

**CHAPTER 70**  
**UNIFORM FIRE CODE**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 52:27B-139.12, 52:27D-24hh, 25d, 25k, 25gg, 198 and 219.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2005 d.225, effective June 14, 2005.  
See: 36 N.J.R. 3652(a), 37 N.J.R. 2674(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 70, Uniform Fire Code, expires on June 14, 2010.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 70, Congregate Housing Services Program, was adopted as R.1982 d.272, effective August 16, 1982. See: 14 N.J.R. 609(b), 14 N.J.R. 912(b). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 70, Congregate Housing Services Program, was readopted as R.1987 d.315, effective July 9, 1987. See: 19 N.J.R. 678(a), 19 N.J.R. 1430(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 70, Congregate Housing Services Program, was readopted as R.1992 d.214, effective April 22, 1992. See: 24 N.J.R. 513(c), 24 N.J.R. 1880(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 70, Congregate Housing Services Program, expired on April 22, 1997.

Chapter 70, Uniform Fire Code, was originally codified in Title 5 as Chapter 18, Uniform Fire Code. Chapter 18 was adopted as R.1985 d.66, effective February 19, 1985. See: 16 N.J.R. 3339(b), 17 N.J.R. 394(a).

Subchapter 4, Fire Safety Code, was adopted as R.1986 d.214, effective June 16, 1986. See: 17 N.J.R. 1161(a), 18 N.J.R. 1260(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 18, Uniform Fire Code, was readopted as R.1990 d.72, effective January 4, 1990. See: 21 N.J.R. 3344(a), 22 N.J.R. 337(b).

Subchapter 3, State Fire Prevention Code, was repealed, and Subchapter 3, State Fire Prevention Code, was adopted as new rules by R.1992 d.105, effective March 2, 1992. See: 23 N.J.R. 3554(a), 24 N.J.R. 740(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 18, Uniform Fire Code, was readopted as R.1995 d.58, effective January 3, 1995. See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

Pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 002-1998, Chapter 18, Uniform Fire Code, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 5:70, effective July 1, 1998. See: 30 N.J.R. 1347(a), 30 N.J.R. 2644(a).

Subchapter 3, State Fire Prevention Code, was repealed and Subchapter 3, State Fire Prevention Code, was adopted as new rules by R.1998 d.424, effective August 17, 1998 (operative January 2, 1999). See: 30 N.J.R. 1466(a), 30 N.J.R. 3068(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 70, Uniform Fire Code, was readopted as R.2000 d.30, effective December 22, 1999. See: 31 N.J.R. 3257(a), 32 N.J.R. 273(c).

Chapter 70, Uniform Fire Code, was readopted as R.2005 d.225, effective June 14, 2005. See: Source and Effective Date.

**Cross References**

Child care center physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:122-5.1 et seq.

Children's group home physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:128-4.1 et seq.

Children's shelter physical facility and life-safety requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:124-5.1 et seq.

Residential child care physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:127-4.1.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

**5:70-1.1 Title; division into subchapters**

(a) The regulations contained in this chapter shall be known as the "New Jersey Uniform Fire Code" and are referred to herein as the Code.

(b) The Code is divided into four subchapters:

1. N.J.A.C. 5:70-1, entitled "General Provisions";
2. N.J.A.C. 5:70-2, entitled "Administration and Enforcement";
3. N.J.A.C. 5:70-3, entitled "State Fire Prevention Code"; and
4. N.J.A.C. 5:70-4, entitled "State Fire Safety Code."

Amended by R.1985 d.611, effective December 2, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1015(b), 17 N.J.R. 2870(a).

(b)3 substituted "1984" for "latest".

Amended by R.1986 d.214, effective June 16, 1986.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1161(a), 18 N.J.R. 1260(b).

(b)4 deleted "(Reserved)" and added text "is entitled "Fire ... as this subchapter."

Amended by R.1992 d.104, effective March 2, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3552(a), 24 N.J.R. 739(a).

Text referencing BOCA deleted.

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

**5:70-1.2 Authority**

This Code is promulgated by the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs pursuant to authority of the "Uniform Fire Safety Act" (P.L. 1983, c.383, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq.).

**5:70-1.3 Intent and purpose**

(a) It is the intent of this Code to prescribe regulations consistent with nationally recognized good practice for the safeguarding to a reasonable degree of life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the use or occupancy of buildings or premises.

(b) Where no specific standards or requirements are specified in this Code, or contained within other applicable laws (or adopted codes) or ordinances, compliance with the standards of the National Fire Protection Association or other nationally recognized fire-safety standards as are approved by the fire official shall be deemed as prima facie evidence of compliance with the stated intent of this Code.

Amended by R.1985 d.611, effective December 2, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1015(b), 17 N.J.R. 2870(a).

Substituted "Prevention" for "Protection".

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

**5:70-1.4 Applicability**

(a) The provisions of this Code shall apply to new and existing buildings, uses and conditions, as hereinafter provided.

(b) The provisions contained in this Code shall not be construed as applying to the transportation of any article or substance shipped under the jurisdiction of and in compliance with the regulations prescribed by the military forces of the United States or the transportation of flammable or combustible liquids or hazardous materials or chemicals subject to the regulation and control of the New Jersey Department of Transportation or the United States Department of Transportation or other Federal Agency having jurisdiction.

1. The fire official shall have jurisdiction to order the correction of any dangerous condition created by any transportation conveyance.

2. The right of any local government to adopt ordinances governing the routing of vehicles transporting flammable or combustible liquids or hazardous materials or chemicals shall not be deemed to be limited by anything contained in this section.

(c) Nothing in this Code shall be construed, interpreted or applied to abrogate, nullify or abolish any law, ordinance or code adopted by any local government regulating the repair, removal, demolition, use, location, occupancy or maintenance of buildings and property as specifically provided herein. When any provision of this Code is found to be in conflict with any zoning, safety, health or other applicable law, ordinance or code of the jurisdiction existing on the effective date of this Code or hereafter adopted, the provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the safety and welfare of the public shall prevail.

(d) All regulations, other than this Code, promulgated by any State agency with regard to fire safety in existing buildings, structures and premises subject to this Code shall, to the extent of any inconsistency with this Code, be deemed to have been superseded by this Code.

"Fraternity" or "sorority" means an organization or chapter primarily composed of students enrolled in a college or university or any student organization recognized as such by a school or institution of higher education that occupies a building used by its members as a dormitory, whether or not owned by the school or institution of higher education.

"High-rise structure" means any building or structure having floors used for human occupancy located either more than six stories or more than 75 feet above the lowest level accessible to a fire department vehicle.

"Incidental use" means a use supplemental to the main use of a building where the area devoted to such use does not occupy more than 10 percent of the area of any floor.

"Institution of higher education" means a public or private college or university incorporated and located in New Jersey, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:62-1, N.J.S.A. 18A:68-1, or any equivalent college or university incorporated and located in New Jersey, which, by virtue of law or character or license, is a nonprofit educational institution authorized to grant academic degrees.

"Life hazard use" means a building or structure, or part thereof, classified in any of the use groups in the building subcode of the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code and defined as such in subchapter 2 of this chapter. "Life hazard use" shall also mean and include high rise structures as defined in this section.

"Local enforcing agency" means a municipal agency, fire department, fire district or county fire marshal authorized by municipal ordinance to enforce the act within a specific local jurisdiction or, where such authorization has not been granted by local ordinance, it means the Department of Community Affairs. "Local enforcing agency" shall also mean and include a county fire marshal authorized by ordinance or resolution of the board of chosen freeholders to enforce the act in county facilities. With regard to enforcement of the act in premises owned or maintained by the State of New Jersey or any of its boards, commissions, agencies or authorities, "local enforcing agency" shall mean the Division.

"Lumber" means boards, dimension lumber, timber, plywood, pressure treated wood, fencing and fence posts, and other similar wood products.

"Maximum permitted occupancy" means the maximum number of persons which can be permitted in a building or portion thereof as established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.11(e).

"Owner" means a person who owns, purports to own, manages, rents, leases or exercises control over a building, structure, premises, or use, or a portion thereof.

"Owner-occupied" when used in conjunction with "Use Group R-3" means a building serving as the residence of at least one holder of record of title to the property.

"Premises" means a specific locality, area of land or portion thereof, and shall include any buildings, structures or portions of buildings or structures thereon.

"Protective equipment" means any equipment, device, system or apparatus permitted or required by the commissioner to be constructed or installed in or upon a building, structure or premises for the purpose of protecting the occupants or intended occupants thereof, fire fighters or the public generally from fire or products of combustion.

"Retreat lodging facility" means a building or structure, including, but not limited to, any related structure, accessory building, and land appurtenant thereto, and any part thereof, owned by a nonprofit corporation or association which has tax-exempt charitable status under the Federal Internal Revenue Code and which has sleeping facilities used exclusively on a transient basis by persons participating in programs of a religious, cultural or educational nature, conducted under the sole auspices of one or more corporations or associations having tax-exempt charitable status under the Federal Internal Revenue Code, which are made available without any mandatory charge to such participants.

"Smoke barrier" means a continuous membrane, either vertical or horizontal, such as a wall, floor, or ceiling assembly, that is designed and constructed to restrict the movement of smoke. A smoke barrier may or may not have a fire resistance rating. Such barriers may have protected openings. When a fire resistive rating is required, existing walls, columns and floor/ceiling assemblies meeting the requirements of Federal Housing and Urban Development Rehabilitation Guidelines #8, or of Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Appendix B of the BOCA Basic/National Existing Structures Code, 1984 Ed., shall be acceptable.

"State Fire Prevention Code" means the model code of the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc., known as the "BOCA National Fire Prevention Code/1996," adopted by reference in N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.1(a) as the State Fire Prevention Code for New Jersey, subject to the modifications set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.2.

"Story above grade" means any story having its finished floor surface entirely above grade except that a story which is partly or completely below grade (basement) shall be considered as a story above grade when the distance from grade to the finished surface of the floor above the basement is more than six feet for more than 50 percent of the total perimeter or more than 12 feet at any point.

"Uniform Construction Code" or "Construction Code" means the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code (N.J.A.C. 5:23-1 et seq.).

“Use” or “Use Group” means the use to which a building, portion of a building, or premises, is put, as follows. It shall also mean and include any place, whether constructed, manufactured or naturally occurring, whether fixed or mobile, that is used for human purpose or occupancy that would subject it to the provisions of this Code if it were a building or premises.

1. “Use Group A-1-A”: This Use Group shall include all theaters and other buildings used primarily for theatrical or operatic performances and exhibitions, arranged with a raised stage, proscenium curtain, fixed or portable scenery loft, lights, motion picture booth, mechanical appliances or other theatrical accessories and equipment, and provided with fixed seats.

2. “Use Group A-1-B”: This Use Group shall include all theaters without a stage and equipped with fixed seats used for motion picture performances.

3. “Use Group A-2”: This Use Group shall include all buildings and places of public assembly, without theatrical stage accessories, designed for use as dance halls, night clubs, and eating and/or drinking establishments, and similar occupancies, in which the established maximum permitted occupant load exceeds the number of seats provided by more than 30 percent, and shall include all rooms, lobbies and other spaces connected thereto with a common means of egress and entrance.

4. “Use Group A-3”: This Use Group shall include all buildings with or without an auditorium in which persons assemble for amusement, entertainment or recreation, and incidental motion picture, dramatic or theatrical presentations, lectures or other similar purposes without theatrical stage other than a raised platform; and principally used without permanent seating facilities, including art galleries, exhibition halls, museums, lecture halls, libraries, restaurants other than night clubs, and recreation centers; and buildings designed for other similar assembly purposes including passenger terminals.

5. “Use Group A-4”: This Use Group shall include all buildings used as churches and for similar religious purposes.

6. “Use Group A-5”: This Use Group shall include grandstands, bleachers, coliseums, stadiums, tents and similar structures for outdoor assembly uses.

7. “Use Group B”: All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, shall be classified in Use Group B which are used for the transaction of business, for the rendering of professional services, or for other services that involve stocks of goods, wares or merchandise in limited quantities for use incidental to office uses or sample purposes.

8. “Use Group E”: This Use Group shall include all buildings and structures used for educational purposes serving six or more students in any or all of the grades from kindergarten through grade 12.

9. “Use Group F”: All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, in which occupants are engaged in performing work or labor in the fabricating, assembling or processing of products or materials shall be classified in Use Group F; including, among others, factories, assembling plants, industrial laboratories and all other industrial and manufacturing uses, except those of Use Group H involving highly combustible, flammable or explosive products and materials.

i. “Use Group F-1”: Factory and industrial uses which are not otherwise classified as low-hazard Use Group F-2, shall be classified as a moderate-hazard factory and industrial use, Use Group F-1.

ii. “Use Group F-2”: Factory and industrial uses which involve the fabrication or manufacturing of non-combustible materials that, during finishing, packing or processing, do not contribute to a significant fire hazard, shall be classified as Use Group F-2. The following manufacturing processes are indicative of, and shall be classified as, Use Group F-2: beverages, nonalcoholic; brick and masonry; ceramic products; foundries; glass products; gypsum; ice; metal fabrication and assembly; and water pumping plants.

10. “Use Group H”: All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, shall be classified in Use Group H which are used for the manufacturing, processing, generation or storage of corrosive, highly toxic, highly combustible, flammable or explosive materials that constitute a high fire or explosion hazard, including loose combustible fibers, dust and unstable materials.

11. “Use Group I-1”: This Use Group shall include buildings housing six or more individuals who, because of age, mental instability or other reasons, must live in a supervised environment but who are physically capable of responding to an emergency situation without personal assistance. Included in this group are uses such as facilities for children, aged persons, mentally impaired and convalescents including: convalescent facilities, group homes, boarding houses, homes for the aged, mentally retarded care facilities, nursing homes (ambulatory), orphanages and residential care facilities. Occupancies such as the above with five or less occupants shall be classified as a residential Use Group.

12. “Use Group I-2”: This Use Group shall include all buildings used for housing people suffering from physical limitations because of health or age, including, among others, day nurseries, hospitals, sanitariums, infirmaries, orphanages and homes for aged and infirm.

13. “Use Group I-3”: This Use Group shall include all buildings designed for the detention of people under restraint, including, among others, jails, prisons, reformatories, insane asylums and similar uses.

14. "Use Group M": All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, shall be classified in Use Group M which are used for display and sales purposes involving stocks of goods, wares or merchandise incidental to such purposes and accessible to the public; including, among others, retail stores, motor fuel service stations, shops and sales-rooms and markets.

15. "Use Group R-1": This Use Group shall include all hotels, motels, retreat lodging facilities, and similar buildings arranged for shelter and sleeping accommodations and in which the occupants are primarily transient in nature, making use of the facilities for a period of less than 30 days. This definition shall also mean and include bed and breakfast guesthouses and bed and breakfast inns.

16. "Use Group R-2": This Use Group shall include all multiple family dwellings having more than two dwelling units and shall also include all dormitories, rooming houses, group rentals where the occupants are living independently of each other and similar buildings arranged for shelter and sleeping accommodations in which the occupants are primarily not transient in nature. This Use Group shall also include attached one- and two-family dwelling units which do not meet the definition for Use Group R-3.

17. "Use Group R-3": This Use Group shall include all buildings arranged for the use of detached one-and two-family dwelling units, including, but not limited to, buildings with not more than five lodgers or boarders per family, and excluding buildings designed in accordance with the one-and two-family subcode of the State Uniform Construction Code. This Use Group shall also mean and include:

- i. Bed and breakfast homestays; and
- ii. Attached one-and two-family dwellings constructed in accordance with the Uniform Construction Code requirements for multiple single family dwellings.

18. "Use Group R-4": This Use Group shall include all buildings arranged for use as detached one-and two-family dwelling units, including, without limitation, buildings occupied by not more than five lodgers or boarders per family and buildings used as bed and breakfast homestays, that are designed in accordance with the one-and two-family dwelling subcode of the State Uniform Construction Code.

19. "Use Group S-1": All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, which are used primarily for the storage of moderate hazard contents which are likely to burn with moderate rapidity, but which do not produce either poisonous gases, fumes or explosives; including, among others, warehouses, storehouses and freight depots.

20. "Use Group S-2": All buildings and structures, or parts thereof, which are used primarily for the storage of noncombustible materials, and of low hazard wares that

do not ordinarily burn rapidly such as products on wood pallets or in paper cartons without significant amounts of combustible wrappings; including, among others, warehouses, storehouses and freight depots. Such products may have a negligible amount of plastic trim such as knobs, handles or film wrapping.

Amended by R.1985 d.611, effective December 2, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1015(b), 17 N.J.R. 2870(a).

Added definition "Common areas".

Amended by R.1986 d.214, effective June 16, 1986.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1161(a), 18 N.J.R. 1260(b).

Added new definitions.

Amended by R.1989 d.556, effective November 6, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2431(a), 21 N.J.R. 3453(a).

Added definitions for "guest house" and "K-12 educational building"; added definitions 1.-18. under "Use" or "Use Group".

Amended by R.1991 d.359, effective July 15, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1235(a), 23 N.J.R. 2122(b).

Uniform Fire Safety Act definitions incorporated by reference; definition of fire inspector added; definition of fire official amended.

Amended by R.1992 d.104, effective March 2, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3552(a), 24 N.J.R. 739(a).

School dormitories added to definition of use.

Amended by R.1992 d.385, effective October 5, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2654(a), 24 N.J.R. 3519(a).

Definitions for hardware store, Use Group F-1 and Use Group F-2 added.

Amended by R.1992 d.405, effective October 19, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1938(a), 24 N.J.R. 3723(b).

Use Group A-2 amended to including eating/drinking establishments where load exceeds seats by 30%.

Amended by R.1993 d.197, effective May 3, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 393(a), 25 N.J.R. 1868(a).

Added definitions of gross and net floor area and lumber.

Amended by R.1993 d.628, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4363(a), 25 N.J.R. 5466(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

Amended by R.1995 d.59, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4249(a), 27 N.J.R. 891(a).

Emergency amendment, R.2000 d.402, effective September 8, 2000 (to expire November 7, 2000).

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a)

Added definitions for "Boarding school", "Dormitory", "Fraternity" and "Institution of higher education"; added last sentence to "Local enforcing agency".

Adopted concurrent proposal, R.2000 d.486, effective November 6, 2000.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a), 32 N.J.R. 4310(a).

Readopted provisions of R.2000 d.402 with changes, effective December 4, 2000.

Amended by R.2002 d.372, effective November 18, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 2636(a), 34 N.J.R. 3958(a).

In "Carnival", deleted "uses" following "of the following" in the introductory paragraph, amended the N.J.A.C. reference in 2 and deleted 3.

Administrative correction.

See: 35 N.J.R. 219(d).

Amended by R.2003 d.137, effective April 7, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 4277(a), 35 N.J.R. 1558(c).

In "Use" or "Use Group", rewrote 17, added a new 18, and recodified former 18 and 19 as 19 and 20.

Amended by R.2003 d.364, effective September 15, 2003 (operative October 1, 2003).

See: 35 N.J.R. 2433(a), 35 N.J.R. 4282(a).

In "Use" or "Use Group" rewrote 8.

Amended by R.2005 d.149, effective May 16, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 169(a), 37 N.J.R. 1781(a).

Added "Retreat lodging facility"; in Use or Use Group inserted "retreat lodging facilities," following "include all hotels, motels," in 15.

**Case Notes**

Multiple dwelling with seven stories on one side and six stories on the other was "high-rise structure". *Mahmood H. Choudhury-Park Royal Apartments v. Bureau of Fire Safety, State Dept. of Community Affairs, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 46.*

**5:70-1.6 (Reserved)**

Repealed by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.  
See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).  
Formerly "Operative date".

**5:70-1.7 Severability**

(a) If any provision of the Code or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Code which can be given effect and to this end the provisions of the Code are severable.

## SUBCHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

**5:70-2.1 Enforcement authority**

(a) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the agency having jurisdiction in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:71-2.2 to enforce the provisions of this Code as set forth herein.

1. Where no local enforcing agency has been created the Division shall enforce the provisions of this Code for life hazard uses or whenever conditions which constitute an imminent hazard are found to exist.

(b) The local enforcing agency shall periodically inspect all premises, except owner-occupied Use Group R-3 and R-4 structures used exclusively for dwelling purposes. These inspections shall be made in accordance with the schedule contained in this Code, when required under any cyclical inspection program, and as often as may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire, contribute to the spread of fire, interfere with fire operations, or endanger life, or any conditions constituting violations of the provisions or intent of this Code or a locally adopted amendment. Except in the case of cyclical inspection programs or other good cause, inspections shall not include occupied dwelling units.

(c) Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this Code, or whenever the fire official or his or her authorized representative has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any or upon any premises any condition which makes such building or premises unsafe, the fire official or his or her authorized representative may enter such premises, at all reasonable times to inspect the same or to perform any duty imposed upon the fire official by this code, provided that if such premises be occupied, he or she shall first present proper credentials and demand entry; and if such premises be unoccupied, he or she shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the premises and demand entry.

1. No owner or occupant or any other persons having charge, care or control of any premises shall fail or neglect, after proper request is made as herein provided, to promptly permit entry therein by the fire official or his or her authorized representative for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this Code. If the owner or occupant denies entry, the fire official or his or her authorized representative shall obtain a proper warrant or other remedy provided by law to secure entry.

(d) Local enforcing agency personnel shall use this Code to enforce N.J.A.C. 5:76-1.4.

Amended by R.1993 d.628, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4363(a), 25 N.J.R. 5466(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

Amended by R.2003 d.137, effective April 7, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 4277(a), 35 N.J.R. 1558(c).

In (b), inserted "periodically" preceding "inspect", deleted "detached" following "owner-occupied", and inserted "and R-4" following "R-3".

Amended by R.2003 d.230, effective June 16, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 3888(a), 35 N.J.R. 2639(b).

Added (d).

**Case Notes**

Abatement of violation; failure to install fire suppression system. *Lee's Emergency Equipment v. Department of Community Affairs, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 39.*

**5:70-2.2 Responsibility for compliance**

(a) The owner shall be responsible for the safe and proper maintenance of the premises at all times.

(b) Owners of premises which are, or which contain, one or more uses subject to this Code, shall have concurrent responsibility with the owners of any such uses for compliance with the Code. No person shall be required to abate any violations which he has no power to abate or to require to be abated. If a violation is served on an owner who cannot comply due to lack of authority, within five days of receipt of the notice of violation, the owner shall either provide notice of the violation to the party with authority or inform the fire official of such party's name and address.

(c) If an occupant of a premises creates conditions in violation of this Code, by virtue of storage, handling and use of substances, materials, devices and appliances, the occupant can be held responsible for the abatement of said hazardous conditions.

(d) A person shall be deemed to have violated or caused to have violated a provision of this Code if an officer, agent or employee under his control and with his knowledge has violated or caused to have violated any of the provisions of this Code.

(b) All buildings for which requirements are established in this subchapter shall be in compliance with such applicable requirements of this subchapter, unless a date for compliance is set forth in this subchapter.

1. Use Group R-3 structures used exclusively for dwelling purposes shall not be subject to any requirements of this subchapter other than N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.19.

Amended by R.1987 d.247, effective June 15, 1987.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1225(a), 19 N.J.R. 1078(a).

(c), (d), and (e) added. Correction to rule, see July 6, 1987 Register at 19 N.J.R. 1190(a).

Amended by R.1987 d.388, effective October 5, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1263(a), 19 N.J.R. 1792(a).

Deleted text in (d)1 "which are classified ... Uniform Construction Code" and substituted "used exclusively for ... three dwelling units".

Amended by R.1989 d.556, effective November 6, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2431(a), 21 N.J.R. 3453(a).

At (b) cross referenced definitions; at (c)7 established date of applicability and deleted 12 and renumbered 13-15 as 12-14 and referenced dates for compliance in (d).

Amended by R.1992 d.104, effective March 2, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3552(a), 24 N.J.R. 739(a).

Text at (b) and (c) deleted; text at (d) recodified to (b).

Amended by R.1993 d.628, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4363(a), 25 N.J.R. 5466(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

#### 5:70-4.2 Compliance with the State Fire Prevention Code and other fire safety regulations

(a) The requirements established by this subchapter are in addition to, and not in lieu of, requirements established by the State Fire Prevention Code (N.J.A.C. 5:70-3).

(b) All buildings which are specifically listed as under the scope of this subchapter as denoted in N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.1 and which are subject to requirements previously established including, without limitation, any requirement of the State Fire Prevention Code (N.J.A.C. 5:70-3), shall be in compliance with those requirements as of the effective date of this subchapter and shall remain in compliance throughout the life of the structure.

(c) All buildings which are not specifically listed as under the scope of this subchapter as denoted in N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.1 shall continue to be subject to the provisions of applicable existing fire safety requirements as promulgated by the State or local agency having jurisdiction and shall remain in compliance with those requirements throughout the life of the structure.

(d) Existing fire suppression and detection systems that were installed in accordance with the Uniform Construction Code, the Uniform Fire Code or which met the intent of the applicable NFPA standards at the time of installation shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of this Code, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Code.

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

#### 5:70-4.3 Relationship to Uniform Construction Code

(a) A building in full compliance with the subcodes adopted pursuant to the Uniform Construction Code Act and regulations in force at the time of its construction and possessing a valid certificate of occupancy shall not be required to conform to the more restrictive requirements established by this subchapter except as may be required by (a)3 below.

1. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.2, certificates of occupancy for projects in compliance with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Subcode of the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code (N.J.A.C. 5:23-6) are specific to the work undertaken and shall not obviate the need for a building to be brought into compliance with this subchapter.

i. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.2(g)3i, a variation issued in writing pursuant to the Uniform Construction Code in connection with a rehabilitation project shall remain in force and effect, provided that all of the conditions of the variation continue to be met, and shall be accepted for purposes of establishing compliance with this subchapter for the portion of the building to which the variation applies.

ii. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.2(i), for variation requests involving provisions of this subchapter which have been incorporated into the Rehabilitation Subcode, the construction official is required to consult with the fire official. If the fire official is also licensed as a fire protection subcode official under the Uniform Construction Code, then the approval of the fire official shall be required on such variation requests.

2. The requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.19 shall apply to all Use Group R-3 structures other than newly constructed buildings at the time of initial occupancy, regardless of their state of compliance with the Uniform Construction Code or any other code.

3. The requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.7(j) shall apply to all dormitory buildings, as defined in this Code, unless the provisions of (b) below are applicable.

(b) A building in full compliance with the current fire safety requirements of the Uniform Construction Code, as determined by the construction official with the concurrence of the fire subcode official and in consultation with the fire official, shall not be required to conform to more restrictive requirements established by this subchapter.

1. A determination as to whether a Uniform Construction Code requirement involves fire safety shall, in a disputed case, be determined by the Division of Codes and Standards after consultation with the Division of Fire Safety, the construction official and the fire official and, if necessary, with the concurrence of the Assistant Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs, responsible for overseeing the Divisions of Fire Safety and Codes and Standards.

2. For purposes of this subsection, "current fire safety requirements" means requirements set forth in the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code in effect at the time of adoption of the requirement as part of this subchapter.

Amended by R.1987 d.247, effective June 15, 1987.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1225(a), 19 N.J.R. 1078(a).

Added "in consultation with" to (b).

Amended by R.1992 d.11, effective January 6, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3064(a), 24 N.J.R. 88(a).

Exception for R-3 structures added.

Amended by R.1993 d.628, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4363(a), 25 N.J.R. 5466(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.58, effective March 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

Emergency amendment, R.2000 d.402, effective September 8, 2000 (to expire November 7, 2000).

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a)

Rewrote (a).

Adopted concurrent proposal, R.2000 d.486, effective November 6, 2000.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a), 32 N.J.R. 4310(a).

Readopted provisions of R.2000 d.402 with changes, effective December 4, 2000.

#### Case Notes

Occupancy load levels for restaurant were governed by code requirements in effect at time certificate of occupancy should have been issued. Sweetwater Casino v. Department of Community Affairs, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 56.

#### 5:70-4.4 General provisions

(a) The applicability of provisions of this subchapter to existing buildings or structures, identified or classified by the Federal, State or local government authority as historic buildings, shall be determined by the local construction code enforcing agency in consultation with the fire official, as outlined in Section 513.0 of the Building Officials and Code Administrators, Inc. (BOCA) Basic/National Building Code, 1984 edition.

**5:70-4.7 Fire suppression systems**

(a) All buildings of Use Group A-2 or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below with a permitted occupant load of 50 or more shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. The following are exceptions to paragraph (a) above:

i. Buildings with a permitted occupancy of fewer than 300 having all components of the required means of egress on the same level as the use and having all such exits discharging not more than five feet above, nor more than two feet below, the adjacent grade;

ii. Buildings with a permitted occupancy of fewer than 200 having no portion of the required means of egress located more than one level above, or more than two feet below, the adjacent grade.

(b) All buildings of Use Group I-1 or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below greater than two stories in height above grade or having an occupant load greater than 20 excluding staff shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

(c) All buildings of Use Group I-2 or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. The following are exceptions to (c) above:

i. Buildings of Type 1 or Type 2A construction of any height or of Type 2B construction not over one story in height as defined in the Uniform Construction Code.

ii. Day nurseries serving children below 2½ years of age, provided that all the children under 2½ years of age are cared for on the first floor in a room(s) having direct access to approved exits discharging directly to the exterior.

(d) All buildings of Use Group I-3 or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below with an occupant load of six or more shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code or shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of Chapter 15 "Existing Detention and Correctional Occupancies" of the Life Safety Code, NFIPA 101, 1985 edition.

1. Exception to (d) above: All buildings of Use Group I-3 not required to be equipped throughout with suppression by these provisions shall be equipped with suppression in all padded cells, boiler rooms, storage and

workshop rooms 24 square feet and larger, mechanical equipment and similar rooms.

(e) All buildings of Use Group H or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. All spraying operations as regulated by the State Fire Prevention Code, Chapter 13, as amended by N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.2(a)13i through xvi, shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

2. Dip operations as defined by the State Fire Prevention Code, Section F-1302.1 and as outlined in (e)2i through iii below shall be equipped with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

i. Dip tanks of over 150 gallons capacity or 10 square feet liquid surface area;

ii. Dip tanks containing a liquid with a flash point below 110 degrees F., when used in such manner that the liquid temperature may equal or be greater than its flash point from artificial or natural causes when having both a capacity of more than 10 gallons and a liquid surface area of more than four square feet; and

iii. Hardening and tempering tanks of over 500 gallons capacity or 25 square feet liquid surface area.

(f) All ballrooms, exhibit areas and accessory spaces of Use Group A-3 which exceed 12,000 square feet and are located in buildings of Use Groups R-1 and R-2, shall be equipped with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. The following are exceptions to (f) above:

i. Such assembly uses may be subdivided into fire areas not exceeding 12,000 square feet using permanent two-hour fire separation walls with 1½ hour opening protectives. Such walls shall be continuous from the floor to the deck above except that the wall may terminate at the ceiling if the ceiling is part of a fire-resistance rated floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly.

ii. A-3 uses which are completely separated both horizontally and vertically from R-1 and R-2 uses by fire separation walls and floor/ceiling assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than two hours with approved opening protectives having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1½ hours. Walls shall be continuous from the floor to the deck above except that the walls shall be permitted to terminate at the ceiling if the ceiling is part of a fire-resistance rated assembly.

(g) All cooking operations that produce grease laden vapors shall be equipped with a ventilating hood, duct, and automatic fire suppression system designed and installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. This subsection shall not apply to buildings in Use Groups R-2 or R-3.

2. Exception to (g) above: Ventilating hoods, ducts, and suppression shall not be required for completely enclosed ovens, steam tables, or auxiliary equipment that does not produce grease laden vapors.

(h) In all buildings, any windowless basement or story located below the seventh story shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. Stories or basements shall not be considered windowless when there is provided on at least one side of such story or basement fire fighter access through openings, such as windows, doors or access panels, that are located entirely above the adjoining grade level.

2. Such openings shall be at least:

i. 32 inches by 48 inches in size, spaced not more than 100 feet apart in each story or basement; or

ii. 22 inches by 42 inches in size, spaced not more than 30 feet apart in each story or basement.

3. All openings for fire fighter access shall conform to all the following:

i. Openings shall be unobstructed to allow fire fighting and rescue operations from the exterior; and

ii. Openings in stories at or above grade shall have a sill height of not more than 36 inches as measured from the finished floor level. Openings in basements shall have no sill height restrictions; and

iii. Openings shall be readily identifiable and openable from the outside or shall be glazed with plain flat glass.

4. When openings in a story are provided on only one side and the opposite wall of such story is more than 75 feet from such openings, the story shall be considered windowless unless openings as specified above are provided on at least two sides of the exterior walls of the story.

5. If any portion of a basement is located more than 75 feet from openings as specified above, the basement shall be considered windowless.

6. Windowless basements not exceeding 3,000 square feet in area shall be exempt from this automatic suppression requirement, provided a supervised automatic fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

7. In windowless basements greater than 3,000 square feet, but not exceeding 10,000 square feet in area, the required suppression system need not be connected to a water supply other than an existing domestic supply if the following conditions are met:

i. The suppression system shall be provided with a fire department connection, which shall be marked with a sign reading "Basement Area Sprinkler Water Supply"; and

ii. A supervised automatic fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

(i) In all buildings of Use Group R-1 or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below, not required by N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.17 to have a complete automatic fire suppression system, all storage and workshop rooms and rubbish, laundry and similar rooms shall be equipped with a suppression system or smoke detector system connected to an approved continuously staffed location in the building. Such systems shall be installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

(j) All dormitories, as defined in this chapter at N.J.A.C. 5:70-1.5, or portions thereof when separated in accordance with (l) below, shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

(k) Fire suppression systems required by this Code shall be supervised by one of the following methods as determined by the fire official:

1. Approved central station system in accordance with NFIPA 71;

2. Approved proprietary system in accordance with NFIPA 72D;

3. Approved remote station system of the jurisdiction in accordance with NFIPA 72C; or

4. Approved local alarm service which will cause the sounding of an alarm in accordance with NFIPA 72A;

5. The following are exceptions to (k) above:

i. Underground gate valves with roadway boxes;

ii. Halogenated extinguishing systems;

iii. Carbon dioxide extinguishing systems;

iv. Dry chemical extinguishing systems; and

v. Limited area sprinkler systems.

(l) In buildings containing mixed uses, one or more of which requires automatic suppression in accordance with this section, suppression will not be required throughout the building, provided that the uses requiring suppression are separated from those not requiring suppression by fire resistive construction having a minimum one hour rating. In Use Group H, the rating is to be increased to two hours.

Amended by R.1987 d.247, effective June 15, 1987.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1225(a), 19 N.J.R. 1078(a).

New (b) through (k) added with (h) reserved.

Correction to rule, see 19 N.J.R. 1190(a).

Amended by R.1987 d.373, effective September 21, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1023(a), 19 N.J.R. 1720(a).

(b): deleted condition concerning resident access to rooms above second story.

Amended by R.1989 d.556, effective November 6, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2431(a), 21 N.J.R. 3453(a).

New (h) and (k) added.

Amended by R.1992 d.104, effective March 2, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3552(a), 24 N.J.R. 739(a).

Ventilating hood and duct added at (g), supervised system installation requirements added at (h).

Amended by R.1992 d.405, effective October 19, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1938(a), 24 N.J.R. 3723(b).

Exceptions to A-2 with load over 50 added at Ii and ii.

Amended by R.1993 d.197, effective May 3, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 393(a), 25 N.J.R. 1868(a).

Added (a)2; deleted (c)9 and added new text.

Emergency amendment, R.2000 d.402, effective September 8, 2000 (to expire November 7, 2000).

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a)

Added (j); recodified former (j) and (k) as (k) and (l); and amended internal references throughout.

Adopted concurrent proposal, R.2000 d.486, effective November 6, 2000.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3647(a), 32 N.J.R. 4310(a).

Readopted provisions of R.2000 d.402 without change.

Administrative correction.

See: 35 N.J.R. 219(d).

#### Case Notes

New construction code requirement for automatic fire suppression system applies to automotive spray paint booth. *Sweeney's Auto Body Inc. v. Division of Fire Safety*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 37.

### 5:70-4.8 Standpipe system

(a) All buildings having floors used for human occupancy located more than six stories above grade shall be equipped with wet standpipes. Standpipes shall be located and installed in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code except as follows:

1. Standpipes shall be capable of accepting a delivery by fire department apparatus of a minimum of 250 gpm at 65 psi to the topmost remote standpipe outlet in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system or a minimum of 500 gpm at 65 psi to the topmost remote standpipe outlet in all other buildings.

2. Hose and hose cabinets shall not be required.

### 5:70-4.9 Automatic fire alarms

(a) An automatic fire alarm system shall be installed as required below in accordance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.

1. In all buildings of Use Group I:

i. Alarm systems in buildings of Use Group I must be supervised.

ii. In buildings of Use Group I-1, smoke detectors that are to be located closer than five feet to a kitchen or bathroom area shall be of photoelectric type only.

2. In all buildings of Use Group R-1 and in R-3 bed and breakfast homestays:

i. In dwelling units or guestrooms, battery-powered single station detectors may be installed, provided that the detectors are maintained in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.2(a)5xii, F-515.2.1.

ii. In bed and breakfast homestays of Use Group R-3, the system shall not be required to be supervised or connected to an emergency power supply.

iii. All buildings of Use Group R-1, regardless of the number of units, shall have available at least one portable visual alarm type smoke detector for the deaf or hearing impaired for each 50 units or fraction thereof. The owner may require a refundable deposit for such portable smoke detector not to exceed the value of the smoke detector. Notification of the availability of such devices shall be provided to each occupant.

3. In all buildings of Use Group R-2 as follows:

i. All buildings of Use Group R-2, including multiple dwellings and rooming houses with six or more occupants, shall have approved smoke detection systems located in all interior common areas. Such systems shall be powered by an alternating current (AC) constantly active electric circuit that cannot be deactivated by the operation of any interconnected switching device and shall comply with NFPA 70-93 (National Electrical Code) requirements, except as otherwise provided in this section. Such systems shall be on circuitry that is connected into the building owner's electric meter.

(1) In multiple dwellings six stories or more in height and having 30 or more dwelling units, such systems:

(A) Shall be connected to a supervisory type listed control panel conforming to U.L. 864 requirements and NFPA 72-90 standards, except as otherwise provided in this section;

(B) Shall be powered by an approved emergency power source installed in conformance with NFPA 70-93 (National Electrical Code); and

(C) Shall have a control panel of the multi-zoned type that will visually indicate the floor or zone from which the alarm is activated, which panel shall be located in accordance with NFPA 72-90 standards or as directed by the local fire subcode official.

ii. A pre-signal alarm feature is not permitted.

iii. The separate zoning of floors in high rise buildings for selective floor evacuation is permitted at the discretion of the fire official.

iv. Alarms shall be located so as to be effectively heard above all other sounds, by all the occupants, in

every occupied space within the building not separated by fire walls having a fire-resistance rating of at least two hours.

v. In dwelling units, approved battery-powered single station detectors may be installed, provided that the detectors are maintained in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.2(a)5xii, F-515.2.1.

vi. Smoke detectors that are to be located closer than five feet to a kitchen or bathroom area shall be photoelectric type only.

vii. At the request of a tenant of a unit in which a person who is deaf or hearing-impaired resides, the owner shall provide and install a visual alarm type smoke detector for that unit or, in the case of a rooming or boarding house resident, for that resident's sleeping area.

4. With the approval of the fire protection subcode official, fixed temperature or combination rate-of-rise and fixed temperature heat detectors may be substituted for smoke detectors in those locations where frequent nuisance alarms would be likely to occur. Such building spaces include, but are not limited to, garages, crawl spaces, uninhabitable attics, heater and boiler rooms, laundry rooms, kitchens, restaurant service areas, and other rooms where the ambient temperatures are below 40 degrees Fahrenheit or are above 100 degrees Fahrenheit and/or have a relative humidity either below 20 percent or above 85 percent or where environmental conditions are likely to produce nuisance alarms.

5. Existing common area smoke detection systems that were installed in compliance with this subchapter or with the Regulations Governing Rooming and Boarding Houses or Regulations for the Maintenance of Hotels and Multiple Dwellings and maintained in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:70-3, for which a construction permit was issued subject to plan review approval, shall be accepted as conforming to this section.

6. In any municipality that enacted an ordinance requiring the installation of smoke detectors in multiple dwellings prior to November 11, 1980, a building fully conforming to the requirements of such ordinance prior to November 12, 1980, shall be deemed to be in either full or partial compliance with the requirements of this section if the fire official determines that the provisions of such ordinance provide reasonable life safety protection to the occupants and that replacement of equipment already installed in conformity with such ordinance would be an undue hardship for property owners.

i. A general determination pursuant to this subsection shall be made by the fire official upon review of the ordinance and separate exceptions shall not then be required for individual properties covered by such general determination.

ii. If a determination is made that full compliance with the ordinance is an acceptable substitute for partial compliance with the requirements of this section, the fire official shall specify all respects in which a building fully complying with the ordinance must be made to comply with this section.

7. In all buildings used as child day care centers, regardless of Use Group.

8. In all buildings of Use Group E up to and including the 12th grade, the system shall consist of:

i. An approved system of automatic smoke detectors; or

ii. An approved automatic fire suppression system equipped with automatic fire alarm devices; or

iii. An approved system which combines the following elements shall be acceptable when devices are located as indicated below:

(1) Combination fixed temperature/rate-of-rise detectors in classrooms and ancillary spaces; and

(2) Photoelectric or projected-beam smoke detectors in exit access corridors and at the top of the exit stair enclosures.

(3) Fixed temperature detectors in such a system shall be accepted in locations such as boiler rooms, garage areas and other spaces in which conditions render other detectors inappropriate.

iv. Existing fire detection systems, installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and meeting the intent of current standards for automatic fire alarms, shall be acceptable, provided:

(1) The existing system is tested, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:70-3.4(c)6, by an approved service agency competent in the manufactured system, in the presence of the fire official or his designated representative. The fire official may accept a written report of test results in lieu of witnessing the test.

(2) Where a portion of an existing system is not serviceable and cannot be repaired, the existing system shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

(b) An automatic fire alarm system shall not be required in buildings, other than boarding homes of Use Group I-1, equipped throughout with an automatic fire suppression system, a manual fire alarm system and single station smoke detectors located in the immediate vicinity of sleeping areas in accordance with NFPA 72E or 74 as applicable.

(c) Automatic fire alarm systems required to be supervised by this Code shall employ one of the following methods as determined by the fire official: