

2025 Fire Code Adoption

Summary of Changes

Purpose

The 2025 California Fire Code has gone through modification since the last code adoption cycle for a number of reasons. Some sections have been edited by the International Code Committee and the various California Code committees for greater clarity as to the applicability and intent of the code.

Codes are modified to take into account improvements in industry practices and procedures and to provide consistency with revisions in state and federal law. Items listed below are amendments or additions to the Santa Barbara Code, Chapter 15.

Summary Chapter 15 Changes (items in bold italics are changes to Chapter 15 in 2025):

Section 1	<i>Categorical changes to existing fee schedule to update references to the 2025 CA Fire Code and list existing fees</i>
Sec. 15-2	<i>Rules of construction</i> <i>Added and amended language to further clarify fire protection certificate, application for review and added distinction for Minor and Major Fire Protection Certificates</i>
102.1	Construction and design provisions <i>Deleted “enclosed” for consistency with Building Code language</i>
105	Permits <i>Rescinded full adoption while adopting specific amendments</i> <i>Amended the language to define timeframe permits are in effect</i> <i>Renumbered throughout for 2025 CA Fire Code changes</i>
105.5.35	Motor fuel-dispensing facilities <i>Deleted prior language as permit is addressed in 2025 CFC</i>
105.5.36	<i>Open Burning</i> <i>Added new categories of burn permits</i>
105.5.37	<i>Open flames and torches</i> <i>Added State Responsibility and Very High Fire Hazard Local Responsibility Areas</i>
105.5.36	<i>Outdoor assembly event</i> <i>Amended language to reflect 300 persons and other Fire Code related activities</i>
105.5.51	<i>Temporary membrane structures, special event structures and tents</i> <i>Added new categories for size of temporary structures</i>
105.6	<i>Required construction permits</i>

- 105.6.2 **Automatic sprinkler systems**
Adopted to ensure plans are submitted for all installations
- 107 **TEMPORARY STRUCTURES, USES, EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS**
Section was inserted in the 2025 CFC
Adopted in its entirety
- 108-115 **Renumbered in the 2025 CFC**
- 404.1 *General*
Adding "other sections of this code" for additional clarity
- 503.2.5 **Dead ends**
Amended by adding requirement where deemed necessary by the Fire Code Official
- 504.3 **Stairway access to roof**
Allows the Fire Code Official to require stairways when rooftop areas are vegetated
- 505.1 **Address identification**
Allows the Fire Code Official to require larger sizes of numbers
- 902 **DEFINITIONS**
Section was added to amend 902.1 Definitions
- 902.1 **Definitions**
Section was amended by amending to ENCLOSED BUILDING AREA
- 903.2 **Where required**
Amended by adding sections added in 2025 CFC
Adding exception for certain telecommunications buildings
- 903.3.1.2 **NFPA 13R sprinkler system**
Amended by adding requirements for certain Group R occupancies meeting certain conditions
- 903.4.3.1 **Alarms in one- and two-family dwellings**
Added to require audible alarms for sprinkler installations
- 903.7.1 Locations required
Amended by changing to building area calculations
- 903.7.2 **Enclosed floor area calculation**
Deleted this language
- 903.7.3 **Plan approval**
Deleted this section as address in another 2025 CFC section
- 1205.1 **Vegetation Control**
Deleted this section as address in another 2025 CFC and CWUIC
- 3307.2 **Water supply for fire protection**

Section was amended for temporary water supply during construction

CHAPTER 49

*Chapter was deleted in its entirety and added to the 2025 CA WUI Code
Previous amendments are now in SB Co Chapter 10 amendments*

APPENDIX B FIRE FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS

B106 REFERENCED STANDARDS

TABLE B106.1 REFERENCED STANDARDS

Amended to reference NFPA 1142-17 from previous cycle

C101.1 Scope

Exception amended by adding "enclosed"

APPENDIX D FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

Appendix adopted 2022 in its entirety with amendments

D106 MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Section was amended by amending D106.1

D106.1 Projects having more than 100 dwelling units

Deleted "the Santa Barbara County High Fire Hazard Area..."

D107 ONE- OR TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Section was amended by amending D107.1

D107.1 One- or two- family dwelling residential developments

Deleted "the Santa Barbara County High Fire Hazard Area..."

Appendix P TEMPORARY HAUNTED HOUSES, GHOST WALKS AND SIMILAR AMUSEMENT USES

Shifted in 2025 CFC

Appendix Q COMMUNITY WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) FIRE HAZARD EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Shifted in 2025 CFC

Sec. 15-4 Finding with regard to geological, topographical and climatic conditions

Item (a) amended by adding "as reflected in devastating recent fires."

Sec. 15-49 Definitions

Item (n) added to account for commercial renewable energy facilities

Item (r) amended by adding "technology equipment and software..."

Sec. 15-51 Applicability of fees

Item (3) inserted to account for garages and sheds over 120 square feet

Item (5) added to account for commercial renewable energy facilities

Sec. 15-52 Exemptions

Deleted item (d)

- Sec. 15-66 Segregation and use of funds
Amended language at the request of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District
- Sec. 15-67 Automatic adjustment of fee structure
Amended language at the request of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District
- Sec. 15-101 Fee schedule
Numbering updated throughout for consistency with the 2025 CFC
All Fire Department fee schedules added to this section for reference