

Educational Occupancies



Educational (E) Occupancies are defined as: the use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, by more than six or more persons at any one time for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Religious educational rooms and religious auditoriums, which are accessory to places of religious worship in accordance with CBC Section 303.1.4 and have occupancy loads of less than 100, shall not be considered separate occupancies. Also includes use of a building or structure, or portion thereof for educational, supervision or personal care services for more than six children 2 years of age and older, shall be classified as a Group E occupancy.

Inspection Requirements Checklist:

	Yes	No	Comments
I. Extinguishers			
One Class 2-A rated fire extinguisher shall be provided for each 3,000 sq ft of light hazard fuel load or one Class 2-A extinguisher for each 1,500 sq ft of ordinary hazard fuel load. Travel distance shall not exceed 75 ft.			
If Class B fuel hazards are present, a Class B rated fire extinguisher shall be provided in accordance with Title 19 Section 569.			
Extinguishers shall be manually inspected at least monthly by the building owner or occupant, or electronically monitored.			
Extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance annually as described in Title 19 CCR. With exceptions, this type of service does not require internal examination of the extinguisher.			
Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.			
Portable extinguishers shall be securely mounted on brackets or placed in cabinets.			
Fire extinguishers shall be located in conspicuous locations where they are readily accessible and immediately available for use.			
Fire extinguishers less than 40 pounds shall be mounted so the bottom is no less than four inches off the ground and the top not more than 5 feet off the ground.			
Class K extinguisher shall be provided for hazard where there is a potential for fires involving combustible cooking media. Maximum travel distance shall not exceed 30 ft.			
II. Exiting			
Egress doors shall be readily operable from the egress side without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort.			
Egress doors shall swing in direction of egress travel where serving an occupant load of 50 or more persons.			
Manually operated flush bolts or surface bolts are not permitted.			
The unlatching of any door or leaf shall not require more than one operation.			
Means of egress shall be illuminated when the building space is occupied.			
In the event of power supply failure, an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate the means of egress in areas that require two or more exits.			
Required exit access, exits and exit discharges shall be continuously maintained and free from obstructions.			
Where two or more exits are required from a room or area exit and exit access doors shall be marked by approved exit signs readily visible from any direction of egress travel.			

Exit signs shall be internally or externally illuminated at all times; signs shall be connected to an emergency power system that provides illumination for not less than 90 minutes in case of primary power loss.			
Means of egress shall not pass through kitchens, storage rooms, closets or spaces used for similar purposes, or through rooms subject to locking.			
With expectations, total travel distance to an exit shall not exceed 200 ft in non-sprinklered buildings and 250 ft in a sprinklered building.			
With exceptions, corridors shall be not less than 44 inches in width for an occupant capacity of 50 or more, and 36 inches for an occupant capacity of less than 50.			
With exceptions, where more than one exit or exit access, door is required in a building, there shall be no dead end corridors more than 20 ft in length.			
Basements shall have at least one exterior emergency escape and rescue opening such as a window, door, or other device operable from the inside.			
New buildings that are included in the public schools shall include locks that allow doors to classrooms and any room with occupancy of 5 or more to be locked from the inside.			
Delayed egress locks are not allowed on doors serving Group A, E, H or L Occupancies.			
At least two exits, shall be provided where the maximum occupant load exceeds 49.			
III. Housekeeping			
Storage of combustible materials in buildings shall be orderly, with storage separated from heating devices by distance or shielding so that ignition cannot occur.			
Combustible material shall not be stored in a boiler rooms, mechanical rooms or electrical equipment rooms.			
Storage shall be maintained 2 ft or more below the ceiling in non-sprinklered areas of buildings or a minimum of 18 inches below sprinkler deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings.			
Combustible waste containers larger than 40 gallons shall be constructed of noncombustible material or approved combustible material and provided with a lid.			
Combustible waste containers larger than 1.5 cubic yards shall not be stored in buildings or placed within 5 ft of combustible walls, openings or combustible roof eave lines.			
Materials susceptible to spontaneous ignition, such as oily rags, shall be stored in a listed disposal container. Contents shall be emptied daily.			
Electric motors shall be maintained free from excessive accumulations of oil, dirt, waste and debris.			
An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 5 gallons of flammable liquid indoor or 10 gallons of flammable liquid outdoor.			
An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use or more than 25 gallons of combustible liquid indoor or 60 gallons of combustible liquid outdoor.			
IV. Electrical			
Temporary wiring is allowed for a period not to exceed 90 days; such wiring is allowed for longer periods for construction, remodeling or repair of buildings or equipment.			
Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.			

Extension cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings or floors, or under doors or floor coverings, nor shall such cords be subject to environmental damage or physical impact.			
Multi-plug adaptors, such as cube adaptors, un-fused plug strips or other such devices not complying with the California Electrical Code shall be prohibited.			
Relocated power taps shall be permitted if it is of the grounded type, equipped with overcurrents protection and listed in accordance with UL 1363.			
Relocated power taps shall be directly connected to a permanently installed receptacle.			
Relocated power tap cords shall not extend through walls, ceilings, floors, under doors or floor coverings, or be subject to environmental or physical damage.			
Appliance cords and extension cords shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.			
A working space of not less than 30 inches in width, 36 inches in depth and 78 inches in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment. Storage is prohibited within the designated working space.			
Open junction boxes and open-wiring splices shall be prohibited. Approved covers shall be provided for all switch and electrical outlet boxes.			
Portable electric space heaters shall be plugged directly into a permanent receptacle.			
Portable electric space heaters shall not be operated within 3 ft of any combustible materials. Portable, electric space heaters shall be operated only in locations for which they are listed.			
V. Hazardous Materials			
An operational permit is required to conduct a spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible powders.			
Spraying-finishing operations shall be conducted in a spray room, spray booth or limited spraying space approved for such use.			
Ventilation of spraying areas shall be designed, installed and maintained so that flammable contaminants are diluted in non-contaminated air to maintain concentrations in the exhaust airflow below 5% of the contaminant's lower flammable level (LFL).			
An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 5 gallons of flammable liquid indoor or 10 gallons of flammable liquid outdoor.			
An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 25 gallons of combustible liquid indoor or 60 gallons of combustible liquid outdoor.			
Storage in excess of 10 gallons of flammable and combustible liquid used for maintenance and operation shall be in a flammable liquid cabinet.			
VI. Miscellaneous			
Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of the corridors to not more than 50% of the wall area.			
Natural cut Christmas trees shall not be displayed except in areas protected by a sprinkler system.			
The support device that holds the tree upright shall be of a type that is stable and is capable of containing a minimum two-day supply of water.			
Natural cut trees shall be removed from the building whenever the needles or leaves fall off readily when a tree branch is shaken or if the needles are brittle and break when bent between the thumb and index finger.			

All drapes, hangings, curtains and other decorative material, including Christmas trees, that would tend to increase the fire and panic hazard shall be made from a nonflammable material or shall be treated and maintained in a flame retardant condition with a flame-retardant solution approved by the State Fire Marshal.			
Rooms used for assembly purposes, classroom, dining, drinking, or similar use having an occupant load of 50 or more shall have the occupant load posted near the main exit.			
Every person managing or in charge of any public, private or parochial school shall cause the fire alarm signal to be sounded not less than once every calendar month at the elementary and intermediate levels, and not less than twice yearly at the secondary level.			
Each school shall prepare procedures to be followed in case of fire or other emergency and shall post in each classroom or assembly area a plan showing paths of travel to evacuate and an alternate route. Classrooms shall also have posted instructions to be followed by the teacher.			
New public buildings or alterations to existing buildings on an existing public school campus in accordance with CFC 907.2.29.2 & 907.2.29.3 shall be provided with an automatic sprinkler system.			
A manual and automatic fire alarm system shall be installed in Group E occupancies having an occupant load of 50 or more persons or more than one classroom or one or more rooms.			
An approved fire apparatus access road not less than 20 feet wide shall be provided for access to within 150 ft of all portions of the building.			
Fire access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles. Traffic calming devices shall be prohibited unless approved by the Fire Code Official.			
Fire access roads shall be marked with approved signs or markings that state NO PARKING- FIRE LANE. Marking shall be maintained in clean, legible condition and repaired when necessary.			
Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times.			
New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible from the street or road fronting the property. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall not be less than 4 inches high with a minimum stroke of 1/2 inch. Where the building cannot be viewed from the public way a monument pole or other sign shall be used to identify the structure. Address identification shall be maintained.			
Exterior doors and their function cannot be eliminated without approval. If approved, and the door retains the appearance as functional, the door shall have "THIS DOOR BLOCKED" posted on the exterior.			
Rooms containing controls for air-conditioning systems, sprinkler risers and valves, or other fire detection, suppression or control elements shall be identified for the use of the fire department. Approved signs required to identify fire protection equipment and equipment location shall be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and readily visible.			
Approved access shall be provided and maintained for all fire protection equipment. Storage, trash and other materials shall not prevent such access.			
Fire hydrant systems shall be subject to periodic testing, inspection and maintenance as required by the fire code official.			
Where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured openings or where access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box to be installed in an approved location. An approved lock shall be installed on gates or similar barriers where equipped by the fire code official. Keys and locks shall be maintained at all times.			

<p>Installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be approved by the fire code official and shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times.</p>			
<p>Commercial cooking systems shall be operated and maintained in accordance with CFC 609.3.1 through CFC 609.3.4.</p>			
<p>Fire-resistance rated construction, including, but not limited to, walls, firestops, shaft enclosures, partitions, smoke barriers, floors, fire-resistive coatings and sprayed fire-resistive materials applied to structural members and fire-resistive joint systems shall be maintained.</p>			
<p>Fire alarm systems shall be monitored by an approved supervising station in accordance with this section and NFPA 72.</p>			
<p>Compressed gas containers, cylinders, tanks and systems shall be secured against accidental dislodgement and against access by unauthorized personnel in accordance with CFC 5303.5.1 through CFC 5303.5.3.</p>			
<p>Approved access shall be provided and maintained for all fire protection equipment. Storage, trash, and other materials shall not prevent such access.</p>			
<p>Water heaters shall be anchored or strapped to resist horizontal displacement due to earthquake motion.</p>			