



Sioux Falls Fire Rescue



Fire Prevention Division
224 W. 9th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Phone 605-367-8093
Fax 605-367-8138

Fire and Life-Safety Checklist: Educational Occupancies

The following Fire Code requirements are specific for ***Educational*** occupancies and should be used as a *supplement* to the "**Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist**".

Fire Safety and Evacuation Plans/Fire Drills

- An approved fire safety and evacuation plan shall be prepared and maintained.
- Evacuation Drills shall be conducted four times per school year with all occupants participating.
- The first emergency evacuation drill of each school year shall be conducted within 10 days of the beginning of classes.
- A log recording the date of such drills shall be kept on the premises.
- Emergency evacuation plans shall be conspicuously posted in classroom and assembly areas.

Decorative items

- The hanging and displaying of decorative materials from acoustical ceiling systems that are part of a fire-resistance-rated floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly shall be prohibited. 703.3
- Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of corridors to not more than 20 percent of the wall area. 807.4.4.2
- Curtains, draperies, hangings and other decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with Section 806.2 or be noncombustible. 807.1
- The following items are not allowed in the building:
 - o Natural cut trees. 806.1.1
 - o Furnishings or decorative materials of an explosive or highly flammable character. 807.4.1
- Clothing and personal effects shall not be stored in corridors and lobbies unless **1)** the corridor is protected by either an approved automatic sprinkler system or smoke detection system, or **2)** storage items are in metal lockers, (provided the minimum required egress width is maintained). 807.4.3.1

Commercial Kitchen Hood Systems [See also ..."Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- Class K extinguishers shall be located within 30 feet of commercial cooking equipment involving solid fuels or vegetable or animal oils and fats; or if equipped with deep fat fryers (one Class K portable fire extinguisher of a minimum 1.5 gallon capacity is required for every 4 fryers (maximum cooking medium capacity of the fryers = 80 pounds each)).

Fire Department Access

- 3ft clear unobstructed access to fire hydrants and fire protection equipment shall be maintained at all times.
- Fire Department key box shall be installed on all buildings equipped with fire protection systems. [See *Key Box* section in "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]
- Rooms containing controls for fire detection, suppression or control elements (i.e. air-conditioning systems, sprinkler risers and valves) shall be identified for the use of the fire department. Approved signs shall be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and readily visible. 509.1
- Where the fire department connection (FDC) is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the FDC shall be indicated by an approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6 inches high and words in letters at least 2 inches high or an arrow to indicate the location. All such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.
 - Does the FDC have the required caps in place?

Fire Alarm Systems

[See also... "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- An *approved* fire alarm system shall be installed and provide occupant notification in existing educational occupancies. [**Exceptions:** *A manual fire alarm system is not required in Group E occupancies with either 1) A maximum area of 1,000 square feet that contains a single classroom and is located no closer than 50 feet from another building; or 2) has an occupant load less than 50.*]

Exiting – Doors, Signs & Aisles

[See also... "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- Fire doors cannot be propped open.

See "**Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist**" for additional information on the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguishers | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Kitchen Hood Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Sprinklers | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Lanes/Fire Hydrants/Fire Department Connections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Alarms | <input type="checkbox"/> Key Boxes (Emergency Fire Department Access Key Boxes) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exiting – Doors, Signs and Aisles | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exit Signs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Lighting/Egress Lighting | |

If you have additional questions concerning fire inspections, please contact us at 367-8093.