

Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's Office
Official Interpretation and Code Directive 2013-8

Fire Alarm System Requirements for New and/or Additions to Existing
Buildings without a Fire Hydrant within 1,000 feet

Effective June 1, 2013

The guidelines set forth through the codes adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission and enforced by the Oklahoma State Fire Marshals Office can help to establish the requirements for new and additions to existing buildings without a fire hydrant within 1,000 feet of all sides of the building as the hose lays off the fire truck. This directive is to help simplify and bring clarity as to what is required to be installed.

Any New and/or Addition to an Assembly, Business, Education, Factory, Hazardous, Institutional, Mercantile, Residential, Special Amusement Building, High Rise Buildings, Atriums, High Piled Combustible Storage Areas, Aerosol Storage Uses, Lumber-Wood Structural Panel and Veneer, Underground Buildings, Deep Underground Buildings, Covered Mall Buildings, Residential Aircraft Hangers, and Airport Traffic Control Towers as identified by the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC) shall adhere to the requirements to the adopted International Fire Code Section 507.

When a new and/or addition is attached to an existing building a fire hydrant must be installed within 400 feet of a non-sprinklered building or 600 feet of a fully sprinklered building as per the adopted International Fire Code. When a 6" or larger water line, to install a fire hydrant, is not located within 1,000 feet of the furthest point of the building being constructed an automatic fire detection system is required to be installed throughout. When the fire hydrant requirement of the International Building Code cannot be met the options are as follows: 1) Extend the water line and install a fire hydrant as required by the International Fire Code, 2) Install smoke/heat detection device in each room as it applies and install notification throughout as per National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code; in addition the monitoring of the fire alarm system must be provided as per the International Building Code and International Fire Code.

We would require that a complete set of building plans identifying option 2 be submitted to our office for review of all buildings that fall within our jurisdiction including documentation from the nearest water district, on their letterhead, stating that there is not a 6" or larger waterline within 1000' of the furthest part of the building.

It is our hope that we can work together to develop new sites while remaining committed to maintaining the utmost level of life safety by making Oklahoma structures as safe as possible through congruent code enforcement.

Robert Doke
State Fire Marshal

