



# REFERENCED STANDARDS

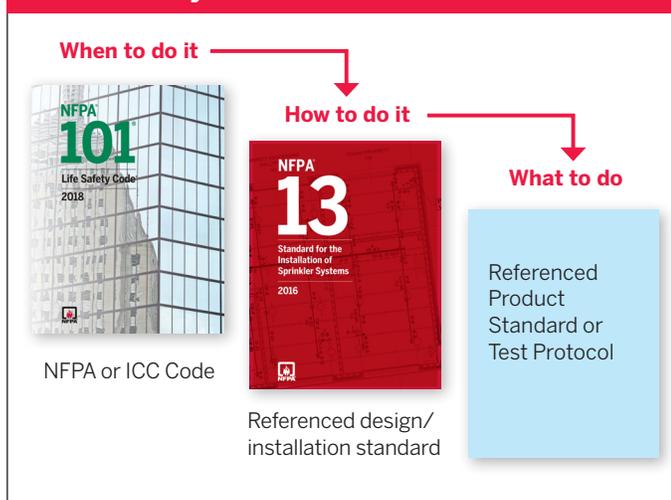
NFPA® and ICC® codes reference various organizations' standards within their requirements, and, once the code is implemented by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), these referenced standards are a legally enforceable part of the code. For example, NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code*®; NFPA 1, *Fire Code*; the *International Building Code*® (IBC®); and the *International Fire Code*® (IFC®) all have a chapter dedicated to listing referenced standards by organization, document title, and edition year.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Referenced documents are a legally enforceable part of the code; compliance is not optional.

You cannot selectively pick and choose which referenced documents to comply with — you must be aware of what the reference is looking for, how it is to be applied, and who has the responsibility for ensuring compliance.

### The hierarchy of referenced documents



### DID YOU KNOW?

- NFPA 1 (2018) references 329 documents.
- NFPA 101 (2018) references 144 documents.
- IBC (2018) references more than 400 documents.
- IFC (2018) references 236 documents.

### What You Should Know



**If you are an architect**, you must ensure that your plans and specifications are prepared to satisfy the necessary requirements to pass the approval process, including those requirements in the referenced codes and standards.



**If you are a contractor/installer**, you must ensure that your installation is in compliance with all necessary requirements, including referenced codes and standards — which often include manufacturer's installation instructions.



**If you are an AHJ**, you must ensure that your plan review process and onsite inspections verify compliance with all aspects of the code, including all referenced codes and standards.



**If you are a building owner/facility manager**, you must ensure that you follow the inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM) requirements in the referenced documents to keep your buildings, occupants, and contents safe on an ongoing basis.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Both NFPA and ICC codes work to achieve the intended level of occupant safety and building performance by mandating the installation of various building features and systems.

Rather than developing or generating requirements for building features and systems, the codes mandate compliance with referenced documents. The referenced documents may also be referred to as a "parent" or "expert" document in that they capture the detailed requirements for things such as design and installation parameters. Where specific equipment types and systems are required, such as automatic sprinkler systems, the ITM requirements of those systems are also critical for the life cycle of the building.



# REFERENCED STANDARDS CONTINUED

## Referenced Standards in Action

**NFPA 10.** Portable fire extinguishers are required in many occupancies by both NFPA 1 and the *IFC*. For instance, when verifying field compliance with NFPA 10, you need to ensure that the proper portable fire extinguisher has been selected and installed for the hazard it is intended to protect and is readily accessible with a sign posted to note its location.

**NFPA 25.** Referenced documents found in NFPA 1, NFPA 101, and the *IFC* place the responsibility for ITM of water-based fire protection systems on the building owner. NFPA 25 establishes combinations of frequencies, actions, and reporting methods for the different systems a building may have. The building owner is obliged to produce the ITM reports upon request from the AHJ.

**NFPA 70® (NEC®).** The *National Electrical Code®* is referenced by all of the building and fire codes in the United States. While the *NEC* contains many design and layout requirements for the electrical systems, it also contains requirements that relate to the quality of the installation. You must make sure that the installation itself is done in a neat and workmanlike manner that meets the level of quality required by the *NEC*.

**NFPA 285.** If you intend to apply an exterior wall system comprised of a metal composite material (MCM), you need to know the extent that compliance with NFPA 285 is required by Chapter 14 of the *IBC*.

## Commonly Referenced Codes and Standards

NFPA 13, *Installation of Sprinkler Systems*

NFPA 13R, *Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies*

NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*

NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®*

NFPA 80, *Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*

NFPA 90A, *Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*

NFPA 92, *Smoke Control Systems*

NFPA 96, *Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*

NFPA 241, *Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations*

NFPA 286, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*

## NFPA RESOURCES

**Training and Certification.** NFPA offers various classroom, online, on-site, and hands-on training options based on its codes and standards. Visit [www.nfpa.org/training](http://www.nfpa.org/training) for more information.

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