

## CHAPTER 23

## UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE

## Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123, 123a, 123.2, 123.5, 123.8, 124 and 124f.

## Source and Effective Date

R.1997 d.409, effective September 9, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).

## Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

Chapter 23, Uniform Construction Code, expires on September 9, 2002.

## Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 23, Uniform Construction Code, was adopted as R.1976 d.344, d.345, d.346 and d.347, effective January 1, 1977 and codified as Subchapter 1, General Provisions; Subchapter 2, Administration and Enforcement Process; Subchapter 3, Subcodes, and Subchapter 4, Enforcing Agencies: Duties, Powers, Procedures. See: 8 N.J.R. 216(b), 319(a), 370(d), 414(a); 8 N.J.R. 546(a). Chapter 23 superseded N.J.A.C. 5:16, Standard Building Code and N.J.A.C. 5:20, Safety Glazing Materials, which were repealed by R.1978 d.360, effective October 6, 1978. See: 10 N.J.R. 377(a), 10 N.J.R. 470(a). Chapter 23 also superseded N.J.A.C. 5:21, Uniform Standards Code for Mobile Homes, which was repealed by R.1982 d.7, effective February 1, 1982. See: 13 N.J.R. 717(a), 14 N.J.R. 142(a). Subchapter 5, Licensing of Code Enforcement Officials, was adopted as R.1977 d.304, effective October 1, 1977. See: 9 N.J.R. 257(b), 9 N.J.R. 413(b). Subchapter 6, Tax Exemption for Solar Facilities, was adopted as R.1978 d.334, effective September 18, 1978. See: 10 N.J.R. 222(b), 10 N.J.R. 418(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 6 was readopted as R.1980 d.303, effective July 1, 1980. See: 12 N.J.R. 249(c), 12 N.J.R. 452(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1983 d.144, effective April 26, 1983. See: 14 N.J.R. 1247(a), 15 N.J.R. 803(c). Subchapter 7, Barrier Free Subcode, was adopted as R.1986 d.448, effective November 3, 1986. See: 18 N.J.R. 757(a), 18 N.J.R. 2194(a). Subchapter 8, Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode, was adopted as Emergency New Rules R.1985 d.362, effective June 18, 1985 (expired August 17, 1985). See: 17 N.J.R. 1782(a). The provisions of R.1985 d.362 were readopted as R.1985 d.472, effective August 16, 1985. See: 17 N.J.R. 2249(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1988 d.168, effective March 22, 1988. N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.1, 6.2 and 6.3, concerning tax exemption for solar facilities, were not readopted and expired on April 1, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 223(a), 20 N.J.R. 893(a). Subchapter 9, Code Interpretations, was adopted as R.1988 d.195, effective May 2, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 224(a), 20 N.J.R. 977(a). Subchapter 10, Radon Hazard Subcode, was adopted as R.1990 d.226, effective May 7, 1990. See: 21 N.J.R. 3696(a), 22 N.J.R. 1356(a). Subchapter 4A, Industrialized/Modular Buildings and Building Components, was adopted as R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990, (operative July 1, 1990). See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b). Subchapter 11, Indoor Air Quality Standards and Procedures for Buildings Occupied by Public Employees, was adopted as R.1992 d.33, effective January 21, 1992. See: 23 N.J.R. 1730(b), 24 N.J.R. 229(c). Subchapter 12, Elevator Safety Subcode, was adopted as R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991. See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1993 d.106, effective February 3, 1993. See: 24 N.J.R. 1420(b), 25 N.J.R. 920(a). Subchapter 4B, Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Add-On Units Not Subject to Federal Regulation, and Subchapter 4C, Enforcement of Federal Manufactured Home

Standards, were adopted as R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994. See: 25 N.J.R. 5388(a), 26 N.J.R. 1073(a). N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.1 through 7.99 were repealed and 7.100 through 7.116 were recodified as 7.2 through 7.18 by R.1995 d.144, effective March 20, 1995 (operative July 1, 1995). See: 26 N.J.R. 2698(a), 26 N.J.R. 2524(a), 27 N.J.R. 1180(a). Subchapter 11, Indoor Air Quality Standards and Procedures for Buildings Occupied by Public Employees, was repealed by R.1995 d.612, effective December 4, 1995 (operative July 1, 1995). See: 27 N.J.R. 3518(a), 27 N.J.R. 4885(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1997 d.409, effective September 9, 1997. See: Source and Effective Date. As a part of R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997, Subchapter 6, Tax Exemption, was repealed. See, also, section annotations.

## 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 requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:124-5.1 et seq.

Residential child care facility maintenance and sanitation requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:127-4.4.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5:23-1.1 Title; division into subchapters

(a) These regulations shall be known as the "Regulations for the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code" and are referred to herein as "the regulations".

(b) The chapter consists of the following subchapters:

1. "General provisions" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-1 and when referred to in subchapter 1 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

2. "Administration and enforcement; process" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-2 and when referred to in subchapter 2 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

3. "Subcodes" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-3 and when referred to in subchapter 3 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

i. N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11B contains references to the Department of Environmental Protection's rules concerning underground storage tanks, codified at N.J.A.C. 7:14B, which are jointly enforced by this Department and local enforcing agencies pursuant to this chapter.

4. "Enforcing agencies: duties, powers, and procedures" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4 of this chapter and when referred to in subchapter 4 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

5. "Industrialized/Modular Buildings and Building Components" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A and when referred to N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A may be cited as this subchapter.

6. "Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Add-On Units Not Subject to Federal Regulations" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4B and when referred to in subchapter 4B may be cited as this subchapter.

7. "Enforcement of Federal Manufactured Home Standards" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4C and when referred to in subchapter 4C may be cited as this subchapter.

8. "Licensing of Code Enforcement Officials" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-5 and when referred to in subchapter 5 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

9. "Rehabilitation Subcode" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-6 and, when referred to in subchapter 6 of this chapter, may be cited as this subchapter.

10. "Barrier Free Subcode" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-7 and when referred to in subchapter 7 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

11. "Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-8 and when referred to in subchapter 8 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

12. "Code Interpretations" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-9 and when referred to in subchapter 9 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

13. "Radon Hazard Subcode" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-10 and when referred to in subchapter 10 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

14. (Reserved)

15. "Elevator Safety Subcode" which may be cited throughout the rules as N.J.A.C. 5:23-12 and when referred to in subchapter 12 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

16. "Optional elevator inspection program" which may be cited throughout the rules as N.J.A.C. 5:23-12A and, when referred to in subchapter 12A of this chapter, may be cited as "this subchapter."

Amended by R.1978 d.350, eff. October 1, 1978.

See: 10 N.J.R. 378(a), 10 N.J.R. 469(f).

Amended by R.1987 d.509, effective December 7, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1264(a), 19 N.J.R. 2270(a).

(b) substantially amended.

Amended by R.1990 d.226, effective May 7, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 3696(a), 22 N.J.R. 1356(a).

Added 9 and 10 to (b).  
Amended by R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990.  
See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b).  
Text added at (b)5.  
Amended by R.1990 d.562, effective November 19, 1990.  
See: 22 N.J.R. 2629(c), 22 N.J.R. 3482(d).  
Added reference to N.J.A.C. 7:14B.  
Amended by R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).  
Text on elevators added at (b).  
Amended by R.1992 d.183, effective April 20, 1992.  
See: 24 N.J.R. 167(a), 24 N.J.R. 1475(b).  
Reference to Indoor Air Quality Subcode added at (b)12.  
Amended by R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994.  
See: 25 N.J.R. 5388(a), 26 N.J.R. 1073(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).  
Deleted (b)14.  
Amended by R.1998 d.28, effective January 5, 1998.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3603(a), 30 N.J.R. 129(a).  
In (b)9, substituted "Rehabilitation Subcode" for "Tax Exemptions".  
Amended by R.1998 d.480, effective September 21, 1998.  
See: 30 N.J.R. 1119(b), 30 N.J.R. 3461(a).  
In (b), added 16.

#### Case Notes

Councilperson violated local ethics law; project manager for private construction company. *Bleeker v. Local Finance Board*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 122.

2. Notice of unsafe structure: If an unsafe or unsanitary condition is found in a building or structure, the construction official shall serve a written notice describing the building or structure deemed unsafe and specifying the required repairs or improvements to be made to render the building or structure safe and secure, or requiring the unsafe building or structure or portion thereof to be vacated or demolished within a stipulated time. Such notice shall require the person thus notified to immediately declare to the construction official his or her acceptance or rejection of the terms of the order. Such person may seek review before the Construction Board of Appeals within 15 days of receipt of the notice.

3. Restoration of unsafe structure: A building or structure condemned by the construction official may be restored to safe condition provided change of use or occupancy is not contemplated or compelled by reason of such reconstruction or restoration; except that if the damage or cost of reconstruction or restoration is in excess of 50 percent of its physical value, as defined and computed in accordance with this subchapter, exclusive of foundations, such structure shall be made to comply in all respects with the requirements for new construction. A certificate of occupancy shall be obtained prior to reoccupancy of the building or structure.

4. Posting notice of unsafe structure: If the person addressed with a notice of unsafe structure cannot be found within the municipality after diligent search, then such notice shall be sent by registered or certified mail to the last known address of such person, as on file with the office of the tax collector, and a copy of the notice of unsafe structure shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises; and such procedures shall be deemed the equivalent of personal notice.

5. Upon refusal or neglect of the person served with a notice of unsafe structure to comply with the requirements of the order to abate the unsafe condition, the construction official shall, in addition to any other remedies herein provided, forward the matter to the legal counsel of the jurisdiction for an action to compel compliance.

(b) Emergency measures:

1. When, in the opinion of the construction official and appropriate subcode officials, there is actual and immediate danger of failure or collapse of a building or structure or any part thereof which would endanger life, or when any structure or part of a structure has fallen and life is endangered by the occupation of the building or structure, the construction official is hereby authorized and empowered to order and require the occupants to vacate the same forthwith. He shall cause to be posted at each entrance to such building a notice reading as follows: This structure is unsafe and its use or occupancy has been prohibited by the construction official, and it shall be unlawful for any person to enter such building or struc-

ture except for the purpose of making the required repairs or of demolishing the same.

2. Temporary safeguards: When, in the opinion of the construction official, there is actual and immediate danger of collapse or failure of a building or structure or any part thereof which would endanger life, he shall cause the necessary work to be done to render such building or structure or part thereof temporarily safe, whether or not the legal procedure herein described has been instituted.

3. Closing streets: When necessary for the public safety, the construction official may temporarily close sidewalks, streets, buildings and structures and places adjacent to such unsafe structure, and prohibit the same from being used.

4. Emergency repairs: For the purposes of this section, the construction official shall employ the necessary labor and materials to perform the required work as expeditiously as possible.

5. Costs of emergency repairs: Costs incurred in the performance of emergency work shall be paid from the treasury of the jurisdiction on certificate of the construction official; and the legal authority of the jurisdiction shall institute appropriate action against the owner of the premises for the recovery of such costs.

Amended by R.1991 d.509, effective October 7, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 2236(a), 23 N.J.R. 3001(a).

C.O. required prior to reoccupancy.

Amended by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

**Law Review and Journal Commentaries**

Tort Claims Act—Landlords. P.R. Chenoweth, 138 N.J.L.J. No. 2, 77 (1994).

**Case Notes**

Civil rights action challenging township actions regarding use of property as church were not ripe for adjudication until township planning board decided site plan application and any need for variance. *Trinity Resources, Inc. v. Township of Delanco*, D.N.J.1994, 842 F.Supp. 782.

Mobile park owner that leased space to mobile home owners could not require residents to convert from oil heat to gas heat as condition of approving prospective purchases. *Garden Park Mobile Home Owners Ass'n v. Garden Park Associates*, 292 N.J.Super. 442, 678 A.2d 1191 (L.1996).

City, as landowner, did not have immunity from claim it negligently maintained buildings in dangerous condition, resulting in spread of fire to surrounding buildings. *Saldana v. DiMedio*, 275 N.J.Super. 488, 646 A.2d 522 (A.D.1994).

If activities of building inspector and public works director required discretionary decisions and were subject to qualified immunity, standard of liability would be whether decisions were palpably unreasonable or whether they merely failed to follow mandates of higher-up decisions. *Saldana v. DiMedio*, 275 N.J.Super. 488, 646 A.2d 522 (A.D.1994).

"Dangerous condition" for tort liability was satisfied with respect to surrounding buildings damaged by fire which spread from buildings on city-owned lots. *Saldana v. DiMedio*, 275 N.J.Super. 488, 646 A.2d 522 (A.D.1994).

Loss of housing which occurred when premises was evacuated for safety of tenants upon broken water main was a natural disaster that precluded payment of relocation benefits. *Union Gardens' v. Township of Montclair*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 85.

### 5:23-2.33 Service of notice

Except as is specifically provided for by the act with respect to stop construction orders, service of notices and orders pursuant to this section shall be upon the owner or the person specified as agent for receipt of same in the application for a permit or the person responsible for the work or in the case of unsafe structures upon any agent or person in control of the building. Service may be made by personal delivery or by leaving a copy at the dwelling house or usual place of abode of such person, with a competent member of his household of the age of 14 years or older than residing therein, or by any other method or upon any other person approved pursuant to Rules 4:4-4 and 4:4-5 of the New Jersey Supreme Court, or which is otherwise consistent with due process.

### 5:23-2.34 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

Section was "Construction board of appeals".

### 5:23-2.35 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

Section was "Applicant's right of appeal; procedure".

### 5:23-2.36 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

Section was "Procedure of the board".

### 5:23-2.37 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

Section was "Decision of the board".

### 5:23-2.38 Departmental appeal

(a) Whenever the Department shall act as the enforcing agency under the State Uniform Construction Code Act (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-128), an appeal in lieu of the appeal to the county, municipal or joint construction board of appeals may be made to the Hearing Coordinator, Division of Codes and Standards, Department of Community Affairs, PO Box 802, Trenton, NJ 08625.

1. The case shall be adjudicated before the Office of Administrative Law and the final decision shall be issued by the Commissioner.

2. Such hearings shall be governed by the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1, and the time provisions applicable to construction boards of appeal.

(b) Any party in interest aggrieved by any decision made by a facility manager with respect to compliance with the Barrier Free Recreational Standards (N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.100 through 7.116) shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Department.

1. The Department shall forward a copy of the complaint to the facility manager and to the facility owner or agency responsible for administration of the facility and shall request a response from the facility manager.

2. The facility manager shall respond in writing within 45 days of receipt of the request.

3. The Department shall review the response and shall determine whether the complaint is justified and what corrective measures shall be required to be taken by the facility owner or administering agency. The Department shall make such determination and issue any necessary orders within 60 days.

4. In the event that the owner or administering agency of a facility appeals any such order and the Department determines that a contested case exists, it shall forward such case for adjudication in an administrative hearing before the Office of Administrative Law and the final decision shall be issued by the Commissioner. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.) and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules (N.J.A.C. 1:1).

5. A "party in interest" may be either the owner, or authorized representative of the owner, of the premises that is the subject of the decision or an occupant, user or prospective occupant or user, of the premises, or a group representative of such occupants, users or prospective occupants or users; provided, however, that an occupant, user or representative group shall only be deemed to be a party in interest if notice of such interest has been given to the Department by the party prior to the issuance of the Department's determination.

Amended by R.1982 d.436, effective December 20, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 734(a), 14 N.J.R. 1449(a).

Added appeals to be made to the Division of Housing, cases to be heard by the OAL with final decision by the Commissioner. Also added APA cite.

Amended by R.1988 d.352, effective August 1, 1988.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1270(a), 20 N.J.R. 1873(b).

Added (b).

Amended by R.1991 d.428, effective August 19, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1730(a), 23 N.J.R. 2500(d).

In (b), added codification 1 through 5. In (b)3, added "what corrective measures shall be required by owner or agency".

Amended by R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).



In (a), inserted N.J.S.A. reference, amended Division name, and designated second and third sentences as (a)1 and 2; in (a)2, amended N.J.S.A. references and substituted "construction boards of appeal" for "county or municipal boards".

Amended by R.1997 d.417, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3387(a), 29 N.J.R. 4285(a).

In (a), amended where to appeal.

### 5:23-2.39 Automatic fire suppression systems

(a) Applications for tax exemption pursuant to P.L. 1983, c.309 shall be made on a form prepared by the Department of Treasury, Division of Taxation, and made available to the public at the office of the enforcing agency.

(b) Construction official's responsibilities:

1. The construction official shall have responsibility for determining the eligibility of any proposed automatic fire suppression systems.

2. The construction official shall consult with the appropriate subcode officials in determining conformity with the building and fire protection subcodes and their referenced standards, as well as, where applicable, the most recently published editions of NFPA 13D, NFPA 20, NFPA 22 and NFPA 24. A system shall only be eligible for tax exemption if it conforms to such of these standards as are applicable to that type of automatic fire suppression system and appurtenant installations.

i. A system shall not be deemed ineligible because it is in a new building or because it only provides coverage to part of a building.

3. The construction official shall, in addition, review the cost estimates provided by the applicant.

4. The construction official may require documentation in the form of signed contracts, contractor estimates and the like if he deems it necessary.

5. The construction official shall grant or deny certification of the system prior to issuance of the construction permit and shall notify the applicant of his decision at that time.

6. The construction official shall forward a copy of the approved application for exemption to the municipal assessor for his action upon issuance of the certificate of occupancy or certification of completion.

(c) The enforcing agency, after giving written notice to the owner, may revoke such certification whenever any of the following appears:

1. The exemption was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation;

2. The claimant for tax exemption has failed substantially to proceed with the construction, reconstruction, installation or acquisition of an automatic fire suppression system;

3. The mechanical system to which the certificate relates has ceased to be used for the primary purpose of providing automatic fire suppression and is being used for a different primary purpose;

4. The claimant for tax exemption hereunder has so departed from the equipment, design and construction previously certified by the enforcing agency that, in the opinion of said enforcing agency, the automatic fire suppression system is not suitable and reasonably adequate for the purpose of providing automatic fire suppression.

(d) The construction official shall notify the assessor in writing of the revocation of the certification.

(e) Appeals may be made regarding the decision of the construction official to the Construction Board of Appeals having jurisdiction, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23A.

New Rule, R.1984 d.121, effective April 16, 1984.

See: 16 N.J.R. 180(a), 16 N.J.R. 874(a).

This section replaces 5:23-6.2, Construction Official's Responsibilities, which was recodified as N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.1(b).

Recodified from 5:23-6.2 by R.1987 d.387, effective October 5, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 433(b), 19 N.J.R. 1793(a).

Recodified from 5:23-6.4 and amended by R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).

In (e), amended N.J.A.C. reference.

## SUBCHAPTER 3. SUBCODES

### 5:23-3.1 Title; scope; intent

(a) This section of the regulations, adopted pursuant to authority of the State Uniform Construction Code Act and entitled "Subcodes," shall be known and may be cited throughout the regulations as "N.J.A.C. 5:23-3," and when referred to in this subchapter may be cited as "this subchapter."

(b) When used alone, the term "subchapter," "section," and so forth, refers to that portion of the regulations. When used in conjunction with the term "building subcode," "plumbing subcode" or "electrical subcode," and so forth, the term "article" or "section," and so forth, refers to that subcode.

(c) This subchapter shall control matters relating to:

1. The adoption of subcodes of the Uniform Construction Code.
2. Modifications to the subcodes adopted.
3. The organization of enforcement responsibilities.
4. The use of standards of accepted practice.
5. Approvals and interrelations.



6. The division of plan review responsibilities and State reserved activities; and

7. Procedures for adoption of future subcode amendments.

(d) This subchapter provides a uniform system of construction standards throughout the State through the adoption of model codes applicable throughout the State. Modifications made to the subcodes are for the purpose of providing a uniform, harmonious system of construction code interface and administration, and to resolve conflicts with preempting Federal and State legislation.

(e) Provisions concerning underground storage tanks, jointly enforced by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), are in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11B and in the DEP's rules at N.J.A.C. 7:14B.

Amended by R.1990 d.562, effective November 19, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2629(c), 22 N.J.R. 3482(d).

Added reference to N.J.A.C. 7:14B.

### 5:23-3.2 Matters covered; exceptions

(a) Except as is otherwise provided in (b), (c) and (d) below, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply uniformly throughout the State. Any standards other than those provided herein are void and of no effect.

(b) Rules concerning exceptions in health care facilities are as follows:

1. Construction and alteration of health care facilities shall be in accordance with this code and with the "Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities," 1992-93 edition or current edition (American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Health). In the event of any conflict, the more restrictive code provision shall govern.

2. The Department of Health may adopt licensing standards for the physical plant and environment of health care facilities that supplement this code and the "Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities," although these standards may not be in conflict with these codes.

3. The publication "Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities" is available from The American Institute of Architects Press, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

(c) Individual on-site water supply and sewage disposal systems shall be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 58:11-23 et seq., and N.J.A.C. 7:10-3.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 7:9-2.1 et seq.

(d) Rules concerning commercial farm buildings are as follows:

1. A commercial farm building means any building located on a commercial farm which produces not less than \$2,500 worth of agricultural or horticultural products annually which building's main use or intended use is related to the production of agricultural or horticultural products produced on that farm.

2. Buildings constructed in accordance with the provisions of this section and meeting the requirements of (d)1 above shall be classified as commercial farm buildings. For those provisions not covered by this section, commercial farm buildings shall comply with the construction code provisions applicable to Use Group S-2. Commercial farm buildings shall include, but not be limited to, the following: stall barns, milking parlors, poultry houses, horse arenas, packing houses for agricultural or horticultural commodities, farrowing houses, greenhouses, and buildings used for the storage of agricultural or horticultural products, farm machinery and farm equipment, or farm materials and supplies that are produced or used on the farm.

3. Pre-engineered grain bins, silos, manure handling equipment and impoundments used on a farm for the storage of agricultural commodities or by-products which are produced by or used on the farm shall not require a construction permit. However, all on-site construction work such as foundations and plumbing and electrical connections shall be subject to all requirements and inspections of any applicable subcode(s).

4. The type and amount of materials or supplies stored in a commercial farm building, including hay, straw, and livestock bedding materials, shall not be subject to limitation. However, other hazardous materials within spaces of commercial farm buildings occupied by more than 10 persons shall not exceed the allowable exempt amounts shown in Tables 307.8(1) and 307.8(2) of the building subcode unless separated from the occupied area by appropriate fire resistance rated construction as prescribed in the building subcode.

5. A commercial farm building may be used as a place of public assembly for not more than 15 days in a calendar year. For the purposes of enforcing this requirement, a public assembly shall be a gathering of 50 or more people. A permit shall be obtained from the local fire official pursuant to the Uniform Fire Safety Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq., and the fee for issuing the permit shall not exceed \$75.00 per event.

i. A commercial farm building that is used as a place of public assembly for not more than 15 days in a calendar year and that is provided with electricity shall comply with section 1024 of the BOCA National Building Code.

6. Buildings containing any of the following uses are not included in the definition of a commercial farm building:

i. Residential structures;

(c) The Construction Code Element may issue bulletins to provide advice to code enforcing agencies, builders, and designers. Bulletins may be issued when the Element finds that an issue that is in need of clarification is adequately dealt with by existing rules and that rulemaking is therefore not appropriate or necessary. Consultation with the Code Advisory Board shall be required prior to the issuance of any bulletin.

(d) In response to a written or oral inquiry or request setting forth a specific factual situation, a staff member of the Construction Code Element may issue an informal opinion as to the proper application of the regulations if the issue is one with which he has authority to deal. Such informal opinion shall only be in writing if it is issued in response to a written inquiry or request and shall not be binding upon the Element or any other party.

Amended by R.1981 d.454, effective December 7, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 561(a), 13 N.J.R. 886(a).

Section substantially amended.

Administrative Correction: Name change.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2503(b).

Amended by R.1995 d.340, effective June 19, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 1512(a), 27 N.J.R. 2388(a).

Redesignated (c) as (d) and added a new (c).

### 5:23-3.10 (Reserved)

Amended by R.1987 d.509, effective December 7, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1264(a), 19 N.J.R. 2270(a).

Substantially amended.

Amended by R.1990 d.507, effective October 15, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2208(a), 22 N.J.R. 3214(a).

Text conformed to BOCA National Code/1990.

Recodified to 5:23-4.3A by R.1992 d.272, effective July 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1446(a), 24 N.J.R. 2424(a).

Section was "Enforcing agency classification".

### 5:23-3.11 Enforcement activities reserved to the Department

(a) Except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11A(c) and (d), the Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole plan review agency for the following structures:

1. Electrical generating stations and substations, including nuclear;
2. Incineration plants;
3. Solid waste disposal plants;
4. Class I and Class II structures where required in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3A and N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.24(a)2ii;
5. Casino hotels;
6. Public mausoleums, vaults, crypts and other structures intended to hold or contain human remains;
7. All premanufactured systems for Class I and Class II structures, other than those authorized to be approved by an inplant inspection agency licensed to perform Class I and Class II plan review as provided in N.J.A.C.

5:23-4A.10, and all on-site installation of Class I and Class II premanufactured construction within the jurisdiction of a local enforcing agency that is not a Class I or Class II agency, as the case may be.

8. Health care facilities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4; and

9. Public school facilities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4.

(b) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole plan review agency for elevators, escalators, and moving walks in Use Groups other than R-3, R-4, or R-2 structures in which the elevator devices are wholly within dwelling units and not accessible to the general public, in all buildings and structures other than those that:

1. Are in a municipality that has an elevator subcode official; and
2. Are otherwise within the plan review jurisdiction of the local enforcing agency.

(c) A permit shall not be issued until the required plans for the building or structure have been released by the department. The department shall insure that the municipal enforcing agency receives a copy of the approved plans.

(d) The department may perform field inspections for any of the above projects when it deems such activity appropriate. However, such action shall not relieve the municipality of the obligation to perform field inspections for any project for which the municipality has granted a permit.

(e) Whenever the department shall determine that there exists a violation of these regulations, it shall take appropriate action and shall provide the municipality with copies of all notices, orders, and other applicable information. The department and any municipality may consolidate or take other steps to expedite any matter of which they jointly complain, but in no event shall the owner of any building subject to the act be sanctioned twice for the same violations.

(f) In any case where the department shall notify a municipality that a violation exists, no certificate of occupancy may issue until the department notifies the municipality that the violation has been abated.

(g) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole agency for the enforcement of the Barrier Free Recreation Standards (N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.2 through 7.18). Any complaint of noncompliance with these rules shall be forwarded to the Department.

(h) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole agency having authority to grant variations from the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-8.4.

Amended by R.1981 d.455, effective December 7, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 561(b), 13 N.J.R. 886(b).

Correction: Codification error and (a)6 was missing.

See: 16 N.J.R. 1621(a).

Administrative Change: This section has been divided into 3.11 and 3.11A administratively.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1842(a).

Amended by R.1988 d.352, effective August 1, 1988.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1270(a), 20 N.J.R. 1873(b).

Added (f).

Amended by R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b).

Industrialized/modular buildings requirements added to (a)7.

Amended by R.1990 d.507, effective October 15, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2208(a), 22 N.J.R. 3214(a).

Text conformed to BOCA National Code/1990.

Amended by R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).

Enforcement of elevator, moving walk and escalator requirements for other than R-3 and R-4 reserved to Department.

Amended by R.1992 d.147, effective April 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 170(a), 24 N.J.R. 1397(a).

Elevators wholly within R-2 residences exempt.

Amended by R.1992 d.183, effective April 20, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 167(a), 24 N.J.R. 1475(b).

Enforcement of public employees' indoor air quality subcode assigned to DCA.

Amended by R.1994 d.28, effective January 18, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4546(b), 26 N.J.R. 352(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 1073(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.377, effective September 15, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2741(b), 29 N.J.R. 4102(b).

In (g), amended N.J.A.C. references; deleted (g)1; and substantially amended (h).

Amended by R.1997 d.417, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3387(a), 29 N.J.R. 4285(a).

In (a), inserted "Except as otherwise provided ... and (d),"; added (a)8 and 9; and in (g), amended N.J.A.C. references.

#### Case Notes

Delaware River Port Authority was not subject to Construction Code or anti-discrimination laws. Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Ass'n, Inc. v. City of Camden, 111 N.J. 389, 545 A.2d 127 (1988).

#### 5:23-3.11A Enforcement activities reserved to other State agencies; alternative public school facility plan review; Uniform Construction Code enhancements in public school facilities

(a) The Department of Labor shall be the sole enforcing agency for the following work:

1. Amusement rides;
2. Ski lifts;
3. High pressure boilers;
4. Refrigeration systems;
5. Pressure vessels;
6. Liquefied petroleum gas installations, except one and two-family residential (building subcode use group R-3) which jurisdiction is retained by the municipal enforcing agency.

(b) Prior to the release of plans for the following types of projects, the Department of Education shall ensure that the plans meet the standards for educational adequacy set forth in N.J.A.C. 6:22:

1. New public school buildings;
2. Additions to existing public school buildings;
3. Alterations changing the total number of units, size or type of any instructional space;
4. Alterations changing office space that require alterations to instructional space;
5. Alterations to locker, weight or game rooms, or to field houses with locker facilities;
6. Alteration of athletic fields or tracks and field areas;
7. Installations of mobile units; or
8. Any site or building change or alteration for the purpose of making the site and school barrier-free pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-7 and accessible to the handicapped pursuant to section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

(c) In lieu of obtaining construction code plan review approval from the Department, a school district, upon notice to the Department, may secure construction code plan review approval from any municipal code enforcing agency, pursuant to P.L. 1990, c.23.

1. The municipal code enforcing agency providing construction code plan approval must agree to perform the review and must be appropriately classified for the proposed project in accordance with this chapter.

2. When a review for educational adequacy is necessary, such review and approval shall be obtained from the State Department of Education prior to obtaining a construction code plan review, whether this construction code plan review is performed by the Department or by a municipal code enforcing agency.

3. The municipal code enforcing agency performing the construction code plan review may require the payment of any municipal plan review fees.

4. No construction permit shall be issued for a public school facility unless and until the final plans and specifications have been approved by the Department or an appropriately classified municipal code enforcing agency.

5. The municipal code enforcing agency within the jurisdiction of which the facility is located shall be responsible for construction permit issuance, construction inspection and certificate of occupancy issuance.

"French drain" or "channel drain" means a path used to assist with water drainage which is installed in basements of some structures during initial construction, which consists of a gap (typically one-half to one and one-half inch in width) between the basement block wall and the concrete floor slab around the entire inside perimeter of the basement.

"Picocurie per Liter (pCi/L)" means 2.2 disintegrations per minute of radioactive material per liter. It may be used as a measure of the concentration of radon gas in air. One picocurie is equivalent to 10-12 Curies.

"Radon" means the radioactive noble gas radon-222.

"Radon progeny" means the short-lived radionuclides formed as a result of the decay of radon-222, including polonium-218, lead-214, bismuth-214 and polonium-214.

"Sump" means a pit or hole in or through a basement floor slab designed to collect water, and from which such water is drained by means of a vertical-lift or sump pump.

"Sump pump" means a pump used to move collected water out of the sump to an above grade discharge remote from the structure.

"Working level (WL)" means that concentration of short-lived radon decay products that will result in 130,000 million electron volts of potential alpha-particle energy per liter of air. Working level is a measure of radon decay product concentration in air.

### 5:23-10.3 Enforcement

(a) The provisions of this subchapter shall be enforced by the enforcing agencies having responsibility for the enforcement of this chapter.

(b) Enforcement responsibility shall be divided among subcode officials in the following manner:

1. For new structures and additions:

i. Except as otherwise indicated in (b)1ii below, plan review and inspection with regard to compliance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-10.4(b) shall be the responsibility of the building subcode official;

ii. Plan review and inspection with regard to work performed under N.J.A.C. 5:23-10.4(b) that is otherwise subject to the plumbing, electrical or fire protection subcode shall be the responsibility of the plumbing, electrical or fire protection subcode official, respectively.

2. For existing structures:

i. Construction enforcement responsibility for verification that radon mitigation work in all structures, other than detached one and two family dwellings, is in conformance with the adopted subcodes shall be as set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4(a), (c), (d) and (f).

ii. In existing detached one and two family dwellings, the building subcode official shall be responsible for verification that all construction aspects of radon mitigation work are in conformance with the adopted subcodes, except that the electrical subcode official shall be responsible for those construction aspects that are subject to the electrical subcode.

Amended by R.1991 d.429, effective August 19, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1487(a), 23 N.J.R. 2501(a).

In (b), added 5 and 6.  
Amended by R.1994 d.609, effective December 19, 1994 (operative April 1, 1995).  
See: 26 N.J.R. 2704(a), 26 N.J.R. 5007(b).

### 5:23-10.4 Construction techniques

(a) Tier one radon hazard areas shall be identified in accordance with the county/municipal radon listing established by the Department of Environmental Protection. The current list of municipalities in tier one areas is set forth in Appendix 10-A of this subcode.

(b) The construction techniques set forth in this subsection shall be the minimum radon hazard protective features required to be incorporated into construction of buildings in Use Groups E and R in tier one areas, and may be incorporated elsewhere, in order to minimize radon and radon progeny entry and facilitate any post-construction radon removal that may be required. Enumeration of these construction techniques is not intended to preclude voluntary use of additional or more extensive techniques. Full compliance with these construction techniques is not required for additions; however, those construction techniques that are feasible shall be incorporated.

1. A continuous vapor barrier, not less than six-mil (.006 inch; .152 mm) polyvinyl chloride or polyethylene with any seams overlapped not less than 12 inches (305 mm), or other approved materials, shall be installed under the slab in basement and slab-on-grade construction and on the soil in crawl space construction.

2. Floors of basements and slab on grade construction shall be placed over a base course, not less than four inches (102 mm) in thickness, consisting of gravel or crushed stone containing not more than 10 percent of material that passes through a No. 4 sieve.

3. Basement slabs with interior foundation pipe drains installed shall have a solid three-inch minimum diameter vent pipe section installed in conjunction with this drainage system and be connected to an independent vent stack pipe terminating at an approved location on the exterior of the building.

4. Basement slabs which do not have an interior foundation pipe drain, and slab on grade construction (excluding non-habitable spaces such as garages), shall be provided with one three-inch minimum solid vent pipe section with a "T" pipe fitting for every 1,500 square feet, or portion thereof, of slab area, this vent pipe section to be

installed into the sub-slab aggregate. The horizontal openings of the "T" pipe fitting shall be placed in the sub-slab aggregate. The vertical portion of the "T" pipe fitting shall be connected to an independent vent stack pipe terminating at an approved location on the exterior of the building. Where more than one vent pipe section is provided, interconnection of these sections into a single independent vent stack is permitted.

5. Basement slabs with French drains or channel drains shall not be allowed unless interior foundation pipe drains as described in this section are installed.

6. Joints in foundation walls and floors, including, without limitation, control joints between slab sections poured separately, and between foundation wall and floor (except for French drains or channel drains), as well as penetrations of the foundation walls and floor including, but not limited to, utility penetrations, shall be substantially sealed by utilizing a non-cracking polyurethane or similar caulk, or equivalent, in order to close off the soil gas entry routes. Any openings or penetrations of the floor over the crawl space shall be substantially sealed in order to close off the soil gas entry routes.

7. Untrapped floor drains shall be provided with removable stoppers which substantially close off the soil gas entry routes.

8. A sump cover which substantially closes off the soil gas entry routes shall be provided for all sump installations. If foundation pipe drains terminate at a sump installation and provisions are made for venting from the sump installation, the three-inch diameter solid vent pipe section requirement of (b)3 above need not be provided.

9. Any ductwork that is routed through a crawl space or beneath a slab shall be properly taped or sealed.

10. Sealant materials that substantially close off the soil gas entry routes shall be installed on any doors or other openings between basements and adjoining crawl spaces that are vented to the exterior.

11. The tops of foundation walls, including, without limitation, interior ledges, that are constructed of hollow masonry units shall be capped or the voids shall be completely filled.

12. The independent vent stack pipe provided in accordance with (b)3, 4 or 8 above shall be an adequately supported, gas tight, three-inch minimum diameter solid pipe, through any enclosed portions of the building. The pipe shall be routed in a manner that makes it accessible for the installation of a future in-line vent pipe fan in a non-conditioned (not heated or cooled) space, including, without limitation, an attic space, but excluding a basement or crawl space, and installed in a configuration, and supported in a manner, that will ensure that rain water or condensate accumulation within the pipes will drain downward into the ground beneath the slab or vapor barrier. The vent stack pipe shall meet the following termination requirements:

i. Vent pipes shall terminate at least 12 inches above the roof, measured from the highest point where the vent intersects the roof. When a vent pipe extension terminates on an occupiable roof the vent pipe shall extend at least seven feet above the roof surface. Exception: Buildings more than three stories in height shall be allowed to extend vent pipe terminals through a wall provided that the termination is at least 20 feet above grade and is effectively screened.

ii. No vent terminal shall be located directly beneath any door, window, or other ventilating opening of the building or of an adjacent building nor shall any such vent terminal be within 10 feet horizontally of such an opening unless it is at least two feet above the top of such opening.

iii. No vent terminal shall be closer than 10 feet horizontally from any lot line. Where this 10 foot horizontal distance is not possible due to lot width, the vent terminal shall be placed as remote from the lot line as practicable.

13. Radon vent pipes shall be identifiable and clearly labeled at intervals of not more than 25 feet in concealed locations, not more than 50 feet in exposed locations and not less than once in any room or space.

14. Electrical junction boxes shall be installed near the provided area, such as an accessible attic space, where a future in-line vent pipe fan and system failure alarms may be installed.

15. In combination basement/crawl space or slab-on-grade/crawl space buildings a three-inch minimum solid vent pipe shall be provided between the areas and interconnected into the independent vent stack to permit use of a single in-line vent pipe fan if activation of the system is desired.

16. In order to reduce stack effect, air passages that penetrate the conditioned envelope of the building, such as attic access openings, or other openings installed in top-floor ceilings, shall be closed, gasketed or otherwise sealed with materials approved for such applications.

Amended by R.1994 d.609, effective December 19, 1994 (operative April 1, 1995).  
See: 26 N.J.R. 2704(a), 26 N.J.R. 5007(b).

## APPENDIX 10-A

### New Jersey Municipalities in Tier 1

County	Municipality	
Burlington	Chesterfield	Mansfield
Camden	Magnolia	Somerdale
	Runnemede	
Cumberland	Bridgeton	
Gloucester	Deptford	Harrison
	East Greenwich	Wenonah
	Greenwich	

County	Municipality	
Hunterdon	All municipalities except Kingswood and Union	
Mercer	Ewing	Pennington
	Hopewell Borough	Princeton Borough
	Hopewell Township	Princeton Township
Middlesex	Highland Park	Piscataway
	North Brunswick	
Monmouth	Allentown	Marlboro
	Colts Neck	Roosevelt
	Freehold Borough	Shrewsbury Borough
	Freehold Township	Shrewsbury Township
	Holmdel	Upper Freehold
	Little Silver	
Morris	Chester Borough	Morris Plains
	Chester Township	Morristown
	Dover	Mount Olive
	Harding	Randolph
	Jefferson	Roxbury
	Long Hill	Victory Gardens
	Mendham Borough	Washington
	Mendham Township	Wharton
	Morris	
Passaic	Pompton Lakes	West Milford
Salem	Woodstown	
Somerset	Bernardsville	Montgomery
	Bernards	Peapack & Gladstone
	Branchburg	Rocky Hill
	Far Hills	Somerville
	Hillsborough	Warren
	Franklin	Watchung
	Millstone	
Sussex	All municipalities except Hardyston	
Warren	All municipalities	

## Public Notice.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3745(a).

Revised Tier I list issued.

Administrative change.

See: 26 N.J.R. 3707(b).

Administrative change.

See: 27 N.J.R. 3600(a).

Administrative change.

See: 28 N.J.R. 4783(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 11. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 12. ELEVATOR SAFETY  
SUBCODE

## 5:23-12.1 Title; scope; intent

(a) This subchapter of the rules adopted pursuant to the authority of the Uniform Construction Code Act, entitled "Elevator Safety Subcode," shall be known and cited throughout this chapter as subchapter 12 or N.J.A.C.

5:23-12, and when referred to in this subchapter may be cited as "this subchapter."

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided, all references to paragraphs, sections, or to provisions not specifically identified, shall be construed to refer to such paragraph or section or provision of this subchapter.

(c) This subchapter shall control all matters relating to administration of tests and inspections of elevator devices as defined in (e) below.

(d) It is the purpose of this subchapter to enhance the public safety, health and welfare by ensuring that elevator devices as defined in this subchapter are periodically inspected and maintained in accordance with nationally recognized, referenced standards.

(e) For purposes of this subchapter, "elevator" or "elevator device" means a hoisting and lowering device equipped with a car or platform which moves in guides for the transportation of individuals or freight in a substantially vertical direction through successive floors or levels of a building or structure; or, a power driven, inclined, continuous stairway used for raising or lowering passengers; or, a type of passenger carrying device on which passengers stand or walk, and in which the passenger carrying surface remains parallel to its direction of motion and is uninterrupted. This includes, without limitation, elevators, escalators, moving walks, dumbwaiters, wheelchair lifts, manlifts, stairway chairlifts and any device within the scope of ASME A17.1 (Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators) or ASME A90.1 (Safety Standard for Belt Manlifts).

1. This definition shall not apply to any conveyor devices that are process equipment.

## 5:23-12.2 Referenced standards

(a) Periodic, routine and acceptance tests and inspections, if applicable, shall be required on all new, altered and existing power elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, moving walks, wheelchair lifts, manlifts and stairway chairlifts in accordance with the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode. This subsection shall not apply to elevator devices in structures in Use Groups R-3 or R-4, or to any elevator device located wholly within a dwelling unit in an R-2 structure if the device is not accessible to the general public.

(b) All operating and electrical parts and accessory equipment or devices for elevator devices shall be maintained in safe operating condition. The maintenance of elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators shall conform to the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode.

(c) (Reserved)



(d) If, upon inspection of any elevator device subject to the requirements of this subchapter, the equipment is found to be in a dangerous condition, or if there is an immediate hazard to persons riding on or using any such device, or if the design, or the method of operation in combination with the design, of the device is determined to be inherently dangerous by the elevator subcode official, the elevator subcode official shall so advise the construction official so that a notice of unsafe structure may be issued pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.32.

(e) Inspection and testing procedures for equipment within the scope (section 1) of the ASME A17.1 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators shall be performed in accordance with the latest edition of ASME A17.2.

(f) Any education, experience or training requirements included or cited in reference standards shall not be binding in this State.

Amended by R.1993 d.662, effective December 20, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3891(a), 25 N.J.R. 5918(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.564, effective November 6, 1995 (operative March 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 2829(a), 27 N.J.R. 4281(a).

### 5:23-12.3 Inspection and test schedule

(a) Routine, periodic and acceptance inspections and test of elevators shall be conducted as follows:

1. Routine and periodic inspections shall be made at intervals of not more than six months for all manlifts, and at intervals not exceeding those set forth in ASME A17.1 referenced in the most recent edition of the building subcode for elevators, escalators and dumbwaiters and moving walks. Stairway chairlifts and wheelchair lifts shall be inspected at intervals not exceeding one year.

2. Routine tests shall be made and periodic tests shall be witnessed at intervals not exceeding those set forth in the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode.

3. Routine and periodic inspections, including any applicable acceptance inspections, shall be made by the elevator subcode official or elevator inspector. Routine tests shall be made and periodic tests, including any applicable acceptance tests, shall be witnessed by the elevator subcode official or elevator inspector.

4. Each building containing devices covered by this subchapter shall have an inspection cycle established by the enforcing agency. This cycle shall be consistent with the routine and periodic inspection and test intervals required in this section. Once this cycle is established, all such devices in the building shall be subject to inspections and tests, except as exempted by this section or by N.J.A.C. 5:23-12.9.

i. Elevator devices that have been temporarily taken out of operation for alteration work to be performed shall be exempt from routine and periodic inspection and test requirements as long as the elevator device is not accessible to the public or placed back in operation. Those devices that are still in operation, even though they are included in the alteration permit, shall be subject to routine and periodic inspections within the cycle of inspections in the building.

ii. Elevator devices that have been removed from service as per ASME A17.1 are exempt from routine and periodic inspections and tests until the device is placed back in service as per ASME A17.1, which is referenced in the building subcode. Taking a device in or out of service by Code shall be considered minor work within the meaning of N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.17A.

iii. Elevator devices that are used for construction purposes as per ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode are subject to inspections and tests required by ASME A17.1 for elevators used for construction. Such devices shall not be accessible to the public. During the operation of the device for construction purposes the owner shall assure that the device is used only for construction purposes by providing a designated operator, authorizing of key operation or by other methods acceptable to the elevator subcode official.

5. Elevator devices in structures classified as Use Group R-3 and R-4, except those elevator devices accessible to the public, shall be exempt from periodic inspection and test requirements. Elevator devices wholly within dwelling units in R-2 structures and not accessible to the general public shall also be exempt. In addition, signed statements and supporting inspection and acceptance test reports, filed by an approved qualified agent or agency for elevator devices in such structures, other than elevator devices accessible to the public, may be accepted by the construction official, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.19 and 2.20, in lieu of inspections performed by and acceptance tests witnessed by the enforcing agency for work requiring a permit. If the construction official designates the elevator subcode official to perform the inspection and to witness acceptance test for work under a permit in such structures, those inspections and tests shall assure compliance with the requirements of the code(s) under which the permit was issued.

Amended by R.1995 d.476, effective September 5, 1995 (operative January 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 1846(a), 27 N.J.R. 3325(b).

Added (a)4 and 5.

### 5:23-12.4 Registration of elevator devices

(a) On or before July 1, 1992, and thereafter as required by (e) below, the owner of every existing structure containing one or more elevator device, other than a structure in Use Group R-3 or R-4, or other than an elevator device wholly within a dwelling unit in an R-2 structure that is not accessible to the general public, shall register each elevator device with the Department on a form provided by the Commissioner.



"French drain" or "channel drain" means a path used to assist with water drainage which is installed in basements of some structures during initial construction, which consists of a gap (typically one-half to one and one-half inch in width) between the basement block wall and the concrete floor slab around the entire inside perimeter of the basement.

"Picocurie per Liter (pCi/L)" means 2.2 disintegrations per minute of radioactive material per liter. It may be used as a measure of the concentration of radon gas in air. One picocurie is equivalent to 10-12 Curies.

"Radon" means the radioactive noble gas radon-222.

"Radon progeny" means the short-lived radionuclides formed as a result of the decay of radon-222, including polonium-218, lead-214, bismuth-214 and polonium-214.

"Sump" means a pit or hole in or through a basement floor slab designed to collect water, and from which such water is drained by means of a vertical-lift or sump pump.

"Sump pump" means a pump used to move collected water out of the sump to an above grade discharge remote from the structure.

"Working level (WL)" means that concentration of short-lived radon decay products that will result in 130,000 million electron volts of potential alpha-particle energy per liter of air. Working level is a measure of radon decay product concentration in air.

### 5:23-10.3 Enforcement

(a) The provisions of this subchapter shall be enforced by the enforcing agencies having responsibility for the enforcement of this chapter.

(b) Enforcement responsibility shall be divided among subcode officials in the following manner:

1. For new structures and additions:

i. Except as otherwise indicated in (b)1ii below, plan review and inspection with regard to compliance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-10.4(b) shall be the responsibility of the building subcode official;

ii. Plan review and inspection with regard to work performed under N.J.A.C. 5:23-10.4(b) that is otherwise subject to the plumbing, electrical or fire protection subcode shall be the responsibility of the plumbing, electrical or fire protection subcode official, respectively.

2. For existing structures:

i. Construction enforcement responsibility for verification that radon mitigation work in all structures, other than detached one and two family dwellings, is in conformance with the adopted subcodes shall be as set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4(a), (c), (d) and (f).

ii. In existing detached one and two family dwellings, the building subcode official shall be responsible for verification that all construction aspects of radon mitigation work are in conformance with the adopted subcodes, except that the electrical subcode official shall be responsible for those construction aspects that are subject to the electrical subcode.

Amended by R.1991 d.429, effective August 19, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1487(a), 23 N.J.R. 2501(a).

In (b), added 5 and 6.

Amended by R.1994 d.609, effective December 19, 1994 (operative April 1, 1995).

See: 26 N.J.R. 2704(a), 26 N.J.R. 5007(b).

### 5:23-10.4 Construction techniques

(a) Tier one radon hazard areas shall be identified in accordance with the county/municipal radon listing established by the Department of Environmental Protection. The current list of municipalities in tier one areas is set forth in Appendix 10-A of this subcode.

(b) The construction techniques set forth in this subsection shall be the minimum radon hazard protective features required to be incorporated into construction of buildings in Use Groups E and R in tier one areas, and may be incorporated elsewhere, in order to minimize radon and radon progeny entry and facilitate any post-construction radon removal that may be required. Enumeration of these construction techniques is not intended to preclude voluntary use of additional or more extensive techniques. Full compliance with these construction techniques is not required for additions; however, those construction techniques that are feasible shall be incorporated.

1. A continuous vapor barrier not less than six-mil (.006 inch; .152 mm) polyvinyl chloride or polyethylene with any seams overlapped not less than 12 inches (305 mm), or other approved materials, shall be installed under the slab in basement and slab-on-grade construction and on the soil in crawl space construction.

2. Floors of basements and slab on grade construction shall be placed over a base course, not less than four inches (102 mm) in thickness, consisting of gravel or crushed stone containing not more than 10 percent of material that passes through a No. 4 sieve.

3. Basement slabs with interior foundation pipe drains installed shall have a solid three-inch minimum diameter vent pipe section installed in conjunction with this drainage system and be connected to an independent vent stack pipe terminating at an approved location on the exterior of the building.

4. Basement slabs which do not have an interior foundation pipe drain, and slab on grade construction (excluding non-habitable spaces such as garages), shall be provided with one three-inch minimum solid vent pipe section with a "T" pipe fitting for every 1,500 square feet, or portion thereof, of slab area, this vent pipe section to be

installed into the sub-slab aggregate. The horizontal openings of the "T" pipe fitting shall be placed in the sub-slab aggregate. The vertical portion of the "T" pipe fitting shall be connected to an independent vent stack pipe terminating at an approved location on the exterior of the building. Where more than one vent pipe section is provided, interconnection of these sections into a single independent vent stack is permitted.

5. Basement slabs with French drains or channel drains shall not be allowed unless interior foundation pipe drains as described in this section are installed.

6. Joints in foundation walls and floors, including, without limitation, control joints between slab sections poured separately, and between foundation wall and floor (except for French drains or channel drains), as well as penetrations of the foundation walls and floor including, but not limited to, utility penetrations, shall be substantially sealed by utilizing a non-cracking polyurethane or similar caulk, or equivalent, in order to close off the soil gas entry routes. Any openings or penetrations of the floor over the crawl space shall be substantially sealed in order to close off the soil gas entry routes.

7. Untrapped floor drains shall be provided with removable stoppers which substantially close off the soil gas entry routes.

8. A sump cover which substantially closes off the soil gas entry routes shall be provided for all sump installations. If foundation pipe drains terminate at a sump installation and provisions are made for venting from the sump installation, the three-inch diameter solid vent pipe section requirement of (b)3 above need not be provided.

9. Any ductwork that is routed through a crawl space or beneath a slab shall be properly taped or sealed.

10. Sealant materials that substantially close off the soil gas entry routes shall be installed on any doors or other openings between basements and adjoining crawl spaces that are vented to the exterior.

11. The tops of foundation walls, including, without limitation, interior ledges, that are constructed of hollow masonry units shall be capped or the voids shall be completely filled.

12. The independent vent stack pipe provided in accordance with (b)3, 4 or 8 above shall be an adequately supported, gas tight, three-inch minimum diameter solid pipe, through any enclosed portions of the building. The pipe shall be routed in a manner that makes it accessible for the installation of a future in-line vent pipe fan in a non-conditioned (not heated or cooled) space, including, without limitation, an attic space, but excluding a basement or crawl space, and installed in a configuration, and supported in a manner, that will ensure that rain water or condensate accumulation within the pipes will drain downward into the ground beneath the slab or vapor barrier. The vent stack pipe shall meet the following termination requirements:

i. Vent pipes shall terminate at least 12 inches above the roof, measured from the highest point where the vent intersects the roof. When a vent pipe extension terminates on an occupiable roof the vent pipe shall extend at least seven feet above the roof surface. Exception: Buildings more than three stories in height shall be allowed to extend vent pipe terminals through a wall provided that the termination is at least 20 feet above grade and is effectively screened.

ii. No vent terminal shall be located directly beneath any door, window, or other ventilating opening of the building or of an adjacent building-nor shall any such vent terminal be within 10 feet horizontally of such an opening unless it is at least two feet above the top of such opening.

iii. No vent terminal shall be closer than 10 feet horizontally from any lot line. Where this 10 foot horizontal distance is not possible due to lot width, the vent terminal shall be placed as remote from the lot line as practicable.

13. Radon vent pipes shall be identifiable and clearly labeled at intervals of not more than 25 feet in concealed locations, not more than 50 feet in exposed locations and not less than once in any room or space.

14. Electrical junction boxes shall be installed near the provided area, such as an accessible attic space, where a future in-line vent pipe fan and system failure alarms may be installed.

15. In combination basement/crawl space or slab-on-grade/crawl space buildings a three-inch minimum solid vent pipe shall be provided between the areas and interconnected into the independent vent stack to permit use of a single in-line vent pipe fan if activation of the system is desired.

16. In order to reduce stack effect, air passages that penetrate the conditioned envelope of the building, such as attic access openings, or other openings installed in top-floor ceilings, shall be closed, gasketed or otherwise sealed with materials approved for such applications.

Amended by R.1994 d.609, effective December 19, 1994 (operative April 1, 1995).

See: 26 N.J.R. 2704(a), 26 N.J.R. 5007(b).

## APPENDIX 10-A

### New Jersey Municipalities in Tier 1

County	Municipality	
Burlington	Chesterfield	Mansfield
Camden	Magnolia	Somerdale
	Runnemede	
Cumberland	Bridgeton	
Gloucester	Deptford	Harrison
	East Greenwich	Wenonah
	Greenwich	

County	Municipality	
Hunterdon	All municipalities except Kingswood and Union	
Mercer	Ewing	Pennington
	Hopewell Borough	Princeton Borough
	Hopewell Township	Princeton Township
	Lawrence	
Middlesex	Highland Park	Piscataway
	North Brunswick	
Monmouth	Allentown	Marlboro
	Colts Neck	Roosevelt
	Freehold Borough	Shrewsbury Borough
	Freehold Township	Shrewsbury Township
	Holmdel	Upper Freehold
	Little Silver	
Morris	Chester Borough	Morris Plains
	Chester Township	Morristown
	Dover	Mount Olive
	Harding	Randolph
	Jefferson	Roxbury
	Long Hill	Victory Gardens
	Mendham Borough	Washington
	Mendham Township	Wharton
	Morris	
Passaic	Pompton Lakes	West Milford
Salem	Woodstown	
Somerset	Bernardsville	Montgomery
	Bernards	Peapack & Gladstone
	Branchburg	Rocky Hill
	Far Hills	Somerville
	Hillsborough	Warren
	Franklin	Watchung
	Millstone	
Sussex	All municipalities except Hardyston	
Warren	All municipalities	

## Public Notice.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3745(a).

Revised Tier I list issued.

Administrative change.

See: 26 N.J.R. 3707(b).

Administrative change.

See: 27 N.J.R. 3600(a).

Administrative change.

See: 28 N.J.R. 4783(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 11. PLAYGROUND SAFETY SUBCODE

### Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123.10.

### Source and Effective Date

R.1999 d.351, effective October 18, 1999.

See: 31 N.J.R. 1838(a), 31 N.J.R. 3082(a).

### 5:23-11.1 Subcode adopted

(a) Pursuant to authority of P.L. 1999, c.50 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123.9 et seq.), the Commissioner hereby adopts the playground safety guidelines of the United States Consumer

Product Safety Commission, known as the 1997 edition of the "Handbook for Public Playground Safety" (Pub. No. 325). These guidelines are hereby adopted by reference as the Playground Safety Subcode for New Jersey.

1. Copies of these guidelines may be obtained from the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, Office of Information and Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20207.

2. The "Handbook for Public Playground Safety" may be known and cited as the "Playground Safety Subcode."

(b) Only those guidelines that govern design, installation, inspection and maintenance of playgrounds and playground equipment shall be deemed to be mandatory. Guidelines concerning supervision and training of personnel shall be deemed to be advisory only.

### 5:23-11.2 Definition

For purposes of this subchapter, "playground" shall mean an improved area designed, equipped, and set aside for play of six or more children, which is not intended for use as an athletic playing field or athletic court, and shall include any play equipment, surfacing, fencing, signs, internal pathways, internal land forms, vegetation, and related structures.

### 5:23-11.3 Enforcement of subcode

(a) No permit shall be required for any element of playground construction that is not otherwise subject to the permit requirements of the State Uniform Construction Code.

(b) Compliance with the requirements of this subcode shall be the responsibility of the manager of the facility, of the owner of the facility and of the agency responsible for the administration of the facility.

(c) The facility manager and/or facility owner or agency responsible for administration of the facility shall certify in writing that any work performed complies with, and the facility is maintained in accordance with, all applicable provisions of this subcode and shall retain this certification on file.

(d) Complaints regarding lack of compliance with this subcode shall be in writing and shall be directed to the facility manager and the facility owner or agency responsible for administration of the facility. The facility manager or owner or administering agency shall respond in writing within 30 days to any written complaint received detailing the position taken with respect to the complaint. If the facility manager or owner or administering agency fails to respond in a manner satisfactory to the party registering the complaint, then the party shall have recourse to the appeals process as set forth at N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.38.

**5:23-11.4 Compliance schedule**

(a) All governmental and for-profit private entities operating playgrounds shall upgrade their playgrounds by replacement or improvement as necessary to comply with this subcode by October 18, 2004 for surfacing and by October 18, 2007 for all other elements, or, in the case of governmental entities, at such earlier date as State funds are made available for such purpose.

(b) All nonprofit entities operating playgrounds shall upgrade their playgrounds by replacement or improvement as necessary to comply with this subcode by October 18, 2004 for surfacing and by October 18, 2014 for all other elements.

(c) All newly constructed playgrounds built, and all new and replacement equipment installed, by a governmental, nonprofit or private for-profit entity more than six months after October 18, 1999 shall conform to the requirements of this subcode.

(d) All construction or alteration of playgrounds, playground equipment and surfacing that are subject to the Playground Safety Subcode shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Barrier-Free Subcode (N.J.A.C. 5:23-7).

1. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.18(d) and CABO/ANSI A117.1, Section 4.5, surfaces of all routes and spaces required to be accessible shall be stable, firm and slip-resistant. Sand and gravel shall therefore not be used as surfacing materials when new equipment is being installed, or a new safety surface is being put in place, and the barrier-free subcode is therefore applicable.

## SUBCHAPTER 12. ELEVATOR SAFETY SUBCODE

**5:23-12.1 Title; scope; intent**

(a) This subchapter of the rules adopted pursuant to the authority of the Uniform Construction Code Act, entitled "Elevator Safety Subcode," shall be known and cited throughout this chapter as subchapter 12 or N.J.A.C. 5:23-12, and when referred to in this subchapter may be cited as "this subchapter."

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided, all references to paragraphs, sections, or to provisions not specifically identified, shall be construed to refer to such paragraph or section or provision of this subchapter.

(c) This subchapter shall control all matters relating to administration of tests and inspections of elevator devices as defined in (e) below.

(d) It is the purpose of this subchapter to enhance the public safety, health and welfare by ensuring that elevator devices as defined in this subchapter are periodically inspected and maintained in accordance with nationally recognized, referenced standards.

(e) For purposes of this subchapter, "elevator" or "elevator device" means a hoisting and lowering device equipped with a car or platform which moves in guides for the transportation of individuals or freight in a substantially vertical direction through successive floors or levels of a building or structure; or, a power driven, inclined, continuous stairway used for raising or lowering passengers; or, a type of passenger carrying device on which passengers stand or walk, and in which the passenger carrying surface remains parallel to its direction of motion and is uninterrupted. This includes, without limitation, elevators, escalators, moving walks, dumbwaiters, wheelchair lifts, manlifts, stairway chairlifts and any device within the scope of ASME A17.1 (Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators) or ASME A90.1 (Safety Standard for Belt Manlifts).

1. This definition shall not apply to any conveyor devices that are process equipment.

**5:23-12.2 Referenced standards**

(a) Periodic, routine and acceptance tests and inspections, if applicable, shall be required on all new, altered and existing power elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, moving walks, wheelchair lifts, manlifts and stairway chairlifts in accordance with the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode. This subsection shall not apply to elevator devices in structures in Use Groups R-3 or R-4, or to any elevator device located wholly within a dwelling unit in an R-2 structure if the device is not accessible to the general public.

(b) All operating and electrical parts and accessory equipment or devices for elevator devices shall be maintained in safe operating condition. The maintenance of elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators shall conform to the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode.

(c) (Reserved)

(d) If, upon inspection of any elevator device subject to the requirements of this subchapter, the equipment is found to be in a dangerous condition, or if there is an immediate hazard to persons riding on or using any such device, or if the design, or the method of operation in combination with the design, of the device is determined to be inherently dangerous by the elevator subcode official, the elevator subcode official shall so advise the construction official so that a notice of unsafe structure may be issued pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.32.

(e) Inspection and testing procedures for equipment within the scope (section 1) of the ASME A17.1 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators shall be performed in accordance with the latest edition of ASME A17.2.

(f) Any education, experience or training requirements included or cited in reference standards shall not be binding in this State.

Amended by R.1993 d.662, effective December 20, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3891(a), 25 N.J.R. 5918(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.564, effective November 6, 1995 (operative March 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 2829(a), 27 N.J.R. 4281(a).

### 5:23-12.3 Inspection and test schedule

(a) Routine, periodic and acceptance inspections and test of elevators shall be conducted as follows:

1. Routine and periodic inspections shall be made at intervals of not more than six months for all manlifts, and at intervals not exceeding those set forth in ASME A17.1 referenced in the most recent edition of the building subcode for elevators, escalators and dumbwaiters and moving walks. Stairway chairlifts and wheelchair lifts shall be inspected at intervals not exceeding one year.

2. Routine tests shall be made and periodic tests shall be witnessed at intervals not exceeding those set forth in the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode.

3. Routine and periodic inspections, including any applicable acceptance inspections, shall be made by the elevator subcode official or elevator inspector. Routine tests shall be made and periodic tests, including any applicable acceptance tests, shall be witnessed by the elevator subcode official or elevator inspector.

4. Each building containing devices covered by this subchapter shall have an inspection cycle established by the enforcing agency. This cycle shall be consistent with the routine and periodic inspection and test intervals required in this section. Once this cycle is established, all such devices in the building shall be subject to inspections and tests, except as exempted by this section or by N.J.A.C. 5:23-12.9.

i. Elevator devices that have been temporarily taken out of operation for alteration work to be performed shall be exempt from routine and periodic inspection and test requirements as long as the elevator device is not accessible to the public or placed back in operation. Those devices that are still in operation, even though they are included in the alteration permit, shall be subject to routine and periodic inspections within the cycle of inspections in the building.

ii. Elevator devices that have been removed from service as per ASME A17.1 are exempt from routine and periodic inspections and tests until the device is placed back in service as per ASME A17.1, which is referenced in the building subcode. Taking a device in or out of service by Code shall be considered minor work within the meaning of N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.17A.

iii. Elevator devices that are used for construction purposes as per ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode are subject to inspections and tests required by ASME A17.1 for elevators used for construction. Such devices shall not be accessible to the public. During the operation of the device for construction purposes the owner shall assure that the device is used only for construction purposes by providing a designated operator, authorizing of key operation or by other methods acceptable to the elevator subcode official.

5. Elevator devices in structures classified as Use Group R-3 and R-4, except those elevator devices accessible to the public, shall be exempt from periodic inspection and test requirements. Elevator devices wholly within dwelling units in R-2 structures and not accessible to the general public shall also be exempt. In addition, signed statements and supporting inspection and acceptance test reports, filed by an approved qualified agent or agency for elevator devices in such structures, other than elevator devices accessible to the public, may be accepted by the construction official, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.19 and 2.20, in lieu of inspections performed by and acceptance tests witnessed by the enforcing agency for work requiring a permit. If the construction official designates the elevator subcode official to perform the inspection and to witness acceptance test for work under a permit in such structures, those inspections and tests shall assure compliance with the requirements of the code(s) under which the permit was issued.

Amended by R.1995 d.476, effective September 5, 1995 (operative January 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 1846(a), 27 N.J.R. 3325(b).

Added (a)4 and 5.

### 5:23-12.4 Registration of elevator devices

(a) On or before July 1, 1992, and thereafter as required by (e) below, the owner of every existing structure containing one or more elevator device, other than a structure in Use Group R-3 or R-4, or other than an elevator device wholly within a dwelling unit in an R-2 structure that is not accessible to the general public, shall register each elevator device with the Department on a form provided by the Commissioner.