



# Urbandale Fire Department

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## **COMMERCIAL CHECKSHEET – NEW BUILDINGS**

Based on the 2018 International Fire Code and Urbandale Fire Code Amendments for IFC 2018

- ❑ The site plan must be 20 or 30 scale to determine turning radius. Fire apparatus access road with asphalt, concrete or other approved driving surface capable of supporting the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing at least 75,000 pounds is required before construction.
- ❑ An architectural drawing in the following formats shall be provided for preplanning purposes. The following formats are preferred for outside footprints: Auto Cad, .DWG, .DXF. The following items are needed: building site plan and floor plan(s) to include parking lot.
- ❑ Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet except for approved security gates and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 14 feet. Refer to Urbandale Fire Code Amendments for IFC 2018 for additional access road requirements.
- ❑ Fire hydrants to be installed with grade mark on fire hydrant at finish grade and steamer connection to face parking lot or access road for fire apparatus hook-up. Fire lanes may be designated if necessary. Only UFD approved signs are allowed.
- ❑ Thumbturn locks and secondary locking devices are not allowed on building exit doors.
- ❑ The address is to be posted on the street side of the building as a minimum. Refer to Fire Code Amendments for requirements.
- ❑ A Knox Box is required on buildings with fire protection systems and can be recessed or surface mounted. The contractor must order the box online at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com). The exact location of the box shall be determined by the Fire Department.
- ❑ The fire hydrant supporting the fire department connection for sprinklered buildings must be within 100 driving feet of the connection on hard surface.
- ❑ The fire sprinkler riser must be in a room separated from the electrical room and/or any electrical panels and equipment other than equipment necessary for the fire sprinkler system or fire alarm system. An exterior door is preferred. The system shall be flow tested and monitored prior to the final inspection. The fire department connection must be shown on the construction plan.
- ❑ Fire extinguishers shall be 5 pound ABC in sprinklered buildings and 10 pound ABC in non-sprinklered buildings. Travel distance for low hazard occupancy is 75 feet. Check with the Fire Department for other type of occupancy requirements. Extinguishers for Type 1 hoods must be compatible with the hood system.

❑ Exit signs on battery backup or on emergency generator system. Combination exit signs and emergency lights are not allowed. In addition to standard height exit signs, low-level exit signs shall be provided in all interior exit corridors serving guest rooms of hotels/motels in group R, division 1 occupancies. The bottom of the sign shall not be less than 6 inches or more than 8 inches above the floor level. For exit doors, the signs shall be on the door or adjacent to the door with the closest edge of the sign within 4 inches of the door frame.

❑ Emergency lights shall provide 1 foot-candle illumination at floor level for egress travel. Dual beam are preferred. A photometric plan may be required. Emergency lights are required in all restrooms with more than 1 fixture and/or handicap accessible, and in rooms greater than 400sqft. Exterior emergency lights are required at all designed exits.

❑ The fire alarm system shall be an addressable system (if more than 8 devices) and shall have point identification to the WestCom Dispatch Center. All devices are to be tied into the building fire alarm system. A weatherproof strobe light tied into the building fire alarm system shall be mounted directly above the fire department connection, 7-10 feet in height from the finish grade. The fire alarm system shall be approved by the Fire Department prior to installation.

❑ Where corridors and/or hallways are used as a path of egress and protected by fire sprinkler systems, they shall also be protected by photoelectric smoke detectors tied into the building fire alarm system.

❑ Fire-rated corridor doors. The door and hardware schedule shall be provided on the plans. The rated door assembly shall include appropriate rating of door and frame, ball bearing hinges, closer, smoke gasket and rated latch assembly. Spring hinges are not allowed. Designated exterior doors shall be keyed for fire department access and have a handle.

❑ Installation of a generator shall be limited to a maximum of 1,500 gallons of type II fuel in a NFPA/UL compliant sub-base tank, quantities greater than 1,500 but less than 5,001 gallons of a type II fuel shall be stored in an approved vaulted tank. Aggregate maximum is 5,000 gallons.

❑ Elevators shall be governed by the Iowa State Elevator Code. Contact the state elevator inspector for questions.

❑ Magnetic locking devices are not allowed on places of assembly. Contact the Fire Marshal, if allowed, for special requirements.

❑ Type 1 Hoods. Contact the Fire Department for special requirements.

***This checklist is a partial list of the code requirements for new buildings in the City of Urbandale. Some items may not apply to you.***

**If you have any questions, contact the Urbandale Fire Dept. at 515-278-3970**

**Fire Code Amendments may be viewed online:**

[https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/urbandale/latest/urbandale\\_ia/0-0-0-3976](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/urbandale/latest/urbandale_ia/0-0-0-3976)