

DATE: September 27, 2017

TO: Cassandra Nash, Associate Vice Chancellor of UNT System Design and Construction

FROM: Pat L. Dunlap, UNT System Fire Marshal/FPE; AHJ

RE: UNT System Design and Construction Codes

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For all building construction projects on state-owned and state-controlled property (including privately owned buildings built on state-owned and state-controlled property), state agency leased buildings and leased spaces, the 2015 editions of the *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life-Safety Code* and *NFPA 1 Fire Code* shall be used as the primary building design codes. Where NFPA 101 or NFPA 1 do not address the specific design/construction under consideration, the adopted edition of the International Code Conference (ICC) code applicable to the design/construction discipline shall be used.

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The following standards/codes shall be used however, this list is not to be considered all-inclusive:

**NFPA Codes/Standards to use<sup>1</sup> are, but not limited to:**

- 2015 edition *NFPA 1 Fire Code*;
- 2015 edition *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 13 Standard for the Installation of [Fire] Sprinkler Systems*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 13R Standard for the Installation of [Fire] Sprinklers in Low-Rise Residential Buildings*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 14 Standards for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 20 Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 24 Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*;
- 2017 edition *NFPA 70 National Electrical Code*;
- 2013 edition *NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Signaling Code*;

**International Code Conference (ICC) codes to use<sup>2</sup>:**

- 2015 edition *International Building Code (IBC)*;
- \*2015 edition *International Mechanical Code (IMC)*; **effective Jan. 1, 2018**. Work started before January 1, 2018 may be completed under the 2012 IMC.

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted by the Commissioner of the Texas Department of Insurance.

<sup>2</sup> Authorized by the UNT System Board of Regents.

- 2015 edition *International Plumbing Code (IPC)*;
- 2015 edition *International Fire Code (IFC)*;
- \*2015 edition *International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)*. **effective Jan. 1, 2018**. Work started before January 1, 2018 may be completed under the 2012 IFGC.

### Local Jurisdiction Codes:

The State Fire Marshal's Office has directed all state universities and agencies who depend on local fire departments for emergency response and fire suppression to design their construction project with the local fire department in mind. Building and site design shall ensure water supply for fire suppression; fire department access to buildings; locations and compatibility of fire hydrant and fire department connections; fire sprinkler systems; standpipe and hose systems; alarm systems; and other emergency equipment for buildings are constructed for use by the respective local fire department<sup>3</sup>. Local fire code amendments of the respective city where the construction is located (UNT, UNTHSC, UNT Dallas, UNT System campus locations are: Denton, Ft. Worth, Dallas or Frisco), pertaining to the State Fire Marshal's directive, shall be incorporated into the project's design and construction.

**KNOX<sup>®</sup> key boxes** are required to be installed on all state-owned buildings, on buildings located on state-owned or state-controlled property (includes privately owned buildings built on state-owned or state-controlled property) and on buildings leased by or containing leased space by a state agency. For ordering details, contact the UNT System Fire Marshal -- [pat.dunlap@untsystem.edu](mailto:pat.dunlap@untsystem.edu) or [Michael.Laws@untsystem.edu](mailto:Michael.Laws@untsystem.edu).

### **For projects located on the UNT Campus at Denton, TX., refer to requirements in the latest revision of:**

- *Design & Construction Guidelines – The University of North Texas* (<https://facilities.unt.edu/resources>. Select: "Projects & Renovations", then select: "Design Guidelines – UNT").
- *Design Guidelines Specific to UNT Discovery Park –* (<https://facilities.unt.edu/resources>. Select: "Design Guidelines –RP Appendix".

### Accessibility Standard:

- 2012 *Texas Accessibility Standards (2012 TAS)*. (*Elimination of Architectural Barriers Texas Government Code, Chapter 469. Administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. Effective March 15, 2012*).

### Elevator and Escalator Construction Standard:

- *Elevators, Escalators and Related Equipment, Administrative Rules of the Texas*

<sup>3</sup> Memorandum to State Universities "Co-operation with Local Jurisdictions and Fire Departments", G. Mike Davis, State Fire Marshal, July 1, 2001; Chris Connealy, State Fire Marshal, February 4, 2016.

*Department of Licensing and Regulation, 16 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 74, §74.100 (Effective February 15, 2016).*

- *2015 International Building Code (IBC), Chapter 30.*

**Energy Conservation Codes:**

- **ASHRAE 90.1-2010**  
*The [ASHRAE 90.1-2010] code applies to any state-funded new construction or major renovation project<sup>4</sup>, except low-rise residential buildings<sup>5</sup>, with a **design assignment made between September 1, 2011 and June 1, 2016**. Code Reference: 34 Tex. Admin. Code, Part 1, Subchapter C, §19.32.*
- **New Energy Codes - Effective June 1, 2016**  
*State-funded buildings with a **design assignment made on or after June 1, 2016** will be required to comply with ASHRAE 90.1 2013 or the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as the standard for new construction or major renovation projects, except low-rise residential buildings. Low-rise residential buildings are required to use the 2015 IECC. Code Reference: 34 Tex. Admin. Code, Part 1, Subchapter C, §19.32.*

**END**

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<sup>4</sup> Major Renovation Projects: For the purposes of this subchapter, a major renovation project is a building renovation or improvement where the implementation cost associated with energy or water efficiency improvements is \$2 million or more, based on the initial engineering cost estimate. 34 Tex. Admin. Code §19.33.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §19.33 adopted to be effective August 13, 2002, 27 TexReg 7174; amended to be effective September 28, 2011, 36 TexReg 6303; amended to be effective April 7, 2016, 41 TexReg 2495.

<sup>5</sup> Low-Rise Residential Building: Buildings not more than three stories in height above grade that includes sleeping accommodations and a separate means of egress, and where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature (30 or more days in occupancy).