

24.01.04 Fire and Life Safety

Approved May 18, 2020
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Regulation Summary

This regulation outlines the requirements for fire and life safety programs and practices operated by members of The Texas A&M University System (system). Each and every individual, whether faculty, staff, student or visitor on a member property, shares a role in fire and life safety.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Regulation

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Fire and life safety is governed by national, state and locally adopted codes and standards. Fire and life safety programs and practices are designed to help ensure safe environments in which to work, study and play for employees, students and visitors. Mitigation, preparedness, and response procedures needed to minimize loss of life and damage to property are required to address the numerous fire and life safety issues. Examples include construction plan reviews to ensure code compliance, building inspections, equipment testing and maintenance, and emergency planning and practice.
- 1.2 The local authority having jurisdiction (Local AHJ) will adopt the latest edition of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1, NFPA 101 and their referenced standards.
- 1.3 For new construction, the International Building Code (IBC), its referenced standards, and other nationally recognized codes and standards are utilized for code compliance provisions not specifically addressed by NFPA 1, NFPA 101, and their referenced standards. The latest edition of the IBC and its referenced standards are applicable.
- 1.4 For building additions, modifications and renovations; the Local AHJ must be consulted regarding what codes are applicable to the specific project.

2. FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY PROGRAM

- 2.1 Each member program must include applicable provisions and requirements of NFPA 1, NFPA 101, their referenced standards, and other applicable standards and codes as determined by the Local AHJ.
- 2.2 The Local AHJ must consult the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) for interpretations and alternate methods of compliance.
- 2.3 The system fire protection manager is a licensed fire protection engineer in the state of Texas and is qualified to review and provide input regarding interpretations and alternate methods of compliance. Local AHJs may request that the system fire protection manager review and bring these issues to the AHJ on their behalf.
- 2.4 The AHJ must be consulted where there is a difference of opinion regarding interpretations and acceptance of alternate methods of compliance.
- 2.5 Fire and life safety programs must include, but not be limited to the following:
 - 2.5.1 Identify, document, and analyze workplace hazards associated with its operations;
 - 2.5.2 Verify fire prevention inspections are conducted and documented. Inspections and their frequency must comply with NFPA 1 and be based on fire risk analysis and life safety assessments;
 - 2.5.3 Application of code requirements for new construction in addition to the existing facilities;
 - 2.5.4 Documentation of the program elements;
 - 2.5.5 Work with emergency management plans to develop evacuation plans associated with fire and life safety where required by NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 based on occupancy classification; and
 - 2.5.6 Provide coordination with and assistance to emergency responders to ensure timely response and access to and within facilities.

3. TRAINING

- 3.1 Each member must provide information and training as required by NFPA 1, NFPA 101, their referenced standards, and other applicable standards and codes as determined by the Local AHJ.
- 3.2 The Local AHJ must have access to documentation upon request regarding provided training.

4. DOCUMENTATION

Documentation is a critical component for the initial acceptance and long-term inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire protection and life safety systems. Documentation includes, but is not limited to, checklists, reports, letters, training sign-in sheets, review comments

marked up on drawings and specifications, punch lists, and inspection and testing reports as identified by NFPA codes. The Local AHJ must have access to and knowledge of where documentation is managed and stored. The responsibility and oversight for the elements of a fire and life safety program will vary, particularly for inspection, testing, and maintenance. Retention of documents must be in accordance with retention policies and regulations except where NFPA codes dictate longer retention periods. The Local AHJ will assist in the coordination and distribution of documentation when requested by the AHJ.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Admin. Code Title 28 Insurance, Part 1 Texas Department of Insurance, Ch. 34 State Fire Marshal, Subch. C Standards and Fees For State Fire Marshal Inspections](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code Title 4 Executive Branch, Subtitle B Law Enforcement and Public Protection, Ch. 417 State Fire Marshal](#)

[International Building Code \(IBC\)](#)

[NFPA 1 – Fire Code](#)

[NFPA 101 – Life Safety Code](#)

[NFPA 101A – Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety](#)

[The Society of Fire Protection Engineers \(SFPE\)](#)

[Texas State Fire Marshal's Office Notices](#)

[System Policy 24.01, Risk Management](#)

[System Regulation 34.07.01, Emergency Management Plans](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this regulation.

Contact Office

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