building Code or International Residential Code affecting accessibility; and standards specifically adopted in Chapters 19.27 and 19.27A RCW cannot be amended by any local jurisdiction.

**Residential Amendments:** Amendments by local jurisdictions which affect the construction of single family and multi-family residential buildings must be reviewed and approved by the State Building Code Council before such amendments can be enforced. The State Building Code Act provides the following definition:

Multi-family residential building: means common wall residential buildings that consist of four or fewer units, that do not exceed two stories in height, that are less than 5,000 square feet in area, and that have a one-hour fire-resistive occupancy separation between units.

Application forms for Council review of local amendments are available from the State Building Code Council Staff.

Washington State Building Code Council  
Post Office Box 42525  
Olympia, Washington 98504-42525  
www.sbcc.wa.gov  
(360) 725-2967 Fax (360) 586-9383  
e-mail: sbcc@cted.wa.gov

**Printing Format:** This version of the rules is published as a series of insert or replacement pages. Each page provides instructions for installing them in the model code book. Amendments to the model code which are new or revised from the previous edition of this code are indicated by a line in the margin next to the revised portions.

**Effective Date:** These rules were adopted by the State Building Code Council on November 12, 2009. The rules are effective throughout the state on July 1, 2010. (This version of the code is based on WAC 51-52 as published in WSR 07-01-092. It is subject to review by the State Legislature during the 2010 session.)

**Building Permit Fees:** The activities of the State Building Code Council are supported by permit fees collected by each city and county. Section 19.27.085 of the State Building Code Act requires that a fee of \$4.50 be imposed on each building permit issued by each city and county. In addition, a fee of \$2.00 per unit shall be imposed for each dwelling unit after the first unit, on each building containing more than one residential unit. For the purpose of this fee, WAC 365-110-035 defines building permits as any permit to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, improve, remove, convert or demolish any building or structure regulated by the Building Code. Exempt from the fee are plumbing, electrical, mechanical permits, permits issued to install a mobile/manufactured home, commercial coach or factory built structure, or permits issued pursuant to the International Fire Code.

Each city and county shall remit moneys collected to the state treasury quarterly. No remittance is required until a minimum of \$50.00 has accumulated.

These permit fees are the amounts current in January 2010. Such fees may be changed by the State Legislature.

**Opinions:** Only at the request of local enforcement official, the State Building Code Council may issue interpretations/opinions of those provisions of the State Building Code created by the Council, or provisions of the model codes amended by the Council. Final interpretation authority for any specific permit resides with the local enforcement official.

**WASHINGTON STATE AMENDMENTS  
INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE**

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**CHAPTER 51-52 WAC  
STATE BUILDING CODE ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT  
OF THE 2009 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE**

**WAC 51-52-001 AUTHORITY**

These rules are adopted under the authority of Chapter 19.27 RCW.

**WAC 51-52-002 PURPOSE**

The purpose of these rules is to implement the provisions of Chapter 19.27 RCW, which provides that the State Building Code Council shall maintain the State Building Code in a status which is consistent with the purpose as set forth in RCW 19.27.020. In maintaining the codes the Council shall regularly review updated versions of the codes adopted under the act, and other pertinent information, and shall amend the codes as deemed appropriate by the Council.

**WAC 51-52-003 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE**

The 2009 edition of the International Mechanical Code published by the International Code Council is hereby adopted by reference with the exceptions noted in this Chapter of the Washington Administrative Code.

**WAC 51-52-004 CONFLICT BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE AND STATE ENERGY CODE CHAPTER 51-11 WAC**

In the case of conflict between the duct sealing or insulation requirements of Section 603 or Section 604 of this code and the duct sealing or insulation requirements of Chapter 51-11 WAC, the Washington State Energy Code, or where applicable, a local jurisdiction's energy code, the provisions of such energy codes shall govern.

**WAC 51-52-005 RESERVED****WAC 51-52-007 EXCEPTIONS**

The exceptions and amendments to the International Mechanical Code contained in the provisions of Chapter 19.27 RCW shall apply in case of conflict with any of the provisions of these rules.

The provisions of this code do not apply to temporary growing structures used solely for the commercial production of horticultural plants including ornamental plants, flowers, vegetables, and fruits. "Temporary growing structure" means a structure that has the sides and roof covered with polyethylene, polyvinyl, or similar flexible synthetic material and is used to provide plants with either frost protection or increased heat retention. A temporary growing structure is not considered a building for purposes of this code.

Codes referenced which are not adopted through RCW 19.27.031 or RCW 19.27A shall not apply unless specifically adopted by the authority having jurisdiction.

**WAC 51-52-008 IMPLEMENTATION**

The International Mechanical Code adopted by Chapter 51-52 WAC shall become effective in all counties and cities of this state on July 1, 2010.









**101.2 Scope.** This code shall regulate the design, installation, maintenance, alteration and inspection of mechanical systems that are permanently installed and utilized to provide control of environmental conditions and related processes within buildings. This code shall also regulate those mechanical systems, system components, equipment and appliances specifically addressed herein. The installation of fuel gas distribution piping and equipment, fuel gas-fired appliances and fuel gas-fired appliance venting systems shall be regulated by the *International Fuel Gas Code*.

**Exceptions:**

1. Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the International Residential Code.
2. The standards for liquefied petroleum gas installations shall be the 2008 Edition of NFPA 58 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code) and the 2009 Edition of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54 (National Fuel Gas Code).

**SOURCE SPECIFIC VENTILATION.** A mechanical ventilation system including all fans, controls, and ducting, which is dedicated to exhausting contaminant-laden air to the exterior of the building from the room or space in which the contaminant is generated.

**UNUSUALLY TIGHT CONSTRUCTION.** Construction meeting the following requirements:

1. Walls exposed to the outdoor atmosphere having a continuous water vapor retarder with a rating of one perm or less with openings gasketed or sealed; and
2. Openable windows and doors meeting the air leakage requirements of the International Energy Conservation Code, Section 502.1.4; and
3. Caulking or sealants are applied to areas such as joints around window and door frames, between sole plates and floors, between wall-ceiling joints, between wall panels, at penetrations for plumbing, electrical, and gas lines, and at other openings; or
4. Buildings built in compliance with the 1986 or later editions of the Washington State Energy Code, WAC 51-11, Northwest Energy Code, or Super Good Cents weatherization standards or equivalent.

**WHOLE HOUSE VENTILATION SYSTEM.** A mechanical ventilation system, including fans, controls, and ducts, which replaces, by direct or indirect means, air from the habitable rooms with outdoor air.

(Insert Facing Page 18)



Permanent ladders installed to provide the required access shall comply with the following minimum design criteria:

1. The side railing shall extend above the parapet or roof edge not less than 42 inches (1067 mm).
2. Ladders shall have rung spacing not to exceed 12 inches (305 mm) on center.
3. Ladders shall have a toe spacing not less than 7 inches (178 mm) deep.
4. There shall be a minimum of 18 inches (457 mm) between rails.
5. Rungs shall have a minimum 0.75-inch (19 mm) diameter and be capable of withstanding a 300-pound (136.1 kg) load.
6. Ladders over 30 feet (9144 mm) in height shall be provided with offset sections and landings capable of withstanding 100 pounds (488.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) per square foot. Landing dimensions shall be not less than 18 inches (457 mm) and not less than the width of the ladder served. A guard rail shall be provided on all open sides of the landing.
7. Ladders shall be protected against corrosion by approved means.

Catwalks installed to provide the required access shall be not less than 24 inches (610 mm) wide and shall have railings as required for service platforms.

**EXCEPTION:** This section shall not apply to Group R-3 occupancies.

**306.5 Equipment and appliances on roofs or elevated structures.** Where equipment requiring access and appliances are installed on roofs or elevated structures at a height exceeding 16 feet (4877 mm), such access shall be provided by a permanent approved means of access, the extent of which shall be from grade or floor level to the equipment and appliances' level service space. Such access shall not require climbing over obstructions greater than 30 inches (762 mm) high or walking on roofs having a slope greater than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33 percent slope). Where access involves climbing over parapet walls, the height shall be measured to the top of the parapet wall.





**401.2 Ventilation required.** Every occupied space other than enclosed parking garages and buildings used for repair of automobiles shall be ventilated in accordance with Section 402.2.1 or 401.2.2. Enclosed parking garages and buildings used for the repair of automobiles shall be ventilated by mechanical means in accordance with Sections 403 and 404.

**401.2.1 Group R occupancies.** Ventilation in Group R occupancies shall be provided in accordance with Section 403.8.

**401.2.2 All other occupancies.** Ventilation in all other occupancies shall be provided by natural means in accordance with Section 402 or by mechanical means in accordance with Sections 403.1 to 403.7.

**401.7 Testing and balancing.** At the discretion of the building official, flow testing may be required to verify that the mechanical system(s) satisfies the requirements of this chapter. Flow testing may be performed using flow hood measuring at the intake or exhaust points of the system, in-line pitot tube, or pitot-transverse type measurement systems in the duct, short term tracer gas measurements, or other means approved by the building official.



**403.2 Outdoor air required.** The minimum ventilation rate of outdoor air shall be determined in accordance with Section 403.3.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where the registered design professional demonstrates that an engineered ventilation system design will prevent the maximum concentration of contaminants from exceeding that obtainable by the rate of outdoor air ventilation determined in accordance with Section 403.3, the minimum required rate of outdoor air shall be reduced in accordance with such engineered system design.

2. Alternate systems designed in accordance with ASHRAE Standard 62.1 Section 6.2, Ventilation Rate Procedure, shall be permitted.

**403.2.1 Recirculation of air.** The air required by Section 403.3 shall not be recirculated. Air in excess of that required by Section 403.3 shall not be prohibited from being recirculated as a component of supply air to building spaces, except that:

1. Ventilation air shall not be recirculated from one dwelling to another or to dissimilar occupancies.
2. Supply air to a swimming pool and associated deck areas shall not be recirculated unless such air is dehumidified to maintain the relative humidity of the area at 60 percent or less. Air from this area shall not be recirculated to other spaces where 10 percent or more of the resulting supply airstream consists of air recirculated from these spaces.
3. Where mechanical exhaust is required by Note b in Table 403.3, recirculation of air from such spaces shall be prohibited. All air supplied to such spaces shall be exhausted, including any air in excess of that required by Table 403.3.

(Item 4 is not adopted.)

**403.3 Outdoor airflow rate.** Ventilation systems shall be designed to have the capacity to supply the minimum outdoor airflow rate determined in accordance with this section. The occupant load utilized for design of the ventilation system shall not be less than the number determined from the estimated maximum occupant load rate indicated in Table 403.3. Ventilation rates for occupancies not represented in Table 403.3 shall be those for a listed occupancy classification that is most similar in terms of occupant density, activities and building construction; or shall be determined by an approved engineering analysis. The ventilation system shall be designed to supply the required rate of ventilation air continuously during the period the building is occupied, except as otherwise stated in other provisions of the code.

With the exception of smoking lounges, the ventilation rates in Table 403.3 are based on the absence of smoking in occupiable spaces. Where smoking is anticipated in a space other than a smoking lounge, the ventilation system serving the space shall be designed to provide ventilation over and above that required by Table 403.3 in accordance with accepted engineering practice.

**Exception:** Where occupancy density is known and documented in the plans, the outside air rate may be based on the design occupant density. Under no circumstance shall the occupancies used result in outside air less than one-half that resulting from application of Table 403.3 estimated maximum occupancy rates.

**TABLE 403.3  
MINIMUM VENTILATION AIR**

<b>Occupancy Classification</b>	<b>People Outdoor Airflow Rate in Breathing Zone cfm/person</b>	<b>Area Outdoor Airflow Rate in Breathing Zone R<sub>a</sub> Cfm/ft<sup>2a</sup></b>	<b>Default Occupant Density #/1000 ft<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Exhaust Airflow Rate cfm/ft<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Correctional facilities</b>				
Cells				
w/o plumbing fixtures	5	0.12	25	--
with plumbing fixtures	5	0.12	25	1.0
Dining halls (see food and beverage service)	--	--	--	--
Guard stations	5	0.06	15	--
Day room	5	0.06	30	--
Booking/waiting	7.5	0.06	50	--
<b>Dry cleaners, laundries</b>				
Coin-operated dry cleaner	15	--	20	--
Coin-operated laundries	7.5	0.06	20	--
Commercial dry cleaner	30	--	30	--
Commercial laundry	25	--	10	--
Storage, pick up	7.5	0.12	30	--
<b>Education</b>				
Art classrooms	10	0.18	20	0.7
Auditoriums	5	0.06	150	--
Classrooms (ages 5-8)	10	0.12	25	--
Classrooms (ages 9 plus)	10	0.12	35	--
Computer lab	10	0.12	25	--
Corridors	--	--	--	0.25
Day care (through age 4)	10	0.18	25	--
Lecture classroom	7.5	0.06	65	--
Lecture hall (fixed seats)	7.5	0.06	150	--
Locker/dressing rooms	--	--	--	--
Media center	10	0.12	25	--
Multi-use assembly	7.5	0.06	100	--
Music/theater/dance	10	0.06	35	--
Science laboratories	10	0.18	25	1.0
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	60	--	70	--
Sports locker rooms	--	--	--	0.5
Wood/metal shops	10	0.18	20	0.5
<b>Food and beverage service</b>				
Bars, cocktail lounges	7.5	0.18	100	--
Cafeteria, fast food	7.5	0.18	100	--
Dining rooms	7.5	0.18	70	--
Kitchens (cooking) <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	0.7
<b>Hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes</b>				
Autopsy rooms <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	0.5
Medical procedure rooms	15	--	20	--
Operating rooms	30	--	20	--
Patient rooms	25	--	10	--
Physical therapy	15	--	20	--
Recovery and ICU	15	--	20	--
<b>Hotels, motels, resorts and dormitories</b>				
Multipurpose assembly	5	0.06	120	--
Bathrooms/toilet--private	--	--	--	25/50 <sup>f</sup>
Bedroom/living room	5	0.06	10	--
Conference/meeting	5	0.06	50	--
Dormitory sleeping areas	5	0.06	20	--
Gambling casinos	7.5	0.18	120	--
Kitchens	--	--	--	25/100 <sup>f</sup>
Lobbies	7.5	0.06	30	--

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**TABLE 403.3—continued  
MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES**

<b>Offices</b>				
Conference rooms	5	0.06	50	--
Office spaces	5	0.06	5	--
Reception areas	60	0.18	30	--
Telephone/data entry	5	--	60	--
Main entry lobbies	5	0.06	10	--
<b>Private dwellings, single and multiple</b>				
Garages, common for multiple units <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	0.75
Garages, separate for each dwelling	--	--	--	100 cfm per car
Kitchens <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	25/100 <sup>f</sup>
Living areas <sup>c</sup>	See Tables 403.8.5.1 and 403.8.5.2	--	Based on the number of bedrooms: first bedroom: 2; each additional bedroom: 1	--
Toilet rooms bathrooms and laundry areas <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--	25/50 <sup>f</sup>
<b>Public spaces</b>				
Corridors	--	0.06	--	--
Elevator car	--	--	--	1.0
Shower room (per shower head)	--	--	--	50/20 <sup>f</sup>
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	60	--	70	--
Toilet rooms--public	--	--	--	50/70 <sup>e</sup>
Places of religious worship	5	0.06	120	--
Courtrooms	5	0.06	70	--
Legislative chambers	5	0.06	50	--
Libraries	5	0.12	10	--
Museums (children's)	7.5	0.12	40	--
Museums/galleries	7.5	0.06	40	--
<b>Retail stores, sales floors and showroom floors</b>				
Sales (except as below)	7.5	0.12	15	--
Dressing rooms	--	--	--	0.25
Mall common areas	7.5	0.06	40	--
Shipping and receiving	--	0.12	--	--
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	60	--	70	--
Storage rooms	--	0.12	--	--
Warehouses (see storage)	--	--	--	--
<b>Specialty shops</b>				
Automotive motor-fuel-dispensing stations <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	1.5
Barber	7.5	0.06	25	0.5
Beauty and nail salons <sup>b,h</sup>	20	0.12	25	0.6
Embalming room <sup>b</sup>	--	--	--	2.0
Pet shops (animal areas) <sup>b</sup>	7.5	0.18	10	0.9
Supermarkets	7.5	0.06	8	--
<b>Sports and amusement</b>				
Disco/dance floors	20	0.06	100	--
Bowling alleys (seating areas)	10	0.12	40	--
Game arcades	7.5	0.18	20	--
Ice arenas, without combustion engines	--	0.30	--	0.5
Gym, stadium arena (play area)	--	0.30	--	--
Spectator areas	7.5	0.06	150	--
Swimming pools (pool and deck area)	--	0.48	--	--
Health club/aerobics room	20	0.06	40	--
Health club/weight room	20	0.06	10	--

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**TABLE 403.3—continued**  
**MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES**

<b>Storage</b>				
Repair garages, enclosed parking garage <sup>b,d</sup>	--	--	--	0.75
Warehouses	--	0.06	--	--
<b>Theaters</b>				
Auditoriums (see education)	--	--	--	--
Lobbies	5	0.06	150	--
Stages, studios	10	0.06	70	--
Ticket booths	5	0.06	60	--
<b>Transportation</b>				
Platforms	7.5	0.06	100	--
Transportation waiting	7.5	0.06	100	--
<b>Workrooms</b>				
Bank vaults/safe deposit	5	0.06	5	--
Darkrooms	--	--	--	1.0
Copy, printing rooms	5	0.06	4	0.5
Meat processing <sup>c</sup>	15	--	10	--
Pharmacy (prep area)	5	0.18	10	--
Photo studios	5	0.12	10	--
Computer (without printing)	5	0.06	4	--

For SI: 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719m<sup>3</sup>/s,  
 1 ton = 908 kg,  
 1 cubic foot/minutes/square foot = 0.00508 m<sup>3</sup>/(s•m<sup>2</sup>), °C = [(°F)-32]/1.8,  
 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. Based upon net occupiable floor area.
- b. Mechanical exhaust required and the recirculation of air from such spaces is prohibited (see Section 403.2.1, Item 3).
- c. Spaces unheated or maintained below 50°F are not covered by these requirements unless the occupancy is continuous.
- d. Ventilation systems in enclosed parking garages shall comply with Section 404.
- e. Rates are per water closet or urinal. The higher rate shall be provided where periods of heavy use are expected to occur, such as toilets in theaters, schools and sports facilities. The lower rate shall be permitted where periods of heavy use are not expected.
- f. Rates are per room unless otherwise indicated. The higher rate shall be provided where the exhaust system is designed to operate intermittently. The lower rate shall be permitted where the exhaust system is designed to operate continuously during normal hours of use.
- g. Reserved.
- h. For nail salons, the required exhaust rate shall include ventilation tables or other systems that capture the contaminants and odors at their source and are capable of exhausting a minimum of 50 cfm per station.
- i. A laundry area within a kitchen or bathroom is not required to have source specific exhaust. Where there are doors that separate the laundry area from the kitchen or bathroom, the door shall be louvered.



**404.4 Automobile repair facilities.** In buildings used for the repair of automobiles, each repair stall shall be equipped with an exhaust extension duct, extending to the outside of the building. Exhaust extension duct over 10 feet in length shall mechanically exhaust at least 300 cfm. Connecting offices and waiting rooms shall be supplied with conditioned air under positive pressure.

**403.8 Ventilation systems for Group R occupancies.**

Each dwelling unit or guest room shall be equipped with source specific and whole house ventilation systems and shall comply with Sections 403.8.1 through 403.8.11. All public corridors and other than Group R occupied spaces that support the Group R occupancy shall meet the ventilation requirements of Section 402 or Sections 403.1 to 403.7.

**403.8.1 Minimum ventilation performance.** Ventilation systems shall be designed and installed to satisfy the ventilation requirements of Table 403.3 or Table 403.8.1.

**403.8.2 Control and operation.**

1. Location of controls. Controls for all ventilation systems shall be readily accessible by the occupant.
2. Instructions. Operating instructions for whole house ventilation systems shall be provided to the occupant by the installer of the system.

(See page 35a)

(Insert Facing Page 35)

**TABLE 403.8.1  
VENTILATION RATES FOR ALL GROUP R  
PRIVATE DWELLINGS, SINGLE AND MULTIPLE  
(Continuously Operating Systems)**

Floor Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	Bedrooms <sup>1</sup>				
	0-1	2-3	4-5	6-7	>7
<1500	30	45	60	75	90
1501 - 3000	45	60	75	90	105
3001 - 4500	60	75	90	105	120
4501 - 6000	75	90	105	120	135
6001 - 7500	90	105	120	135	150
>7500	105	120	135	150	165

<sup>1</sup>Ventilation rates in table are minimum outdoor airflow rates measured in cfm.

3. Source specific ventilation systems. Source specific ventilation systems shall be controlled by manual switches, dehumidistats, timers, or other approved means.
4. Continuous whole house ventilation systems. Continuous whole house ventilation systems shall operate continuously. Exhaust fans, forced-air system fans, or supply fans shall be equipped with "fan on" as override controls. Controls shall be capable of operating the ventilation system without energizing other energy-consuming appliances. A label shall be affixed to the controls that reads "Whole House Ventilation (see operating instructions)."
5. Intermittent whole house ventilation systems. Intermittent whole house ventilation systems shall comply with the following:
  - 5.1 They shall be capable of operating intermittently and continuously.
  - 5.2 They shall have controls capable of operating the exhaust fans, forced-air system fans, or supply fans without energizing other energy-consuming appliances.
  - 5.3 The ventilation rate shall be adjusted according to the exception in Section 403.8.5.1.
  - 5.4 The system shall be designed so that it can operate automatically based on the type of control timer installed.
  - 5.5 The intermittent mechanical ventilation system shall operate at least one hour out of every twelve.
  - 5.6 The system shall have a manual control and automatic control, such as a 24-hour clock timer.
  - 5.7 At the time of final inspection, the automatic control shall be set to operate the whole house fan according to the schedule used to calculate the whole house fan sizing.
  - 5.8 A label shall be affixed to the control that reads "Whole House Ventilation (see operating instructions)."

**403.8.3 Outdoor air intake locations.** Outdoor air intakes shall be classified as either operable openings or mechanical air intakes and shall be located per the following criteria. The intake locations for operable openings and mechanical air intakes shall comply with the following:

1. Openings for mechanical air intakes shall comply with Section 401.4. Operable openings shall comply with Section 401.4 items 2 and 4 only.
2. Intake openings shall not be located closer than 10 feet from an appliance vent outlet unless such vent outlet is 3 feet above the outdoor air inlet. The vent shall be permitted to be closer if specifically allowed by Chapter 8 or by the International Fuel Gas Code.
3. Intake openings shall be located where they will not pick up objectionable odors, fumes, or flammable vapors.
4. Intake openings shall be located where they will not take air from a hazardous or unsanitary location.

5. Intake openings shall be located where they will not take air from a room or space having a fuel-burning appliance.
6. Intake openings shall not be located closer than 10 feet from a vent opening of a plumbing drainage system unless the vent opening is at least 3 feet above the air inlet.
7. Intake openings shall not be located where they will take air from an attic, crawl space, or garage.

**403.8.4 Source specific ventilation requirements.** Source specific exhaust ventilation systems shall exhaust at least the volume of air required for exhaust in Table 403.3. Exhaust shall be provided in each kitchen, bathroom, water closet, laundry area, indoor swimming pool, spa, and other room where water vapor or cooking odor is produced.

**403.8.4.1 Source specific exhaust systems.** Exhaust systems shall be designed and installed to meet all of the criteria below:

1. Source specific exhaust shall be discharged outdoors.
2. Exhaust outlets shall comply with Section 501.2.
3. Pressure equalization shall comply with Section 501.3.
4. Exhaust ducts in systems which are designed to operate intermittently shall be equipped with back-draft dampers.
5. All exhaust ducts in unconditioned spaces shall be insulated to a minimum of R-4.
6. Terminal outlet elements shall have at least the equivalent net free area of the ductwork.
7. Terminal outlet elements shall be screened or otherwise protected as required by Section 501.2.2.
8. Exhaust fans in separate dwelling units or guest rooms shall not share common exhaust ducts unless the system is engineered for this operation.
9. Where permitted by Chapter 5, multiple source specific exhaust ducts may be combined. If more than one of the exhaust fans in a dwelling unit or guest room shares a common exhaust duct then each exhaust fan shall be equipped with a back-draft damper to prevent the recirculation of exhaust air from one room to another room via the exhaust ducting system.

**403.8.4.2 Source specific exhaust fans.** Exhaust fan construction and sizing shall meet the following criteria.

1. Exhaust fans shall be tested and rated in accordance with the airflow and sound rating procedures of the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI 915, HVI Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure, HVI 916, HVI Airflow Test Procedure, and HVI 920, HVI Product Performance Certification Procedure).

**EXCEPTION:** Where a range hood or down draft exhaust fan is used for source specific exhaust for a kitchen, the device is not required to be rated per these standards.

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2. Installation of the system or equipment shall be carried out in accordance with manufacturers' installation instructions.
3. Fan airflow rating and duct system shall be designed and installed to deliver at least the exhaust airflow required by Table 403.3. The airflows required refer to the delivered airflow of the system as installed and tested using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measurement device.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

1. An exhaust airflow rating at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.g. may be used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table 403.8.4.2.
2. Where a range hood or down draft exhaust fan is used to satisfy the source specific ventilation requirements for kitchens, the range hood or down draft exhaust shall not be less than 100 cfm at 0.10 in. w.g.

**403.8.5 Whole house ventilation requirements.** Each dwelling unit or guest room shall be equipped with one of the following four types of mechanical whole house ventilation systems: A system using exhaust fans (see Section 403.8.6); a system integrated with forced-air systems (see Section 403.8.7); a system using supply fans (see Section 403.8.8); or a heat or energy recovery ventilation system (see Section 403.8.9).

**403.8.5.1 Outdoor air.** Outdoor air shall be distributed to each habitable space.

Where outdoor air supply intakes are separated from exhaust vents by doors, means shall be provided to ensure airflow to all separated habitable spaces by installing distribution ducts, installed grilles, transoms, doors undercut to a minimum of 1/2-inch above the surface of the finish floor covering, or other similar means where permitted by the International Building Code.

The mechanical system shall operate continuously to supply at least the volume of outdoor air required in Table 403.3 or Table 403.8.1.

**EXCEPTION:** Intermittently operating ventilation systems: The mechanical system shall have controls for intermittent operation per Section 403.8.2 and shall supply at least the volume of outdoor air required for intermittent operation based on the combination of its delivered capacity (from Table 403.3 or Table 403.8.1), its ventilation effectiveness (from Table 403.8.5.1) and its daily fractional operation time (from Table 403.8.5.1) using the formula:

$$Q_f = Q_r / (\epsilon f)$$

Where:

- $Q_f$  = Outdoor air flow rate
- $Q_r$  = Ventilation air requirement (from Table 403.3 or 403.8.1)
- $\epsilon$  = Ventilation effectiveness (from Table 403.8.1)
- $f$  = Fractional operation time (from Table 403.8.5.1)

**TABLE 403.8.4.2  
PRESCRIPTIVE EXHAUST DUCT SIZING**

Fan Tested cfm at 0.25 inches w.g.	Minimum Flex Diameter	Maximum Length in Feet	Minimum Smooth Diameter	Maximum Length in Feet	Maximum Elbows <sup>1</sup>
50	4 inches	25	4 inches	70	3
50	5 inches	90	5 inches	100	3
50	6 inches	No Limit	6 inches	No Limit	3
80	4 inches <sup>2</sup>	NA	4 inches	20	3
80	5 inches	15	5 inches	100	3
80	6 inches	90	6 inches	No Limit	3
100	5 inches <sup>2</sup>	NA	5 inches	50	3
100	6 inches	45	6 inches	No Limit	3
125	6 inches	15	6 inches	No Limit	3
125	7 inches	70	7 inches	No Limit	3

<sup>1</sup>For each additional elbow, subtract 10 feet from length.

<sup>2</sup>Flex ducts of this diameter are not permitted with fans of this size.



**TABLE 403.8.5.1  
VENTILATION EFFECTIVENESS FOR  
INTERMITTENT FANS**

Daily Fractional Operation Time, f	Ventilation Effectiveness, $\epsilon$
$f \leq 35\%$	0.33
$35\% \leq f < 60\%$	0.50
$60\% \leq f < 80\%$	0.75
$80\% \leq f$	1.0

#### 403.8.5.2 Whole house supply system general

**requirements.** Whole house ventilation systems integrated with a forced-air system, systems using supply fans and systems using a heat or energy recovery ventilation system shall comply with the following.

- Outdoor air louvers shall be adequately sized for the required airflow and shall comply with Section 401.5. Outdoor air intake locations shall comply with mechanical air intakes requirements of Section 403.8.3.
- Outdoor air ducts for dedicated or central supply systems and exhaust ducts for heat or energy recovery systems shall be provided with a means for balancing the system to the required airflow via balance dampers or other devices.
- Outdoor air ducts, for dedicated or central systems shall be provided with motorized dampers.  
**EXCEPTION:** Outdoor air ducts at heat or energy ventilation systems are not required to have motorized dampers.
- Ducts in the conditioned space shall be insulated to a minimum of R-4. In heat or energy recovery ventilation systems, ducts upstream of the heat exchanger shall also be insulated to at least R-4.
- All outdoor air ducts shall be designed and installed to deliver at least the outdoor airflow required by Section 403.8.5.1. The airflows required refer to the delivered airflow of the system as installed and tested using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measurement device.  
**EXCEPTION:** The outdoor air duct for supply fan systems and heat or energy recovery systems may be prescriptively sized per Table 403.8.5.2 for dedicated outdoor air ducts upstream of the supply fan. Supply fans shall have the capacity to provide the amount of outdoor air required by Section 403.8.5.1 at 0.40 in. w.g. as per HVI 916 (April 1995). When prescriptively sized the system shall be tested and balanced using a flow hood, flow-grid, or other airflow measurement device.

- Whole house ventilation controls for continuous and intermittent operation shall be provided at both the forced-air fan and the motorized damper.

**TABLE 403.8.5.2  
PRESCRIPTIVE SUPPLY FAN DUCT SIZING**

Supply Fan Tested CFM at 0.40" w.g.		
Specified Volume from Table 408.1	Minimum Smooth Duct Diameter	Minimum Flexible Duct Diameter
50-90 cfm	4 inch	5 inch
90-150 cfm	5 inch	6 inch
150-120 cfm	6 inch	7 inch
250-400 cfm	7 inch	8 inch

**403.8.6 Whole house ventilation with exhaust fan systems.** This section establishes minimum requirements for mechanical whole house ventilation systems using exhaust fans.

**403.8.6.1 Outdoor air.** Exhaust fan only ventilation systems shall provide outdoor air through one of the following methods:

- Outdoor air may be drawn through air inlets installed in exterior walls or windows. For interior spaces without openings to the outdoor, air inlets cannot be used unless a transfer fan is provided in compliance with Section 403.8.6.1 Item 3. The air inlets shall comply with all of the following:
  - Inlets shall have controllable, secure openings and shall be designed to not compromise the thermal properties of the building envelope.
  - Inlets shall be accessible to occupants.
  - Inlets shall be screened or otherwise protected from entry by insects, leaves, or other material.
  - Inlets shall provide not less than 4 square inches of net free area of opening for each 10 cfm of outdoor air required in Table 403.3 or Table 403.8.1.
  - Any inlet or combination of inlets which provide 10 cfm at 10 Pascals as determined by the Home Ventilation Institute Air Flow Test Standard (HVI 901 (November 1996)) are deemed equivalent to 4 square inches of net free area.
  - Each occupiable space shall have a minimum of one air inlet that has a minimum of 4 square inches of net free area.
- In high-rise buildings, outdoor air may be drawn in through operable windows, doors, louvers or other operable openings to the outdoors. Exterior spaces shall have a minimum openable area of 4 percent of the total floor area being ventilated. Doors exiting to a corridor, court or public way shall not be used to provide outdoor air. For interior spaces without openings to the outdoors, the opening to the adjoining room shall be unobstructed and shall have an area of

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not less than 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but not less than 25 square feet. The operable openings shall comply with the following:

- a. Openings shall be controllable, securable, and shall be designed to not compromise the thermal properties of the building envelope.
  - b. Openings shall be accessible to occupants.
3. For interior spaces, in buildings with air inlets in accordance with Section 403.8.6.1 Item 1 or in high-rise building without operable openings in accordance with Section 403.8.6.1 Item 2 shall have a whole house transfer fan sized to provide a minimum of the ventilation rate required per Section 403.8.5.1. The transfer fan shall circulate air between the interior room or space and the adjacent habitable space. The transfer fan may operate continuously or intermittently using controls per Section 403.8.2.

**403.8.6.2 Outside air intake locations.** All outside air intake opening types described in Section 403.8.6.1 shall be classified operable openings and shall not be classified as mechanical air intakes. The intake locations shall comply with Section 403.8.3.

**403.8.6.3 Whole house exhaust system.** Whole house exhaust system shall be designed and installed to meet all of the applicable criteria below:

1. Whole house ventilation exhaust shall be discharged outdoors.
2. Exhaust outlets shall comply with Section 501.2.
3. Exhaust ducts in systems which are designed to operate intermittently shall be equipped with back-draft dampers.
4. All exhaust ducts in unconditioned spaces shall be insulated to a minimum of R-4.5. Terminal outlet elements shall have at least the equivalent net free area of the ductwork.
5. Terminal outlet elements shall be screened or otherwise protected as required by Section 501.2.2.
6. One of the required source specific exhaust fans for the laundry room or bathroom may be designated as the whole house exhaust fan.
7. Exhaust fans in separate dwelling units or guest rooms shall not share common exhaust ducts unless the system is engineered for this operation.
8. Where permitted by Chapter 5 whole house exhaust ducts may be combined with other source specific exhaust ducts. If more than one of the exhaust fans in a dwelling unit or guest room shares a common exhaust duct then each exhaust fan shall be equipped with a back-draft damper to prevent the recirculation of exhaust air from one room to another room via the exhaust ducting system.

**403.8.6.4 Whole house exhaust and transfer fans.**

Exhaust fan construction and sizing shall meet the following criteria.

1. Exhaust and transfer fans shall be tested and rated in accordance with the airflow and sound rating procedures of the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI 915, HVI Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure, HVI 916, HVI Airflow Test Procedure, and HVI 920, HVI Product Performance Certification Procedure).
2. Installation of system or equipment shall be carried out in accordance with manufacturers' design requirements and installation instructions.
3. Fan airflow rating and duct system shall be designed and installed to deliver at least the outdoor airflow required by Table 403.3 or Table 403.8.1. The airflows required refer to the delivered airflow of the system as installed and tested using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measurement device.

**EXCEPTION:** An airflow rating at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.g. may be used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table 403.8.5.2.

**403.8.6.5 Fan noise.** Whole house exhaust and transfer fans located 4 feet or less from the interior grille shall have a sone rating of 1.0 or less measured at 0.10 inches water gauge. Manufacturer's noise ratings shall be determined as per HVI 915. Remotely mounted fans shall be acoustically isolated from the structural elements of the building and from attached ductwork using insulated flexible duct or other approved material.

**403.8.7 Whole house ventilation integrated with forced-air systems.** This section establishes minimum requirements for mechanical whole house ventilation systems using forced-air system fans.

**403.8.7.1 Outdoor air.** Forced-air system fan ventilation systems shall provide outdoor air through one of the following methods:

1. A dedicated outdoor air louver and outdoor air duct for each dwelling unit or guest room shall supply outdoor air to the return side of the forced-air system fan; or
2. A central outdoor air delivery system that supplies multiple dwelling units or guest rooms shall supply outdoor air to the return side of the forced air system fan.

**403.8.7.2 Whole house forced-air system.** Where outdoor air is provided to each habitable dwelling unit or guest room by a forced-air system, the outdoor air duct shall be connected to the return air stream at a point within 4 feet upstream of the forced-air unit. It shall not be connected directly to the forced-air unit cabinet in order to prevent thermal shock to the heat exchanger. At a minimum, filtration of the outdoor air shall be provided at the forced-air unit. The filter shall be accessible for regular maintenance and replacement. The filter shall have a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of at least 6.

**403.8.8 Whole house ventilation with supply fan systems.**

This section establishes minimum requirements for mechanical whole house ventilation systems using supply fan systems.

**403.8.8.1 Outdoor air.** Supply fan ventilation systems shall provide outdoor air through one of the following methods:

1. A dedicated outdoor air louver and outdoor air duct for each dwelling unit or guest room shall supply outdoor air to a supply fan; or
2. A central outdoor air supply fan system shall distribute unconditioned or conditioned air to multiple dwelling units or guest rooms.

**403.8.8.2 Whole house supply system.** Where outdoor air is provided to each habitable dwelling unit or guest room by supply fan systems the outdoor air shall be filtered.

The system filter may be located at the intake device or inline with the fan. The filter shall be accessible for regular maintenance and replacement. The filter shall have a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of at least 6.

**403.8.9 Whole house ventilation with heat recovery or energy recovery ventilation systems.** This section establishes minimum requirements for mechanical whole house ventilation systems using heat recovery or energy recovery ventilation systems.

**403.8.9.1 Outdoor air.** Heat recovery or energy recovery ventilation systems shall provide outdoor air through one of the following methods:

1. A dedicated outdoor air louver and outdoor air duct for each dwelling unit or guest room shall supply outdoor air to the heat recovery or energy recovery ventilator; or
2. A central outdoor air heat recovery or energy recovery unit shall distribute conditioned air to multiple dwelling units or guest rooms.

**403.8.9.2 Whole house heat recovery ventilator system.**

Where outdoor air is provided to each habitable dwelling unit or guest room by heat recovery or energy recovery ventilator the outdoor air shall be filtered. The filter shall be located on the upstream side of the heat exchanger in both the intake and exhaust airstreams with a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of at least 6. The system filter may be located at the intake device or inline with the fan. The filter shall be accessible for regular maintenance and replacement.

**403.8.10 Source specific exhaust ventilation and whole house ventilation alternate performance or design requirements.** In lieu of complying with Sections 403.8.4 or 403.8.5 compliance with the section shall be demonstrated through engineering calculations by an engineer licensed to practice in the state of Washington or by performance testing. Documentation of calculations or performance test results shall be submitted to and approved by the building official. Performance testing shall be conducted in accordance with approved test methods.

**403.8.11 Alternate systems.** When approved by the code official, systems designed in accordance with ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2007 shall be permitted.





**501.2 Exhaust Discharge.** The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged outdoors at a point where it will not cause a nuisance and not less than the distances specified in Section 501.2.1. The air shall be discharged to a location from which it cannot again be readily drawn in by a ventilation system. Air shall not be exhausted into an attic or crawlspace.

**Exceptions:** 1. Whole-house cooling fans shall be permitted to discharge into the attic space of dwelling units having private attics.

2. Commercial cooking recirculating systems.

**501.2.1 Location of Exhaust Outlet.** The termination point of exhaust outlets and ducts discharging to the outdoors shall be located with the following minimum distances:

1. **For ducts conveying explosive or flammable vapors, fumes or dusts:** 30 feet (9144 mm) from the property line; 10 feet (3048 mm) from operable openings into the building; 6 feet (1829 mm) from exterior walls and roofs; 30 feet (9144 mm) from combustible walls and operable openings into the building which are in the direction of the exhaust discharge; 10 feet (3048 mm) above adjoining grade.
2. **For other product-conveying outlets:** 10 feet (3048 mm) from property lines; 3 feet (914 mm) from exterior walls and roofs; 10 feet (3048 mm) from operable openings into the building; 10 feet (3048 mm) above adjoining grade.
3. **For environmental air duct exhaust other than enclosed parking garage and transformer vault exhaust:** 3 feet (914 mm) from property lines, 3 feet (914 mm) from operable openings into the building for all occupancies other than Group U, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from a mechanical air intake.

**EXCEPTIONS:** The separation between an air intake and exhaust outlet on a single listed package HVAC unit.

2. Exhaust from environmental air systems other than garages may be discharged into an open parking garage.

3. Except for Group I occupancies, where ventilation system design circumstances require building HVAC air to be relieved, such as during economizer operation, such air may be relieved into an open or enclosed parking garage within the same building.

4. Exhaust outlets serving structures in flood hazard areas shall be installed at or above the design flood level.

5. **For enclosed parking garage exhaust system outlets and transformer vault exhaust system outlets:** 10 feet (3048 mm) from property lines which separate one lot from another; 10 feet (3048 mm) from operable openings into buildings; 10 feet (3048 mm) above adjoining grade.
6. **For elevator machinery rooms in enclosed or open parking garages:** Exhaust outlets may discharge air directly into the parking garage.
7. For specific systems see the following sections:
  - 7.1 Clothes dryer exhaust, Section 504.4.
  - 7.2 Kitchen hoods and other kitchen exhaust equipment, Sections 506.3, 506.4 and 506.5.
  - 7.3 Dust stock and refuse conveying systems, Section 511.
  - 7.4 Subslab soil exhaust systems, Section 512.4.
  - 7.5 Smoke control systems, Section 513.10.3.
  - 7.6 Refrigerant discharge, Section 1105.7.
  - 7.7 Machinery room discharge, Section 1105.6.1.



**504.6.4.1 Specified length.** The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be 35 feet (10668 mm) from the connection to the transition duct from the dryer to the outlet terminal. Where fittings are used, the maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be reduced in accordance with Table 504.6.4.1.

The maximum length of the duct may be increased in an engineered exhaust system when a listed and labeled exhaust booster fan is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.



**505.1 Domestic systems.** Where domestic range hoods and domestic appliances equipped with downdraft exhaust are located within dwelling units, such hoods and appliances shall discharge to the outdoors through sheet metal ducts constructed of galvanized steel, stainless steel, aluminum or copper. Such ducts shall have smooth inner walls and shall be air tight and equipped with a backdraft damper. Domestic range hood duct systems shall not be combined with other environmental air exhaust systems.

Listed and labeled exhaust booster fans shall be permitted when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

1. Where installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and where mechanical ventilation is otherwise provided in accordance with Chapter 4, listed and labeled ductless range hoods shall not be required to discharge to the outdoors.
2. Ducts for domestic kitchen cooking appliances equipped with downdraft exhaust systems shall be permitted to be constructed of Schedule 40 PVC pipe and fittings provided that the installation complies with all of the following:
  - 2.1. The duct shall be installed under a concrete slab poured on grade.
  - 2.2. The underfloor trench in which the duct is installed shall be completely backfilled with sand or gravel.
  - 2.3. The PVC duct shall extend not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above the indoor concrete floor surface.
  - 2.4. The PVC duct shall extend not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above grade outside of the building.
  - 2.5. The PVC ducts shall be solvent cemented.



be approved for the application. Where the dimensions of the sides, top or bottom of the duct preclude the installation of the prescribed minimum-size cleanout opening, the cleanout shall be located on the duct face that affords the largest opening dimension and shall be installed with the opening edges at the prescribed distances from the duct edges as previously set forth in this section.

**506.3.9.2 Grease duct vertical cleanouts.** Where ducts pass vertically through floors, cleanouts shall be provided. A minimum of one cleanout shall be provided on each floor. Cleanout openings shall be not less than 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) from all outside edges of the duct or welded seams.

**506.3.9 Grease duct cleanout location, spacing and installation.**

**506.3.9.1 Grease duct horizontal cleanout.** Cleanouts located on horizontal sections of ducts shall be spaced not more than 20 feet (6096 mm) apart. The cleanouts shall be located on the side of the duct with the opening not less than 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) above the bottom of the duct, and not less than 1 inch (25 mm) below the top of the duct. The opening minimum dimensions shall be 12 inches (305 mm) on each side. Where the dimensions of the side of the duct prohibit the cleanout installation prescribed herein, the openings shall be on the top of the duct or the bottom of the duct. Where located on the top of the duct, the opening edges shall be a minimum of 1 inch (25 mm) from the edges of the duct. Where located in the bottom of the duct, cleanout openings shall be designed to provide internal damming around the opening, shall be provided with gasketing to preclude grease leakage, shall provide for drainage of grease down the duct around the dam and shall

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**507.2.1 Type I hoods.** Type I hoods shall be installed where cooking appliances produce grease or smoke. Type I hoods shall be installed over medium-duty, heavy-duty and extra-heavy-duty cooking appliances. Type I hoods shall be installed over light-duty cooking appliances that produce grease or smoke.

**EXCEPTION:** A Type I hood shall not be required in an R-2 type occupancy with not more than 16 residents.

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**601.2 Air movement in egress elements.** Corridors shall not serve as supply, return, exhaust, relief or ventilation air ducts.

**Exceptions:**

1. Use of a corridor as a source of makeup air for exhaust systems in rooms that open directly onto such corridors, including toilet rooms, bathrooms, dressing rooms, smoking lounges and janitor closets, shall be permitted provided that each such corridor is directly supplied with outdoor air at a rate greater than the rate of makeup air taken from the corridor.
2. Where located within a dwelling unit, the use of corridors for conveying return air shall not be prohibited.
3. Where located within tenant spaces of 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) or less in area, utilization of corridors for conveying return air is permitted.
4. Incidental air movement from pressurized rooms within health care facilities, provided that the corridor is not the primary source of supply or return to the room.
5. Where such air is part of an engineered smoke control system..
6. Air supplied to corridors serving residential occupancies shall not be considered as providing ventilation air to the dwelling units subject to the following:
  - 6.1 The air supplied to the corridor is 100% outside air, and
  - 6.2 The units served by the corridor have conforming ventilation air independent of the air supplied to the corridor, and
  - 6.3 For other than high-rise buildings, the supply fan will automatically shut off upon activation of corridor smoke detectors which shall be spaced at no more than 30 feet (9144 mm) on center along the corridor, or
  - 6.4 For high-rise buildings, corridor smoke detector activation will close required smoke/fire dampers at the supply inlet to the corridor at the floor receiving the alarm.





**603.5.1 Gypsum ducts.** The use of gypsum boards to form air shafts (ducts) shall be limited to return air systems where the air temperatures do not exceed 125°F (52°C) and the gypsum board surface temperature is maintained above the airstream dew-point temperature. Air ducts formed by gypsum boards shall not be incorporated in air-handling systems utilizing evaporative coolers.

**EXCEPTION:** In other than Group I-2 occupancies, gypsum boards may be used for ducts that are only used for stairwell or elevator pressurization supply air. The gypsum duct shall not attach directly to the equipment.



**606.2.2 Common supply and return air systems.** Where multiple air-handling systems share common supply or return air ducts or plenums with a combined design capacity greater than 2,000 cfm (0.9 m<sup>3</sup>/s), the return air system shall be provided with smoke detectors in accordance with Section 606.2.1.

**EXCEPTION:** Individual smoke detectors shall not be required for each fan-powered terminal unit, provided that such units do not have an individual design capacity greater than 2,000 cfm (0.9 m<sup>3</sup>/s) and will be shut down by activation of one of the following:

1. Smoke detectors required by Sections 606.2.1 and 606.2.3.
2. An approved area smoke detector system located in the return air plenum serving such units.
3. An area smoke detector system as prescribed in the exception to Section 606.2.1.

In all cases, the smoke detectors shall comply with Sections 606.4 and 606.4.1.

The shut down of fan-powered terminal units may be performed by a building automation system upon activation of smoke detection as described in Section 606.2.2, Exception Items 1, 2, or 3. The building automation system is not required to be listed as a smoke control system and is not required to comply with UL Standard 864: Standard for Control Units and Accessories for Fire Alarm Systems.



**Sections 1003 through 1011 are not adopted.**

Pressure Vessels and Boilers are regulated by Chapter 70.79  
RCW.



# ASHRAE

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating  
and Air-conditioning Engineers, Inc.  
1791 Tulie Circle, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Standard Reference Number	Title	Referenced in code section number
ASHRAE-2005	ASHRAE Fundamentals Handbook-2005 .....	603.2
15-2004	Safety Standards for Refrigeration Systems.....	1101.6, 1108.1
34-2004	Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants.....	202, 1102.2.1, 1103.1
62.1-2004	Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality .....	403.3.2.3.2
62.2-2007	Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Low-Rise Residential Buildings .....	403.8.11





**WAC 51-52-21000 – International Fuel Gas Code**

**101.2 Scope.** This code shall apply to the installation of fuel gas piping systems, fuel gas utilization equipment, gaseous hydrogen systems and regulated accessories in accordance with Section 101.2.1 through 101.2.5.

**Exceptions:** 1. Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the International Residential Code.

2. The standards for liquefied petroleum gas installations shall be the 2008 Edition of NFPA 58 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code) and the 2009 Edition of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54 (National Fuel Gas Code).