

481—280.8(10A) General provisions. The following publications or indicated portions thereof are hereby adopted by reference as general fire safety requirements and apply to all occupancies other than those to which provisions specific to an occupancy explicitly exclude these provisions or any individual provision contained therein.

280.8(1) International Fire Code, 2024 edition, published by the International Code Council, available at www.iccsafe.org, with the following amendments:

a. Delete section 103 and sections contained therein, section 104 and sections contained therein except section 104.2.3, section 105 and sections contained therein, section 106 and sections contained therein, section 107 and sections contained therein, section 108 and sections contained therein, section 109 and sections contained therein, section 110 and sections contained therein, section 111 and sections contained therein, section 112, section 113 and sections contained therein, section 114 and sections contained therein, and section 115 and sections contained therein.

b. Delete section 301.2.

c. Delete section 307.2.

d. Add the following new section 308.1.11:

308.1.11 Open Flame Cooking Devices. Charcoal burners and ash- or coal-producing devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family dwellings.

2. LP-gas burners connected to one (1) 20-pound LP-gas container.

3. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

e. Delete section 315.3.3 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

315.3.3 Equipment Rooms. Combustible material shall not be stored in boiler rooms, mechanical rooms, or electrical equipment rooms or in fire command centers as specified in Section 508.1.5.

Exception: In sprinklered equipment rooms that have sufficient space to allow a minimum of 10 feet between all combustible storage and the heating, mechanical or electrical equipment in the room.

f. Delete section 405.3 and table 405.3 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section and new table:

405.3 Frequency. Required emergency evacuation drills will be held at the intervals specified in Table 405.3 or more frequently where necessary to familiarize all occupants with the drill procedure.

TABLE 405.3

FIRE AND EVACUATION DRILL FREQUENCY AND PARTICIPATION

GROUP OR OCCUPANCY	FREQUENCY	PARTICIPATION
Group A	Quarterly	Employees
Group B ^(c)	Annually	Employees
Group E	See ^(a) below	All occupants
Group I	Quarterly on each shift	Employees
Group I-1 ^(b) and Group R-4	Quarterly	All occupants
Group R-1	Quarterly on each shift	Employees
Group R-2 ^(d)	Four annually	All occupants
High-rise	Annually	Employees

^(a) Fire and severe weather drills shall be conducted in accordance with Iowa Code section 10A.522. In severe climates, the fire code official has the authority to modify the emergency evacuation drill frequency.

^(b) Fire and evacuation drills in assisted living facilities include complete evacuation of the premises in accordance with Section 405.2. Drills shall be conducted not less than six times per year on a bimonthly basis, with not less than two drills conducted during the night when residents could reasonably be expected to be sleeping. The drills may be announced in advance to the residents. Where occupants receive habilitation or rehabilitation training, fire prevention and fire safety practices shall be included as part of the training program.

(c) Group B buildings that have an occupant load of 500 or more persons or more than 100 persons above or below the lowest level of exit discharge.

(d) Applicable to Group R-2 college and university buildings in accordance with Section 408.3.

g. Delete section 807.5.2.1 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

807.5.2.1 Storage in corridors and lobbies. Clothing and personal effects will not be stored in corridors and lobbies.

Exceptions:

1. Corridors protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

2. Storage in metal lockers, provided the minimum required egress width is maintained.

h. Delete section 903.2.8 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

903.2.8 Group R. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area.

Exception: Cabin buildings that are located in remote areas without a sufficient municipal water supply for design of a fire sprinkler system and that meet all of the following:

1. Not more than one story.

2. Not more than 750 square feet in floor area.

3. Fuel-fired heating equipment and other fuel-fired appliances are separated from sleeping areas by a one-hour fire-rated assembly.

4. Provided with fire alarm and smoke alarm systems as required by Section 907 for R-1 occupancies.

5. Basements are not allowed.

6. Maintain a fire separation of 20 feet from any other building or structure.

7. Comply with all applicable requirements of this Code.

i. Delete section 907.2.3 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

907.2.3 Group E. In the absence of a complete automatic sprinkler system, a complete automatic detection system utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system shall be installed throughout the entire Group E occupancy. A Group E occupancy with a complete automatic sprinkler system will be provided with a fire alarm system utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system in compliance with Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6. As a minimum, smoke detection will be provided in corridors at a maximum spacing of 30 feet on center, and heat or smoke detection will be provided in any hazardous or nonoccupied areas in all new or existing Group E occupancies.

Exceptions:

1. Group E occupancies with an occupant load of less than 50.

2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required in Group E occupancies where all of the following apply:

2.1. Interior corridors are protected by smoke detectors with alarm verification.

2.2. Auditoriums, cafeterias, gymnasiums and the like are protected by heat detectors or other approved detection devices.

2.3. Shops and laboratories involving dusts or vapors are protected by heat detectors or other approved detection devices.

2.4. Off-premises monitoring is provided.

2.5. The capability to activate the evacuation signal from a central point is provided.

2.6. In buildings where normally occupied spaces are provided with a two-way communication system between such spaces and a constantly attended receiving station from which a general evacuation alarm can be sounded, except in locations specifically designated by the fire code official.

3. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required in Group E occupancies where the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system, the notification appliances will activate on sprinkler water flow, and manual activation is provided from a normally occupied location.

4. Emergency voice/alarm communication systems meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 are not required in Group E occupancies with occupant loads of 100 or less, provided that activation of the fire alarm system initiates an approved occupant notification signal in accordance with Section 907.5.

j. Add the following new section 1003.8:

1003.8 Frost protection. Exterior landings at doors will be provided with frost protection.

k. Add the following new section 1028.6:

1028.6 Exit discharge pathways. Exit discharge pathways will be paved from all required exits of a building to a public way or parking lot.

l. Delete section 1030.1.1 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

1030.1.1 Bleachers, grandstands, and folding and telescopic seating that are not building elements will comply with ICC-300, Standard for Bleachers, Folding and Telescopic Seating, and Grandstands, 2023 edition, with the following amendments to ICC-300:

(1) Delete section 105.2 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

105.2 Yearly inspection required. All bleachers and folding and telescopic seating installed on or after December 1, 2011, shall be inspected at least once a year in order to verify that the structure is maintained in compliance with the provisions of this standard. All folding and telescopic seating will also be inspected to evaluate compliance with the manufacturer's installation and operational instructions during the opening and closing of such seating. Any inspection conducted in compliance with this section may be conducted by any knowledgeable person including, but not limited to, a person who has been instructed by the manufacturer or installer as to procedures and standards for inspections of the structure being inspected and including, but not limited to, the owner of the structure or an employee of the owner of the structure. There are no further limitations on the identity or employment of the person conducting the inspection unless otherwise provided by law. The owner shall maintain documentation of the required annual inspections, showing the date and name of the person conducting the inspection and initialed by the person conducting the inspection.

(2) Reserved.

m. Delete section 1103.5.1 Group A-2. Notwithstanding this deletion, a Group A-2 occupancy shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system if it was so required by another applicable section of a fire code adopted at the time of the Group A-2 occupancy's construction. Alternative means of compliance may be submitted for consideration per section 104.2.3 of the 2024 international fire code. Alternative means must be submitted to the department's fire safety bureau by a fire protection engineer for consideration of approval.

n. Delete section 1103.7.1 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

1103.7.1 Existing Group E occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system in compliance with Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6. As a minimum, smoke detection will be provided in corridors at a maximum spacing of 30 feet on center, and heat or smoke detection will be provided in any hazardous or nonoccupied areas.

Exceptions:

1. A building with a maximum area of 1,000 square feet that contains a single classroom and is located no closer than 50 feet from another building.

2. Group E occupancy with an occupant load of less than 50.

3. Emergency voice/alarm communication systems meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 are not required in Group E occupancies with occupant loads of 100 or less, provided that the activation of the fire alarm system initiates an approved occupant notification signal in accordance with Section 907.5.

o. Delete section 1103.8 and insert in lieu thereof the following new section:

1103.8 Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms. Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed in existing Group I-1 and R occupancies in accordance with Sections 1103.8.1 through 1103.8.4.

p. Add the following new section 1103.8.4:

1103.8.4 Smoke alarm service life. Single-station battery-operated smoke alarms will be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

280.8(2) The following chapters and sections of the International Building Code, 2024 edition, published by the International Code Council, as amended by rule 481—301.3(10A):

- a.* Chapter 2.
- b.* Chapter 3.
- c.* Chapter 4.
- d.* Chapter 5.
- e.* Chapter 6.
- f.* Chapter 7.
- g.* Sections 804 and 805.

[**ARC 9472C**, IAB 8/6/25, effective 9/10/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/26/25; **ARC 0246D**, IAB 4/29/26, effective 6/3/26]