



PORTLAND FIRE & RESCUE



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City of Portland Requirements for Engineering Design of Fire Protection Systems

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Effective immediately all design submittals for fire protection systems in the City of Portland must meet the following rules as clarified by Oregon State Board of Engineering Examiners and Land Surveyors (OSBEELS) and Oregon Building Codes Division. These rules are found in ORS 672, "Professional Engineers; Land Surveyors; Photogrammetrists; Geologists, and in OAR 918-261-0015, "Exemption from Engineering Requirements for Design of Fire Protection Systems".

Except as noted below, fire protection systems are required to be designed* by an architect or engineer registered in Oregon and qualified in the area of practice (see exceptions below). The requirement applies to all fire protection systems including but not limited to fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, private fire hydrants systems and hazardous material piping.

Exceptions to requirement for design by registered professional:

1. New, additions or alterations to systems in buildings of 4,000 sq. ft. or less and not more than 20 feet in height.
2. New, additions or alterations to systems in Single Family Dwellings and farm buildings.
3. Alterations of existing systems when the alteration is done within the scope and design parameters of the original specification
4. Listed pre-engineered fixed fire suppression systems when specified by a design professional and installed in accordance with the listing.
5. Listed clean agent systems when specified by a design professional and installed in accordance with the listing.
6. Fire alarm system design done by a general supervising electrician, general journeyman electrician, or class "A" limited energy technician licensee, acting both within the scope of the licensee's license and as a signing supervisor and in accordance with OAR 918-261-0015, Exemption from Engineering Requirements for Design of Fire Protection Systems.

Drawings submitted for projects required to be designed by an architect or engineer must have the design professional's stamp. Alternatively, in lieu of a design professional stamp on the layout drawing a technician may submit drawings if prepared under the supervision and control of the design professional. When a technician performs the layout, the stamped specifications prepared by the design professional must be submitted along with the layout drawings containing a Review Stamp indicating approval by the design professional. A Fire Sprinkler Design

Basis\Specification and a Review Stamp are attached to this notice as examples of required documentation on layout submittals from technicians.

When fire alarm design is done by the electrical contractor the layout must be signed by the signing supervisor and the individual's license number placed under the signature.

A more comprehensive list of questions and answers including a sample of a minimum specification is posted on our website at [www.portlandonline.com/fire/services/Fire Marshal Code Enforcement Policies/Development & Design Guidelines](http://www.portlandonline.com/fire/services/Fire%20Marshal%20Code%20Enforcement%20Policies/Development%20&%20Design%20Guidelines).

Questions should be directed to our Permit Office at 503.823.3712.