RULE

Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Uniform Construction Code Council

Uniform Construction Code (LAC 55:VI.301 and 901)

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D), R.S. 40:1730.26 and R.S. 40:1730.28, relative to the authority of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) to promulgate and enforce rules and in accordance with R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) hereby amends and adopts the following Rule regarding construction codes and registration by replacing the Louisiana one- and two-family supplement to the 2006 *International Mechanical Code* with the 2012 IRC Part V-Mechanical, replacing the 2006 IRC chapter 11 reference with the 2009 IRC chapter 11 reference, adopting appendix G of the 2012 IRC and by allowing currently employed individuals to have provisional certifications if promoted to a position.

Title 55
PUBLIC SAFETY
Part VI. Uniform Construction Code

Chapter 3. Adoption of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code

§301. Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code

A. In accordance with the requirements set forth in R.S. 40:1730.28, effective January 1, 2015 the following is hereby adopted as an amendment to the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code. (The "Louisiana State Plumbing Code" shall replace all references to the "International Plumbing Code" in the following codes.)

1. - 2. …

3.a. *International Residential Code*, 2012 Edition, not including Parts I-Administrative, VII-Plumbing and VIII-Electrical. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state. The enforcement of such standards shall be mandatory only with respect to new construction, reconstruction, additions to homes previously built to the International Residential Code, and extensive alterations. Appendix G, Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs is adopted and at the option of a parish, municipality, or regional planning commission, Section AG105 Barrier Requirements may be altered. Appendix J, Existing Buildings and Structures, may be adopted and enforced only at the option of a parish, municipality, or regional planning commission.

a.i. - c.i. …

d. Amend Section R303.4 Mechanical Ventilation. When a blower door test is performed, and the air infiltration rate of a dwelling unit is less than 5 air changes per hour when tested in accordance with the 2009 IRC Section N1102.4.2.1, the dwelling unit shall be provided with whole-house mechanical ventilation in accordance with Section M1507.3.

e. Additionally, IRC shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the International Residential Code.

i. Adopt and Amend 2012 IRC Section 313.1 Townhouse Automatic Sprinkler System. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the International Residential Code or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Where no sprinkler system is installed a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall. Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with the 2011 NEC. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4

(a). Exception: If an owner voluntarily chooses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.1.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for *townhouses* shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1 (2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

ii. Adopt and Amend 2012 IRC Section 313.2 One- and Two-Family Dwellings Automatic Fire Systems. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the *International Residential Code* or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings.

(a). Exception: If an owner voluntarily choses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.2.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1(2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

iii. Amend Chapter 3, Section R315.2, Where Required in Existing Dwellings. When alterations, repairs or additions occur or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings that have attached garages or in existing dwellings within which fuel fired appliances exist, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section R315.1.

iv. Substitute Chapter 3, Section R317, Dwelling Unit Separation of the 2006 IRC, in lieu of the Section 313, Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems of the 2009 IRC. In addition, Chapter 3, Section R 302.2, Townhouses of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows.

(a). Exceptions

(i). A common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall.

(ii). Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with Chapters 34 through 43. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4.

(iii). Chapter 3, Section R302.2.4, Structural Independence of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows: Exception: Number 5, Townhouses, separated by a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall as provided in Section R302.2.

v. Adopt 2012 IRC Table 602.3 (1) Fastening Requirements.

vi. Amend 2012 IRC Section R703.8 Flashing. Approved corrosion-resistant flashing shall be applied shingle-fashion in a manner to prevent entry of water into the wall cavity or penetration of water to the building structural framing components. Self-adhered membranes used as flashing shall comply with AAMA 711. The flashing shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish. Approved corrosion-resistant flashings shall be installed at all of the following locations:

(a). exterior window and door openings. Flashing at exterior window and door openings shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish or to the water-resistive barrier for subsequent drainage;

(b). at the intersection of chimneys or other masonry construction with frame or stucco walls, with projecting lips on both sides under stucco copings;

(c). under and at the ends of masonry, wood or metal copings and sills;

(d). continuously above all projecting wood trim;

(e). where exterior porches, decks or stairs attach to a wall or floor assembly of wood-frame construction;

(f). at wall and roof intersections;

(g). at built-in gutters.

vii. Adopt 2012 IRC Section R802.11 Roof tie-down.

viii. Adopt 2012 IRC Table R802.11 Rafters.

ix. Amend Section R806.1 Ventilation Required.

(a). Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow. Ventilation openings shall have a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Ventilation openings having a least dimension larger than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) shall be provided with corrosion-resistant wire cloth screening, hardware cloth, or similar material with openings having a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Openings in roof framing members shall conform to the requirements of Section R802.7. Required ventilation openings shall open directly to the outside air.

x. Amend Section R 1006.1 Exterior Air. Factory-built or masonry fireplaces covered in this chapter shall be equipped with an exterior air supply to assure proper fuel combustion.

f. Substitute Chapter 11, Energy Efficiency of the 2009 IRC, in lieu of Chapter 11 Energy Efficiency of the 2012 IRC.

i. Amend Section N1102.3 Access Hatches and Doors. Access doors from *conditioned spaces* to unconditioned spaces shall be weather-stripped and have a minimum insulation value of a R-4.

ii.. Amend Section N1102.4.2 Air Sealing and Insulation. The air tightness demonstration method of compliance is to be determined by the contractor, design professional or homeowner.

iii.. Amend Section N1102.4.2.1 Testing Option. Tested air leakage is less than 7 ACH when tested with a blower door at a pressure of 50 pascals (0.007 psi). Testing shall occur after rough in and after installation of

penetrations of the building envelope, including penetrations for utilities, plumbing, electrical, ventilation and combustion appliances. When the contractor, design professional or homeowner chooses the blower door testing option, blower door testing shall be performed by individuals certified to perform blower door tests by a nationally recognized organization that trains and provides certification exams for the proper procedures to perform such tests. The responsible BCEO shall accept written blower door test reports from these certified individuals to verify the minimum requirements of Section N1102.4.2.1 Testing Option are attained.

(a). During testing:

(i). exterior windows and doors, fireplace and stove doors shall be closed, but not sealed;

(ii). dampers shall be closed, but not sealed; including exhaust, intake, makeup air, back draft, and flue dampers;

(iii). interior doors shall be open;

(iv). exterior openings for continuous ventilation systems and heat recovery ventilators shall be closed and sealed;

(v). heating and cooling system(s) shall be turned off;

(vi). HVAC ducts shall not be sealed; and

(vii). supply and return registers shall not be sealed.

iv. Amend Section N1102.4.3 Fireplaces, New wood-burning fireplaces shall have outdoor combustion air.

vi. Amend Section N1103.2.2 Sealing, Ducts, air handlers, filter boxes and building cavities used as ducts shall be sealed. Joints and seams shall comply with section M1601.4. Duct leakage testing shall be performed by individuals certified to perform duct leakage tests by a nationally recognized organization that trains and provides certification exams for the proper procedures to perform such tests. The responsible BCEO shall accept written duct leakage test reports from these certified individuals to verify the minimum requirements of Section N1103.2.2 Sealing are attained.

(a). Exception: HVAC Contractors. HVAC contractors, who are not certified to perform duct leakage tests, may perform the test with the responsible BCEO visually verifying test procedures and results on site.

(b). Joints and seams shall comply with section M1601.4. Duct tightness shall be verified by either for the following:

(i). Post-Construction Test. Leakage to outdoors shall be less than or equal to 8 cfm (3.78 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area or a total leakage less than or equal to 12 cfm (5.66 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the entire system, including the manufacturer's air handler end closure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during the test.

(ii). Rough-In Test. Total leakage shall be less than or equal to 6 cfm (2.83 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the roughed in system, including the manufacturer's air handler enclosure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during the test. If the air handler is not installed at the time of the test, total leakage shall be less than or equal to 4 cfm (1.89 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area.

(c). Exception: Duct tightness test is not required if the air handler and all ducts are located within *conditioned space*.

vii. Amend Section N1103.8.3 Pool Covers. Pool covers shall not be required to meet the energy efficiency requirements of this Section.

viii. Amend Section M1307.3.1 Protection from Impact. Appliances shall not be installed in a location subject to automobile or truck damage except where protected by approved barriers

ix. Amend Section M1507.3.1 System Design. The whole-house ventilation system shall consist of a combination of supply and exhaust fans, and associated ducts and controls. Local exhaust and supply fans are permitted to serve as such a system. Outdoor air ducts connected to the return side of an air handler shall be considered to provide supply ventilation.

x. Amend Section M1507.3.2 System Controls. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be provided with controls that enable manual override and a method of air-flow adjustment.

xi. Amend Section M1507.3.3 Mechanical Ventilation Rate. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be able to provide outdoor air at a continuous rate of at least that determined in accordance with Table M1507.3.3(1).

xii. Amend Section M1507.4 Minimum Required Local Exhaust. Local exhaust systems shall be designed to have the capacity to exhaust the minimum air flow rate as follows.

(a). Kitchen: 100 cfm intermittent or 25 cfm continuous, a balanced ventilation system is required for continuous exhaust.

(b). Bathrooms: exhaust capacity of 50 cfm intermittent or 20 cfm continuous, a balanced ventilation system is required for continuous exhaust.

4.a. *International Mechanical Code* (IMC), 2012 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

4.b. - 7. …

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34: 883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), amended LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014).

Chapter 9. Temporary Exemption to Certification Requirement

§901. Employment after January 1, 2007

A. Upon employment or if currently employed and promoted to a specific certification by a parish, municipality, or other political subdivision, an individual must be granted a provisional certificate of registration without certification by a recognized code organization or testing agency, provided that such individual is under the supervision of a registered code enforcement officer who is certified by the International Code Council.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:293 (February 2007), amended LR 35:2821 (December 2009), repromulgated LR 36:329 (February 2010), amended LR 40:2611 (December 2014).

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