



DATE: October 6, 2016

TO: Cassandra Nash, Associate Vice Chancellor of System Facilities

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

RE: UNT System Design and Construction Codes

For construction projects on state-owned and leased properties, the 2012 editions of the *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) NFPA 101 Life-Safety Code* and *NFPA 1 Fire Code* shall be used as the primary codes for building design and construction. Where there is discrepancy between these NFPA codes and other design/construction codes, NFPA 101 and NFPA 1 shall take precedence. Where the NFPA codes/standards do not address the specific design or construction being considered, the International Code applicable to the design/construction discipline may be used (i.e., general plumbing is not specifically addressed in NFPA 101, NFPA 1 or in a referenced NFPA standard therefore, the *International Plumbing Code* is applicable).

Per direction of the State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO), state universities are also obligated to “. . . *co-operate with local jurisdictions and fire departments.* . . .”¹, by ensuring adequate water supply and building access to local municipal fire departments who provide fire suppression service to the university.

The following is not to be considered an all-inclusive list of codes and standards:

NFPA Codes/Standards to use are, but not limited to:

- 2012 edition *NFPA 1 Fire Code*;
- 2012 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*;

¹ Memorandum to State Universities “Co-operation with Local Jurisdictions and Fire Departments”, G. Mike Davis, State Fire Marshal, July 1, 2001.

- 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*;
- 2014 edition NFPA 70 *National Electric Code*;
- 2013 edition NFPA 72 *National Fire Alarm Signaling Code*;

International Code Conference (ICC) codes to use:

- 2012 edition *International Building Code*;
- 2012 edition *International Mechanical Code*;
- 2012 edition *International Plumbing Code*;
- 2012 edition *International Fire Code*;
- 2012 edition *International Fuel Gas Code*.

Accessibility Standard to use – State-Funded Buildings:

- 2012 edition *Architectural Barriers Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS)*.

UNTS Specifications:

- *UNTS Design & Construction Guidelines Manual, Rev 6.2014*.
- *KNOX® boxes* are required to be installed on all buildings owned or leased by UNT or UNT System, and on all privately owned buildings constructed on property owned or leased by UNT or UNT System.

Energy Conservation Codes to use:

- **ASHRAE 90.1-2010**

*The code applies to any state-funded new construction or major renovation project², except low-rise residential buildings³, with a **design assignment made on or after September 1, 2011**. Code Reference: 34 Tex. Admin. Code §19.32*

- **New Energy Code - Effective June 1, 2016**

*SECO amended the establishing ASHRAE 90.1 2013 or the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as the standard for state-funded new construction or major renovation projects, except low-rise residential buildings. For low-rise residential buildings, the code was amended to the 2015 IECC. State-funded buildings with a **design assignment made on or after June 1, 2016** will be required to comply with the new codes. Code Reference: 34 Texas Administrative Code §19.32*

Elevator and Escalator Construction Standard:

- *Elevators, Escalators and Related Equipment, Administrative Rules of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation [TDLR], 16 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 74 (Effective February 15, 2016):*
 - ASME Code A17.1-2007 as amended in §74.100(b);

² 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.*

³ 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).*

- ASME Code A17.3-2002;
- ASME Code A18.1-2005; and
- ASCE Code 21.

Local Jurisdiction Codes to use:

- City of Denton, TX. Fire Code amendments pertaining to building access & fire protection systems.
- City of Dallas, TX. Fire Code amendments pertaining to building access & fire protection systems.
- City of Ft. Worth, TX. Fire Code amendments pertaining to building access & fire protection systems.
- City of Frisco, TX. Fire Code amendments pertaining to building access & fire protection systems.