

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CHAPTER 1 ADMINISTRATION ..... 1

Section	
101	General ..... 1
102	Applicability ..... 1
103	Department of Building Safety ..... 2
104	Duties and Powers of Building Official ..... 2
105	Permits ..... 3
106	Construction Documents ..... 5
107	Temporary Structures and Uses ..... 6
108	Fees ..... 6
109	Inspections ..... 7
110	Certificate of Occupancy ..... 7
111	Service Utilities ..... 8
112	Board of Appeals ..... 8
113	Violations ..... 8
114	Stop Work Order ..... 9
115	Unsafe Structures and Equipment ..... 9

## CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS ..... 11

Section	
201	General ..... 11
202	Definitions ..... 11

## CHAPTER 3 USE AND OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION ..... 23

Section	
301	General ..... 23
302	Classification ..... 23
303	Assembly Group A ..... 23
304	Business Group B ..... 24
305	Educational Group E ..... 24
306	Factory Group F ..... 24
307	High-hazard Group H ..... 25
308	Institutional Group I ..... 33
309	Mercantile Group M ..... 34
310	Residential Group R ..... 34
311	Storage Group S ..... 35
312	Utility and Miscellaneous Group U ..... 35

## CHAPTER 4 SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY ..... 37

Section	
401	Scope ..... 37
402	Covered Mall Buildings ..... 37
403	High-rise Buildings ..... 40
404	Atriums ..... 41
405	Underground Buildings ..... 42
406	Motor-vehicle-related Occupancies ..... 43
407	Group I-2 ..... 47
408	Group I-3 ..... 48
409	Motion Picture Projection Rooms ..... 49
410	Stages and Platforms ..... 50
411	Special Amusement Buildings ..... 52
412	Aircraft-related Occupancies ..... 52
413	Combustible Storage ..... 54
414	Hazardous Materials ..... 55
415	Groups H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 and H-5 ..... 58
416	Application of Flammable Finishes ..... 71
417	Drying Rooms ..... 72
418	Organic Coatings ..... 72
419	Group I-1, R-1, R-2, R-3 ..... 72
420	Hydrogen Cutoff Rooms ..... 72

## CHAPTER 5 GENERAL BUILDING HEIGHTS AND AREAS ..... 75

Section	
501	General ..... 75
502	Definitions ..... 75
503	General Height and Area Limitations ..... 75
504	Height ..... 75
505	Mezzanines ..... 77
506	Area Modifications ..... 78
507	Unlimited Area Buildings ..... 79
508	Mixed Use and Occupancy ..... 80
509	Special Provisions ..... 82

## CHAPTER 6 TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION ..... 85

Section	
601	General ..... 85
602	Construction Classification ..... 85

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

603 Combustible Material in Type I and II Construction . . . . . 86

**CHAPTER 7 FIRE-RESISTANCE-RATED CONSTRUCTION . . . . . 89**

Section

701 General . . . . . 89  
 702 Definitions . . . . . 89  
 703 Fire-resistance Ratings and Fire Tests . . . . . 90  
 704 Exterior Walls . . . . . 91  
 705 Fire Walls . . . . . 94  
 706 Fire Barriers . . . . . 96  
 707 Shaft Enclosures . . . . . 97  
 708 Fire Partitions . . . . . 100  
 709 Smoke Barriers . . . . . 101  
 710 Smoke Partitions . . . . . 101  
 711 Horizontal Assemblies . . . . . 102  
 712 Penetrations . . . . . 102  
 713 Fire-resistant Joint Systems . . . . . 105  
 714 Fire-resistance Rating of Structural Members . . . . . 105  
 715 Opening Protectives . . . . . 106  
 716 Ducts and Air Transfer Openings . . . . . 110  
 717 Concealed Spaces . . . . . 113  
 718 Fire-resistance Requirements for Plaster . . . . . 115  
 719 Thermal- and Sound-insulating Materials . . . . . 115  
 720 Prescriptive Fire Resistance . . . . . 116  
 721 Calculated Fire Resistance . . . . . 136

**CHAPTER 8 INTERIOR FINISHES . . . . . 165**

Section

801 General . . . . . 165  
 802 Definitions . . . . . 165  
 803 Wall and Ceiling Finishes . . . . . 165  
 804 Interior Floor Finish . . . . . 167  
 805 Combustible Materials in Type I and II Construction . . . . . 168  
 806 Decorative Materials and Trim . . . . . 168

**CHAPTER 9 FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS . . . . . 171**

Section

901 General . . . . . 171  
 902 Definitions . . . . . 171  
 903 Automatic Sprinkler Systems . . . . . 174  
 904 Alternative Automatic Fire-extinguishing Systems . . . . . 178

905 Standpipe Systems . . . . . 180  
 906 Portable Fire Extinguishers . . . . . 182  
 907 Fire Alarm and Detection Systems . . . . . 182  
 908 Emergency Alarm Systems . . . . . 189  
 909 Smoke Control Systems . . . . . 190  
 910 Smoke and Heat Vents . . . . . 197  
 911 Fire Command Center . . . . . 199  
 912 Fire Department Connections . . . . . 199

**CHAPTER 10 MEANS OF EGRESS . . . . . 201**

Section

1001 Administration . . . . . 201  
 1002 Definitions . . . . . 201  
 1003 General Means of Egress . . . . . 202  
 1004 Occupant Load . . . . . 203  
 1005 Egress Width . . . . . 204  
 1006 Means of Egress Illumination . . . . . 205  
 1007 Accessible Means of Egress . . . . . 205  
 1008 Doors, Gates and Turnstiles . . . . . 207  
 1009 Stairways . . . . . 212  
 1010 Ramps . . . . . 214  
 1011 Exit Signs . . . . . 216  
 1012 Handrails . . . . . 216  
 1013 Guards . . . . . 217  
 1014 Exit Access . . . . . 218  
 1015 Exit and Exit Access Doorways . . . . . 220  
 1016 Exit Access Travel Distance . . . . . 221  
 1017 Corridors . . . . . 221  
 1018 Exits . . . . . 223  
 1019 Number of Exits and Continuity . . . . . 223  
 1020 Vertical Exit Enclosures . . . . . 223  
 1021 Exit Passageways . . . . . 225  
 1022 Horizontal Exits . . . . . 225  
 1023 Exterior Exit Ramps and Stairways . . . . . 226  
 1024 Exit Discharge . . . . . 227  
 1025 Assembly . . . . . 228  
 1026 Emergency Escape and Rescue . . . . . 232

**CHAPTER 11 ACCESSIBILITY . . . . . 235**

Section

1101 General . . . . . 235  
 1102 Definitions . . . . . 235  
 1103 Scoping Requirements . . . . . 235  
 1104 Accessible Route . . . . . 236  
 1105 Accessible Entrances . . . . . 237

1106 Parking and Passenger Loading Facilities . . . . . 238  
 1107 Dwelling Units and Sleeping Units . . . . . 238  
 1108 Special Occupancies . . . . . 241  
 1109 Other Features and Facilities . . . . . 243  
 1110 Signage . . . . . 247

**CHAPTER 12 INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT . . . . . 249**

Section  
 1201 General . . . . . 249  
 1202 Definitions . . . . . 249  
 1203 Ventilation . . . . . 249  
 1204 Temperature Control . . . . . 250  
 1205 Lighting . . . . . 250  
 1206 Yards or Courts . . . . . 251  
 1207 Sound Transmission . . . . . 251  
 1208 Interior Space Dimensions . . . . . 251  
 1209 Access to Unoccupied Spaces . . . . . 252  
 1210 Surrounding Materials . . . . . 252

**CHAPTER 13 ENERGY EFFICIENCY . . . . . 253**

Section  
 1301 General . . . . . 253

**CHAPTER 14 EXTERIOR WALLS . . . . . 255**

Section  
 1401 General . . . . . 255  
 1402 Definitions . . . . . 255  
 1403 Performance Requirements . . . . . 255  
 1404 Materials . . . . . 256  
 1405 Installation of Wall Coverings . . . . . 256  
 1406 Combustible Materials on the  
     Exterior Side of Exterior Walls . . . . . 260  
 1407 Metal Composite Materials (MCM) . . . . . 261

**CHAPTER 15 ROOF ASSEMBLIES AND  
 ROOFTOP STRUCTURES . . . . . 263**

Section  
 1501 General . . . . . 263  
 1502 Definitions . . . . . 263  
 1503 Weather Protection . . . . . 263  
 1504 Performance Requirements . . . . . 264  
 1505 Fire Classification . . . . . 265  
 1506 Materials . . . . . 265  
 1507 Requirements for Roof Coverings . . . . . 266  
 1508 Roof Insulation . . . . . 274

1509 Rooftop Structures . . . . . 275  
 1510 Reroofing . . . . . 276

**CHAPTER 16 STRUCTURAL DESIGN . . . . . 277**

Section  
 1601 General . . . . . 277  
 1602 Definitions and Notations . . . . . 277  
 1603 Construction Documents . . . . . 278  
 1604 General Design Requirements . . . . . 279  
 1605 Load Combinations . . . . . 282  
 1606 Dead Loads . . . . . 283  
 1607 Live Loads . . . . . 284  
 1608 Snow Loads . . . . . 289  
 1609 Wind Loads . . . . . 289  
 1610 Soil Lateral Loads . . . . . 299  
 1611 Rain Loads . . . . . 299  
 1612 Flood Loads . . . . . 300  
 1613 Earthquake Loads . . . . . 302

**CHAPTER 17 STRUCTURAL TESTS AND  
 SPECIAL INSPECTIONS . . . . . 327**

Section  
 1701 General . . . . . 327  
 1702 Definitions . . . . . 327  
 1703 Approvals . . . . . 328  
 1704 Special Inspections . . . . . 328  
 1705 Statement of Special Inspections . . . . . 336  
 1706 Contractor Responsibility . . . . . 338  
 1707 Special Inspections for Seismic Resistance . . . . . 338  
 1708 Structural Testing for Seismic Resistance . . . . . 339  
 1709 Structural Observations . . . . . 340  
 1710 Design Strengths of Materials . . . . . 340  
 1711 Alternative Test Procedure . . . . . 340  
 1712 Test Safe Load . . . . . 340  
 1713 In-situ Load Tests . . . . . 340  
 1714 Preconstruction Load Tests . . . . . 341  
 1715 Material and Test Standards . . . . . 342

**CHAPTER 18 SOILS AND FOUNDATIONS . . . . . 343**

Section  
 1801 General . . . . . 343  
 1802 Foundation and Soils Investigations . . . . . 343  
 1803 Excavation, Grading and Fill . . . . . 344  
 1804 Allowable Load-bearing Values of Soils . . . . . 345

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1805 Footings and Foundations . . . . . 345  
 1806 Retaining Walls . . . . . 357  
 1807 Dampproofing and Waterproofing . . . . . 357  
 1808 Pier and Pile Foundations . . . . . 358  
 1809 Driven Pile Foundations . . . . . 363  
 1810 Cast-in-place Concrete Pile Foundations . . . . . 366  
 1811 Composite Piles . . . . . 370  
 1812 Pier Foundations . . . . . 370

**CHAPTER 19 CONCRETE . . . . . 373**

Section

1901 General . . . . . 373  
 1902 Definitions . . . . . 373  
 1903 Specifications for Tests and Materials . . . . . 373  
 1904 Durability Requirements . . . . . 373  
 1905 Concrete Quality, Mixing and Placing . . . . . 375  
 1906 Formwork, Embedded Pipes and  
     Construction Joints . . . . . 375  
 1907 Details of Reinforcement . . . . . 376  
 1908 Modifications to ACI 318 . . . . . 376  
 1909 Structural Plain Concrete . . . . . 379  
 1910 Minimum Slab Provisions . . . . . 380  
 1911 Anchorage to Concrete—Allowable  
     Stress Design . . . . . 380  
 1912 Anchorage to Concrete—Strength Design . . . . . 380  
 1913 Shotcrete . . . . . 381  
 1914 Reinforced Gypsum Concrete . . . . . 382  
 1915 Concrete-filled Pipe Columns . . . . . 382

**CHAPTER 20 ALUMINUM . . . . . 385**

Section

2001 General . . . . . 385  
 2002 Materials . . . . . 385

**CHAPTER 21 MASONRY . . . . . 387**

Section

2101 General . . . . . 387  
 2102 Definitions and Notations . . . . . 387  
 2103 Masonry Construction Materials . . . . . 391  
 2104 Construction . . . . . 394  
 2105 Quality Assurance . . . . . 397  
 2106 Seismic Design . . . . . 398  
 2107 Allowable Stress Design . . . . . 400  
 2108 Strength Design of Masonry . . . . . 400

2109 Empirical Design of Masonry . . . . . 401  
 2110 Glass Unit Masonry . . . . . 407  
 2111 Masonry Fireplaces . . . . . 408  
 2112 Masonry Heaters . . . . . 411  
 2113 Masonry Chimneys . . . . . 411

**CHAPTER 22 STEEL . . . . . 417**

Section

2201 General . . . . . 417  
 2202 Definitions . . . . . 417  
 2203 Identification and Protection of Steel  
     for Structural Purposes . . . . . 417  
 2204 Connections . . . . . 417  
 2205 Structural Steel . . . . . 417  
 2206 Steel Joists . . . . . 418  
 2207 Steel Cable Structures . . . . . 418  
 2208 Steel Storage Racks . . . . . 419  
 2209 Cold-formed Steel . . . . . 419  
 2210 Cold-formed Steel Light-framed Construction . . . . . 419

**CHAPTER 23 WOOD . . . . . 421**

Section

2301 General . . . . . 421  
 2302 Definitions . . . . . 421  
 2303 Minimum Standards and Quality . . . . . 422  
 2304 General Construction Requirements . . . . . 426  
 2305 General Design Requirements for  
     Lateral-force-resisting Systems . . . . . 435  
 2306 Allowable Stress Design . . . . . 442  
 2307 Load and Resistance Factor Design . . . . . 449  
 2308 Conventional Light-frame Construction . . . . . 449

**CHAPTER 24 GLASS AND GLAZING . . . . . 495**

Section

2401 General . . . . . 495  
 2402 Definitions . . . . . 495  
 2403 General Requirements for Glass . . . . . 495  
 2404 Wind, Snow, Seismic and  
     Dead Loads on Glass . . . . . 495  
 2405 Sloped Glazing and Skylights . . . . . 497  
 2406 Safety Glazing . . . . . 498  
 2407 Glass in Handrails and Guards . . . . . 500  
 2408 Glazing in Athletic Facilities . . . . . 500  
 2409 Glass in Elevator Hoistway . . . . . 500

**CHAPTER 25 GYPSUM BOARD AND PLASTER ..... 501**

Section

2501 General ..... 501

2502 Definitions ..... 501

2503 Inspection ..... 501

2504 Vertical and Horizontal Assemblies ..... 501

2505 Shear Wall Construction ..... 501

2506 Gypsum Board Materials ..... 502

2507 Lathing and Plastering ..... 502

2508 Gypsum Construction ..... 502

2509 Gypsum Board in Showers and Water Closets ..... 503

2510 Lathing and Furring for Cement Plaster (Stucco) ..... 504

2511 Interior Plaster ..... 504

2512 Exterior Plaster ..... 505

2513 Exposed Aggregate Plaster ..... 505

**CHAPTER 26 PLASTIC ..... 507**

Section

2601 General ..... 507

2602 Definitions ..... 507

2603 Foam Plastic Insulation ..... 507

2604 Interior Finish and Trim ..... 510

2605 Plastic Veneer ..... 511

2606 Light-transmitting Plastics ..... 511

2607 Light-transmitting Plastic Wall Panels ..... 512

2608 Light-transmitting Plastic Glazing ..... 513

2609 Light-transmitting Plastic Roof Panels ..... 513

2610 Light-transmitting Plastic Skylight Glazing ... 514

2611 Light-transmitting Plastic Interior Signs ..... 514

**CHAPTER 27 ELECTRICAL ..... 517**

Section

2701 General ..... 517

2702 Emergency and Standby Power Systems ..... 517

**CHAPTER 28 MECHANICAL SYSTEMS ..... 519**

Section

2801 General ..... 519

**CHAPTER 29 PLUMBING SYSTEMS ..... 521**

Section

2901 General ..... 521

2902 Minimum Plumbing Facilities ..... 521

**CHAPTER 30 ELEVATORS AND CONVEYING SYSTEMS ..... 525**

Section

3001 General ..... 525

3002 Hoistway Enclosures ..... 525

3003 Emergency Operations ..... 525

3004 Hoistway Venting ..... 526

3005 Conveying Systems ..... 526

3006 Machine Rooms ..... 527

**CHAPTER 31 SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION ..... 529**

Section

3101 General ..... 529

3102 Membrane Structures ..... 529

3103 Temporary Structures ..... 530

3104 Pedestrian Walkways and Tunnels ..... 530

3105 Awnings and Canopies ..... 531

3106 Marquees ..... 532

3107 Signs ..... 532

3108 Radio and Television Towers ..... 532

3109 Swimming Pool Enclosures and Safety Devices ..... 532

**CHAPTER 32 ENCROACHMENTS INTO THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ..... 535**

Section

3201 General ..... 535

3202 Encroachments ..... 535

**CHAPTER 33 SAFEGUARDS DURING CONSTRUCTION ..... 537**

Section

3301 General ..... 537

3302 Construction Safeguards ..... 537

3303 Demolition ..... 537

3304 Site Work ..... 537

3305 Sanitary ..... 537

3306 Protection of Pedestrians ..... 538

3307 Protection of Adjoining Property ..... 539

3308 Temporary Use of Streets, Alleys and Public Property ..... 539

3309 Fire Extinguishers ..... 539

3310 Exits ..... 539

3311 Standpipes ..... 539

3312 Automatic Sprinkler System ..... 540

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**CHAPTER 34 EXISTING STRUCTURES..... 541**

Section

3401 General..... 541  
 3402 Definitions ..... 541  
 3403 Additions, Alterations or Repairs..... 541  
 3404 Fire Escapes ..... 542  
 3405 Glass Replacement ..... 543  
 3406 Change of Occupancy ..... 543  
 3407 Historic Buildings ..... 543  
 3408 Moved Structures..... 543  
 3409 Accessibility for Existing Buildings ..... 543  
 3410 Compliance Alternatives..... 545

**CHAPTER 35 REFERENCED STANDARDS ..... 555**

**APPENDIX A EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS .. 575**

Section

A101 Building Official Qualifications..... 575  
 A102 Referenced Standards ..... 575

**APPENDIX B BOARD OF APPEALS ..... 577**

Section

B101 General..... 577

**APPENDIX C GROUP U—AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS ..... 579**

Section

C101 General..... 579  
 C102 Allowable Height and Area..... 579  
 C103 Mixed Occupancies ..... 579  
 C104 Exits ..... 579

**APPENDIX D FIRE DISTRICTS ..... 581**

Section

D101 General..... 581  
 D102 Building Restrictions..... 581  
 D103 Changes to Buildings ..... 582  
 D104 Buildings Located Partially in the Fire District ..... 582  
 D105 Exceptions to Restrictions in Fire District..... 582  
 D106 Referenced Standards ..... 583

**APPENDIX E SUPPLEMENTARY ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS ..... 585**

Section

E101 General..... 585  
 E102 Definitions ..... 585

E103 Accessible Route ..... 585  
 E104 Special Occupancies ..... 585  
 E105 Other Features and Facilities ..... 586  
 E106 Telephones..... 586  
 E107 Signage..... 587  
 E108 Bus Stops ..... 588  
 E109 Transportation Facilities and Stations ..... 588  
 E110 Airports ..... 589  
 E111 Referenced Standards ..... 589

**APPENDIX F RODENTPROOFING ..... 591**

Section

F101 General..... 591

**APPENDIX G FLOOD-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION ..... 593**

Section

G101 Administration..... 593  
 G102 Applicability ..... 593  
 G103 Powers and Duties..... 593  
 G104 Permits ..... 594  
 G105 Variances ..... 594  
 G201 Definitions ..... 595  
 G301 Subdivisions..... 596  
 G401 Site Improvement..... 596  
 G501 Manufactured Homes ..... 596  
 G601 Recreational Vehicles ..... 596  
 G701 Tanks ..... 597  
 G801 Other Building Work..... 597  
 G901 Referenced Standards ..... 597

**APPENDIX H SIGNS..... 599**

Section

H101 General..... 599  
 H102 Definitions ..... 599  
 H103 Location ..... 599  
 H104 Identification ..... 599  
 H105 Design and Construction..... 600  
 H106 Electrical ..... 600  
 H107 Combustible Materials ..... 600  
 H108 Animated Devices ..... 600  
 H109 Ground Signs ..... 600  
 H110 Roof Signs ..... 601  
 H111 Wall Signs ..... 601  
 H112 Projecting Signs..... 601

H113 Marquee Signs . . . . . 602  
H114 Portable Signs . . . . . 602  
H115 Referenced Standards . . . . . 602

**APPENDIX I PATIO COVERS..... 603**

Section

I101 General . . . . . 603  
I102 Definitions . . . . . 603  
I103 Exterior Openings . . . . . 603  
I104 Structural Provisions . . . . . 603

**APPENDIX J GRADING..... 605**

J101 General . . . . . 605  
J102 Definitions . . . . . 605  
J 103 Permits Required . . . . . 605  
J104 Permit Application and Submittals. . . . . 605  
J105 Inspections . . . . . 606  
J106 Excavations . . . . . 606  
J107 Fills. . . . . 607  
J108 Setbacks . . . . . 607  
J109 Drainage and Terracing . . . . . 607  
J110 Erosion Control . . . . . 608  
J111 Referenced Standards . . . . . 608

**APPENDIX K ICC ELECTRICAL CODE..... 609**

**INDEX..... 637**

