

2019 California Fire Code (CFC) - OCFA Amendment Summary

Legend

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Revised	A modified version of the 2016 amendment is being carried forward. Changes in scope or wording are significant relative to the 2016 version, or they may impact regulatory effect.
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2019 CFC CODE SECTION	2016 Code Section	TITLE/SUBJECT	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	STATUS
Chapter 1 - Scope & Administration				
110.4	109.4	Violation penalties	Clarifies administrative violation process; fines now based on OCFA adopted fee schedule.	Existing
110.4.2	109.4.2	Infraction & Misdemeanor	Used for purpose of applying penalties under 109.4. Amendment combines definitions of infraction and misdemeanor under one section--scope of infraction/misdemeanor modified compared to 2013 version.	Existing
Chapter 2 - Definitions				
202	202	Definitions	Deleted definitions related to sky lantern (see 308.1.6.3 for state-adoption). Definition of "OCFA" added for clarity. Spark arrester unchanged.	Revised: One definition removed and one carried forward unmodified
Chapter 3 - General Requirements				
304.1.2	304.1.2	Vegetation	Aligns maintenance to OCFA Guideline C-05 requirements. Existing amendment language modified to align better with Guideline.	Revised
305.6	305.6.2	Hazardous Conditions	Prohibits outdoor fires during hazardous weather conditions.	Revised
305.7	305.7	Disposal of Rubbish	Prohibits open burning of trash, leaves, and other debris.	Existing
307	307	Open burning, recreational fires, fire pits, fire rings, and outdoor fireplaces	Administrative change to the section title to include fire pits and fire rings regulated under amendments in 307.6. No change from previous amendment.	Existing
307.6	307.6	Outdoor Fireplaces, Fire Pits, Fire Rings, or similar devices used at Group R Occupancies.	Addresses requirements for outdoor fireplaces, fire pits, fire rings. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity for the exception.	Existing
307.6.1	307.6.1	Gas-fueled devices	Prohibits gas fire pits within 3' of R-3 occupancy or 10' of other R occupancies; modified to reference amended definition for spark arrester	Existing
307.6.2	307.6.2	Devices using wood or fuels other than natural gas or LPG	Prohibits solid fuel within 15' of combustibles unless in a fireplace; modified referenced section numbers	Existing
307.6.2.1	307.6.2.1	Where prohibited	Prohibits solid fuel fires in fuel mod zone, and in Wildland-Urban Interface/Wildfire Risk Area outside of fireplaces; modified to match adopted code terminology	Existing

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308.1.4	308.1.4	Open-flame cooking devices	Prohibits charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices on balconies	Deleted - As some cities did adopt this in 2016, OCFA recommends deleting this section for those cities and not to adopt for all the other cities.
308.1.6.3	324	Sky lanterns	Revised section to be in line with 2016 code	Revised - From 324, CFC added section in 2019
309.3.1	309.2.1	Indoor charging of electric cars	Existing amendment addressing hazards associated with rechargeable vehicle batteries; deleted and relocated to new CFC Chapter 12 Section 1201-1.	Deleted
311.5 et seq	311.5 et seq	Placards	Per city code enforcement/muni code regulations	Deleted
321	320	Fuel modification requirements for new construction	Codifies requirements for fuel modification in properties adjacent to areas with combustible vegetation hazards. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity, but no material change in content or effect.	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.
322	321	Clearance of brush or vegetation growth from roadways	Authorizes clearance of vegetation from edges of roadways to reduce ignition hazard	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.
323	322	Unusual circumstances	Provides for suspension of or alternative methods of compliance with vegetation maintenance standards under specific circumstances	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.
324	323	Use of equipment	Requires use of spark arrester on equipment used in wildfire prone areas; reference to code Section 323.1 is changed to Section 202. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity, but no material change in content or effect.	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.
324.1	323.1	Use of equipment and devices generating heat, sparks or open flames	Adopts a modified version of Public Resources Code requirement (30' setback instead of 10') for hazardous activities in wildland risk areas based on the cause of multiple fires in OCFA jurisdiction.	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.
324.2	323.2	Spark arresters	Existing amendment is modified to reflect and reference newly added Section 202 definition, but no material change in effect.	Existing - CFC code section code section changed.

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N/A	324	Sky Lanterns or similar devices	Prohibits use of sky lanterns as they are an uncontrolled ignition source; exception for tethering has been removed as it is not an effective fire safety measure in practice.	Deleted - See 308.1.6.1

Chapter 4 - Emergency Planning and Preparedness

407.5	407.5	Hazardous Material Inventory Statement	Reference to Hazardous material Inventory Statement is replaced by "OCFA's Chemical Classification packet" for consistency with Ch.50 language	Existing
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Chapter 5- Fire Service Features

501.1	501.1	Scope	Adopt Guideline B-09 and B-09a for fire department access and firefighting water standards. Per CalFIRE, adoption of B-09/B-09a necessary to apply local requirements in State Responsibility Area (SRA) and to ensure consistency in application of requirements throughout SRA with other areas within OCFA jurisdiction. B-09 provides development standards for criteria referred to throughout CFC Ch.5 "as approved" or "as required by the fire code official." It includes requirements for fire lane measurement, fire lane width in wildfire hazard areas and size of address numbers that were previously separate amendments.	Existing
	503.2.1	Dimensions (Fire Lanes)	Specified how to measure road width between flow-lines. Requirement in Guideline B-09, proposed to be adopted.	Deleted--see 501.1
	505.1	Address identification	Specified 6" numbers for commercial/multi-family residential building addresses. Requirement already in Guideline B-09, proposed to be adopted.	Deleted--see 501.1
510.1	510.1	Emergency responder radio coverage in new buildings	Amendment makes reference to local authority having jurisdiction's ordinance and specifies types of buildings where an emergency responder radio system is required	Revised
510.2	510.2	Emergency responder radio coverage in existing buildings	Deleted requirement for existing buildings	Deleted
510.4.2.2	N/A	Technical Criteria	Amendment incorporates more specifics for the design of emergency responder radio system.	Deleted - Pending coordination with OCC

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510.5.1	N/A	Approval prior to installation	Amended to require plan submittal/coordination/approval from Orange County Sheriff--Communications and Technology Division and requires approved plans to be provided to Building Official in addition to OCFA	Deleted - Pending coordination with OCC
510.5.2	N/A	Minimum qualification of personnel	Requires licensed/certified designer/installer	Deleted - Pending coordination
510.5.3	N/A	Acceptance test procedure	Specifies that annual inspections to be done by FCC licensed technician and Orange County Sheriff--Communications and Technology Division technician	Deleted - Pending coordination with OCC
510.6.1	N/A	Testing and proof of compliance	Designates building owner as responsible party for annual testing. Provides more specific requirements for testing and certification	Deleted - Pending coordination with OCC

Chapter 6 - Building Services and Systems

Chapter 9 - Fire Protection Systems

903.2	903.2	Where required (Sprinklers)	Existing amendment. Requires sprinklers in new buildings based on size. Requires sprinkler retrofit in buildings undergoing addition based on various area criteria. Revised to allow exception for open parking garages.	Existing
903.2.8	903.2.8	Group R (Sprinklers)	Requires sprinkler retrofit in homes undergoing addition or remodel based on various area criteria.	Revised - added model language for some cities amendment for consistency purposes
903.3.5.3	903.3.5.3	Hydraulically calculated systems	Adds specification for industry standard 10% safety margin to be included in sprinkler calculations	Existing

Chapter 12 - Energy Systems

1201.1.1		Other Systems	Adds specification for battery charging systems for cars and carts	New
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Chapter 28 - Lumber yard, agro-industrial, Solid Biomass and Woodworking Facilities

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2801.2	2801.2	Permit (Miscellaneous combustible storage)	Clarifies permit for storage/composting of green waste is a Miscellaneous Combustible Storage permit. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity, but no material change in content or effect.	Existing
2808.2	2808.2	Storage site	Requires OCFA approval of site before bringing combustibles to the site; minor modification to clarify type of ground suitable for storage areas	Existing
2808.3	2803.3	Size of piles	Reduces the size of piles of combustible materials	Existing
2808.4	2808.4	Pile separation	Requires 20' separation between piles instead of specifically a fire lane; requires 100' separation from other combustible vegetation	Existing
2808.7	2808.7	Pile fire protection	Requires oscillating sprinklers to maintain moisture content and wet down burning/smoldering areas	Existing
2808.9	2808.9	Material-handling equipment	Requires approved spark arrester on equipment	Existing
2808.11	2808.11	Temperature control	Requires that temperature be monitored and maintained	Existing
2808.11.1	2808.11.1	Pile temperature Control	Requires rotation of piles above 165 degrees	Existing
2808.11.2	2808.11.2	New material temperature control	Regulates acceptance of new piles above 165 degrees; minor language addition reiterates that compliance with other section from this chapter also required	Existing
2808.12	2808.12	Water Availability	Establishes firefighting water quantity requirements	Existing
2808.13	2808.13	Tipping Area	Establishes requirements for new material tipping area configuration and use	Existing
2808.14	2808.14	Emergency Contact	Requires posting of emergency contact info	Existing

Chapter 39 - Processing and Extraction Facilities

Chapter 49 - Requirements for Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Areas

4906.3	4906.3	OCFA vegetation management guideline	Includes OCFA Guideline C-05 in list of laws and regulations that must be followed for vegetation maintenance. Existing amendment language modified to match current guideline title.	Existing
4908	4908	Fuel modification requirements for new construction	Requires fuel modification for buildings in Wildfire Risk Area. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity and to align with current procedural requirements.	Existing

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Chapter 50 - Hazardous Materials				
5001.5.2	5001.5.2	Hazardous materials inventory statement (HMIS)	References "OCFA's Chemical Classification Packet" instead of a Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement	Existing
5003.1.1.1	5003.1.1.1	Extremely hazardous substances	Prohibits extremely hazardous substances above disclosable amounts in a residential area	Existing
Chapter 56 - Explosives and Fireworks				
5608.2	5608.2	Firing (Fireworks)	Requires fireworks shows to be electrically fired; additional language added for clarity.	Existing
5608.3	N/A	Application for Permit	Carries over Title 19 requirement into Fire Code so it can be amended to establish a 100'/inch fallout zone instead of the standard 70'/inch; Amendment is new, but requirement is not--fallout zone size carried over from OCFA fireworks guideline adopted by amendment in previous code cycles	Existing
Chapter 57 - Flammable and Combustible Liquids				
5701.1.1		On-Demand Mobile Fueling	Prohibits on-demand mobile fueling	New
Chapter 58 - Flammable Gases and Flammable Cryogenic Fluids				
5801.1		Scope	Prohibits on-demand mobile fueling of gaseous and Liquid Hydrogen, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).	New
Chapter 80 - Referenced Standards				
NFPA 13				
2016 NFPA 13: 6.7.3	2013 NFPA 13: 6.8.3	FDC Type	Specifies type, location, color of FDC. Existing amendment language modified for additional clarity and to better align with other sections of NFPA 13.	Existing
8.3.3.1	8.3.3.1	Shell buildings	Specifies sprinkler type for spec shell buildings that are not warehouses	Existing

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8.15.1.2.7	8.15.1.2.7	Concealed spaces	Revises section to ensure that the use of noncombustible insulation can be reviewed to prevent conflicts with operational requirements	Revised - Ensures that noncombustible insulation is not used to inhibit fire suppression activities
11.1.1.1	11.1.1.2	Sprinkler design	Specifies sprinkler design criteria for spec buildings that are not warehouses	Existing
11.2.3.1.1.1	11.2.3.1.1.1	Water supply	Specifies acceptable methods of determining water supply	Existing
NFPA 13D, 13R				
2016 NFPA 13D 7.1.2	2013 NFPA 13D: 7.1.2	Control valves	Requires monitoring if a dedicated sprinkler shutoff valve is installed	Existing
NFPA 14				
2013 NFPA 14 7.3.1.1	2013 NFPA 14: 7.3.1.1	Hose Connection Height	Specifies height of hose outlet	Existing
NFPA 24				
2016 NFPA 24 6.2.8.1	2013NFPA 24: 6.2.1.1, 6.3.3	Indicating Valves	Specifies that valves controlling firefighting water supplies shall be painted red to facilitate identification by firefighters; provides exception for valves on exterior risers and for a system with only OS&Y shutoff valves; previously, amendment for red valves was found in two sections of NFPA 24, now consolidated into one.	Existing
6.2.9 (5)	6.2.11 (5)	Street valves	Removes exception for roadway valve boxes	Existing
10.1.5	10.1.6.3	Wrapping/Coating Pipe	Revised to allow <i>wrapping</i> of pipe with polyethylene sheet in accordance with AWWA standards instead of <i>tubing</i> .	Existing
10.4.1.1	10.3.6.2	Pipe joints	Specifies that stainless steel parts do not need to be coated with asphalt or other corrosion retardant.	Existing
10.4.1.1.1	10.3.6.3	Stainless steel bolts	Requires use of stainless steel bolts.	Existing
10.4.3.2	10.6.3.1	Pipe under foundations	Requires pipe to terminate near exterior wall; requires single piece stainless steel sweep at riser.	Existing

Appendices

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Appendices B, BB, C, CC, H			Only five of the 16 appendices included in the 2018 Fire Code (B, BB, C, CC, and H) are adopted by the State. OCFA is not proposing adoption of any additional appendices or amendments to them beyond what the State has already adopted.	

NOTES from the 2019 process: OTHER CHANGES: Please note that the CFC amendment package also includes the following items:

Chapter 4	The State does not adopt all sections in Ch.4 as part of the Fire Code. These State-adopted sections go into effect on January 1, 2017 regardless of whether they are adopted locally. Though the section numbers adopted in 2016 differ from those in 2019, OCFA is not proposing adoption of any sections beyond what the State has adopted other than section 407.5, which is being amended and is included above in the matrix.
Chapter 11	The State does not adopt all sections in Ch.11 as part of the Fire Code. Though the section numbers adopted in 2016 differ from those in 2019, OCFA is not proposing adoption of any sections in Ch.11 beyond what the State has adopted and is not proposing any amendments to these adopted sections.
Chapters 25 & 26	These two chapters are included in the 2019 California Fire Code book but are not adopted by the State. OCFA is not proposing adoption of these chapters locally.