



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**  
Margaret M. O'Neill Bldg., Suite 1, Room 311  
410 Federal Street  
Dover, Delaware 19901  
302-739-3621

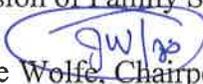
The Honorable John Carney  
Governor

John McNeal  
SCPD Director

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: April 26, 2017

TO: Kelly McDowell  
Division of Family Services – Office of Child Care Licensing

FROM:  Jamie Wolfe, Chairperson  
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: 20 DE Reg. 775 [DFS Proposed Family & Large Family Child Care Homes  
Regulation (4/1/17)]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families/Division of Family Services (DFS) proposal to revise a single section (addressing fire extinguishers) in its standards covering family and large family child care homes. The proposed regulation was published as 20 DE Reg. 775 in the April 1, 2017 issue of the Register of Regulations.

The rationale is as follows:

Currently Section 22 exceeds the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Life Safety Code and does not provide clarification on the placement of a fire extinguisher. The proposed Section aligns with the Life Safety Code and provides clarification on the placement of a fire extinguisher.

At 776.

SCPD has the following observations.

First, the revision explicitly disallows placement of the required fire extinguisher in a cabinet or closet. This is a well-intentioned change since a "hidden" extinguisher is of little value in an

emergency. However, the literal ban on mounting an extinguisher “in a cabinet” would disallow use of even a recessed fire-rated cabinet on a wall. See attached descriptions of OVAL and Larsen brand systems. The advantage of such a recessed or low-protrusion cabinet is that it is compatible with ADA standards disallowing objects from protruding more than 4" from walls between 27-80" above the floor. See attachments. DFS should consider modifying its standards so mounting in such a cabinet would be permitted, if not encouraged.

Second, the other material change is to add more discrete standards for the height of mounting the extinguisher based on its weight. The current standard (being deleted) requires all fire extinguishers to be mounted no more than 40 inches above the floor. Under the proposed standard, heavier units could not be hung more than 42 inches from the floor while lighter units could be hung up to 60 inches from the floor. We infer the rationale is that the combination of a heavy unit and high mounting could make access difficult for individuals who are short in stature or lacking strength. While such differentiation has some facial validity, DFS may wish to adopt a uniform standard, i.e., either retaining the current 40" standard or adopting a 42" standard for all fire extinguishers. Our rationale is as follows:

A. A uniform standard is easier to follow and enforce.

B. The 42" standard is very close to the current 40" standard so licensees should be comfortable with the minor change.

C. Expecting individuals to heft a 39 lb. fire extinguisher hung 60 inches from the ground in an emergency presents a safety concern. We suspect that many licensees would be hard-pressed to safely remove a 39 lb. fire extinguisher from a 5-foot wall mount. An unsuccessful attempt could lead to the extinguisher falling on the worker or a nearby child.

D. Individuals with disabilities (e.g. wheelchair users) may not be able to reach extinguishers mounted at high levels. The standard thus has an adverse impact on safety (if the licensee uses a wheelchair) and employability (if applicant who uses a wheelchair applies for a job in a child care home). Adopting a 42" height standard would ostensibly be compatible with ADA guidelines while the proposed 60" standard would not be compatible with ADA guidelines. See attachments.

Third, the proposed standard is ambiguous on the mounting height. Compare attached New Hampshire Fire Marshall interpretation of NFPA 10, i.e. mounting distance is to “top of the extinguisher”. The DFS proposed standard could be interpreted as “hook” or “fastener” height.

Fourth, there is a grammatical error in the first line, i.e., “visibly” should be “visible”.

The SCPD is recommending that DFS consult both the State Fire Marshall and the Architectural Accessibility Board entities prior to adopting a final regulation.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our observations or recommendations on the proposed regulation.

cc: Ms. Carla Benson-Green, DFS  
Mr. Grover Ingle, State Fire Marshall  
Janet Lieber, Architectural Accessibility Board  
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.  
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens  
Developmental Disabilities Council

20reg775 dscyf-dfs large family child care homes 4--1-17



ADA Requirements for Fire Extinguisher Installation

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## ADA compliant fire extinguisher installations are easy with Oval

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Oval's 10 LB portable dry chemical fire extinguishers are less than 4 inches deep, when measured front to back. This unique quality enables easy compliance with the ADA's 4 inch protruding object limit. The 4 inch protrusion rule was implemented primarily to protect people who are blind or have low vision.

\* The 2010 ADA standards, which went into effect in 2012, also require that accessible fixed building elements such as coat hooks and fire extinguisher hooks be no higher than 48 inches. Many retailers install fire extinguisher hooks higher than 48 inches so that they avoid collisions with shopping carts.

\* Many state and local building codes also require compliance with the ANSI A117.1, ICC A117.1, and/or IBC Chapter 11 accessible design standards. These standards also limit the protruding object depth to 4 inches and the installation height to 48 inches. Ontario, Canada, is enforcing the same protruding object limits under the AODA.

\* The IFC® INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE® also states "Section 1003.3.3 Horizontal projections. Structural elements, fixtures or furnishings shall not project horizontally from either side more than 4 inches (102 mm) over any walking surface between the heights of 27 inches (686 mm) and 80 inches (2032 mm) above the walking surface." Only Oval Brand fire extinguishers always comply with the IFC Section 1003.3.3 protruding object guidelines as they are applied to surface mounted fire extinguisher sizes 5 lbs and larger.

\* Only Oval provides a fire extinguisher solution which always complies with the ADA and local building code for protruding object limits when installed in accordance with both NFPA 10 and the ADA. Oval fire extinguishers, when bumped into, do not easily fall off their hooks either.





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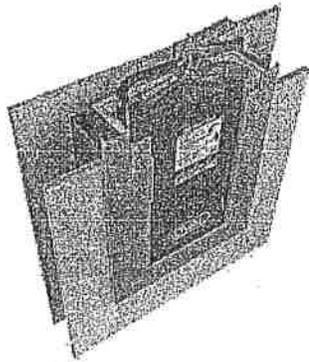
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## Oval Innovation Means...

### Unparalleled Design Flexibility

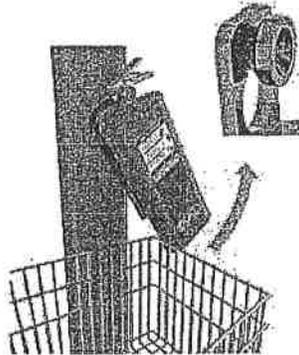
- Fit a FULLY-RECESSED, fire-rated cabinet in a STANDARD-DEPTH wall
- Never again build out a wall to 6" or 8" simply to accommodate a fire extinguisher
- Fully-recessed cabinets can be installed in a 2-1/2" studded partition or a 6" masonry wall, saving construction costs & valuable real estate



Model 10JABC shown installed in a fire-rated cabinet in a 3-5/8" studded wall

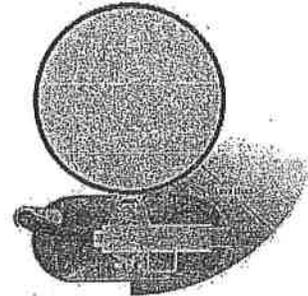
### More Secure Mounting

- Our patent-pending button hook is the most durable and safest design available
- Our button hook design allows the extinguisher to rotate nearly 90° in either direction without falling, reducing risk
- Oval Brand fire extinguishers are more likely to stay mounted to the wall or column when bumped



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- The Oval Brand fire extinguisher complies with ADA, AODA, ANSI 117.1 and ISO 21542 protruding object limits when installed in accordance with NFPA 10
- Never protrudes more than 4" even when measured diagonally on a round building column
- Complies with all state and local building codes



Model 10HABC shown mounted to an 8" round column



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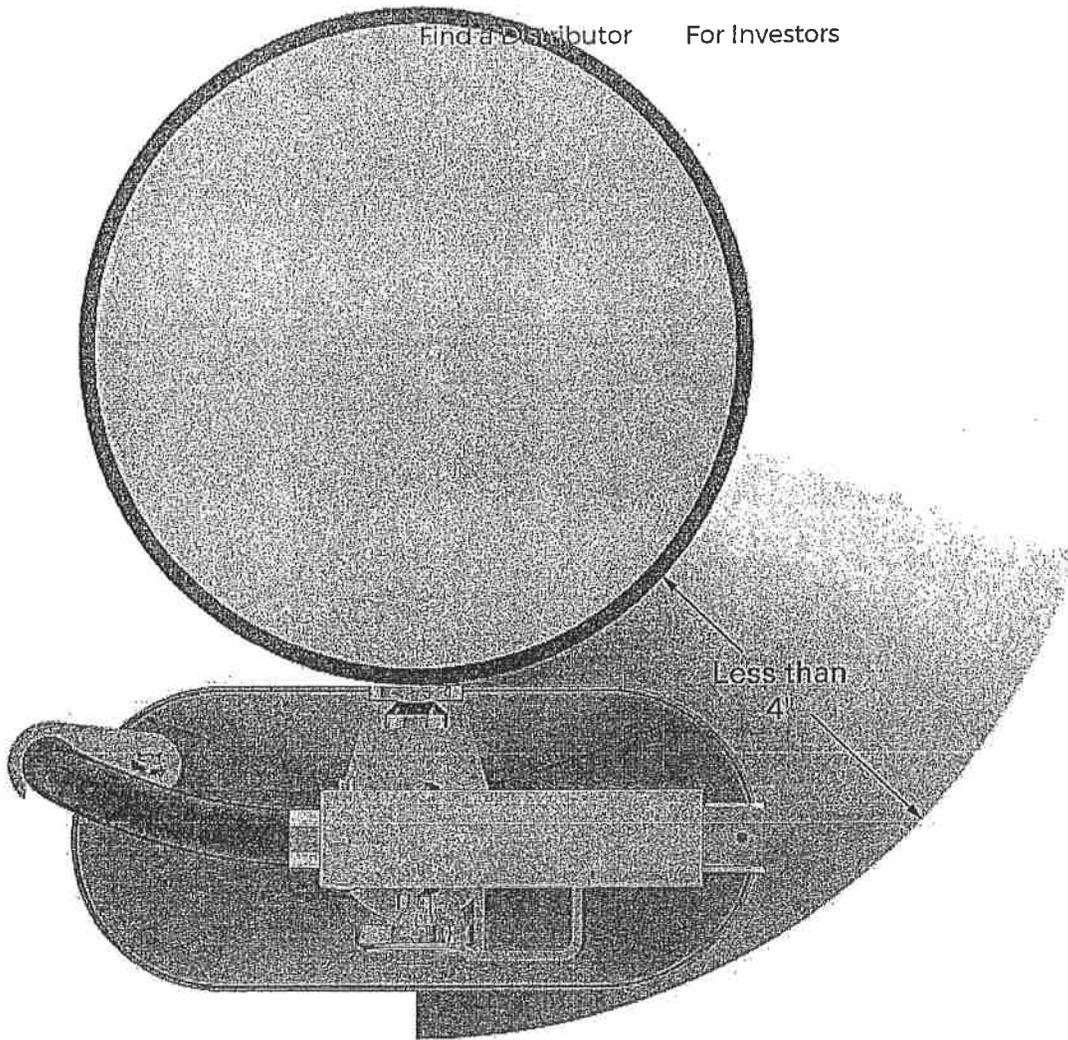
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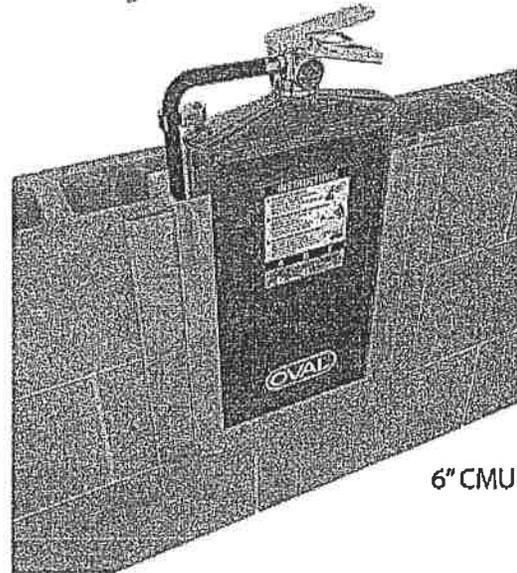
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## Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Guidelines For Fire Extinguishers & Cabinets

The following guidelines should be used when fire extinguishers and/or fire extinguisher cabinets are located in public accommodations and commercial facilities subject to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

### Wall Projections (Protrusions)

ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) specify that objects projecting from walls with their leading edges between 27" and 80" above the finished floor shall protrude no more than 4" into walks, corridors, passageways, or aisles. Objects mounted with their leading edges at or below 27" may protrude any amount.





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Specify reach ranges for building occupants who require access to equipment such

as fire extinguishers and other fire safety devices.

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For an unobstructed approach, the maximum forward reach to this equipment (for example, the fire extinguisher handle) is 48 inches above the floor. The maximum side reach for such an approach is also 48 inches (as of year 2012). The actual mounting heights for cabinets housing this equipment can be determined by reviewing the exact dimensions of the specified cabinet and the positioning of the fire equipment within that cabinet. Please note that these ADAAG reach range requirements fall with the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) guidelines. The NFPA guidelines state that the distance from the floor to the top of the fire extinguisher to be no more than 5 feet, however the federal ADA guidelines should be followed as well.

For more information please visit the Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities website or call the United States Access Board at 1-800-872-2253.

The year 2010 revision to the ADA standards can be found at <http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAStandards.pdf>

The 2010 standards went into effect in the year 2012.

## State & Local Requirements

Many states, counties and municipalities reference ICC / ANSI A117.1 in their building codes. The 2009 edition of ANSI A117.1 can be found at <https://law.resource.org/pub/us/code/ibr/ansi.a117.1.2009.pdf>.

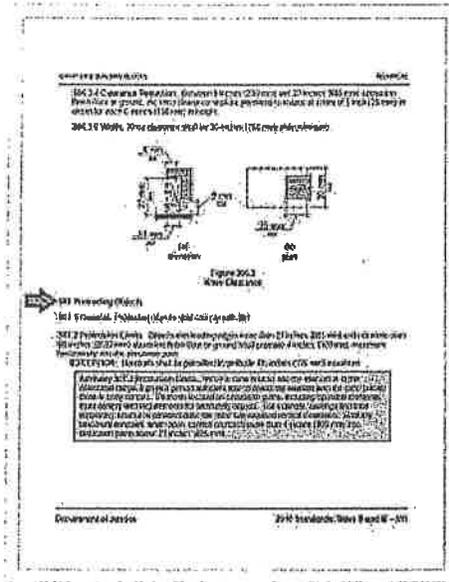
Many states, counties and municipalities reference the IFC® INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE® in their building codes. The 2009 edition of the IFC® INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE® can be found at <https://law.resource.org/pub/us/code/ibr/icc.ifc.2009.html>

## CRPD & ISO 21542

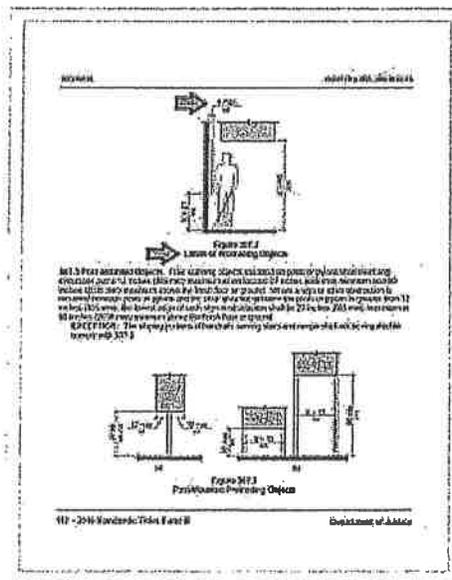
Please note that should the United States Senate ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the ADA standards may eventually become harmonized with the international accessibility standard, ISO 21542. The new international accessibility guidelines, 

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different than the ADA guidelines in regards to fire extinguishers. The ISO  
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extinguisher handle is 4.3" (110mm) from the leading edge  
Product 43.3" (1100mm) and any objects with a leading edge  
higher than 11.8" (300mm) cannot project more than 4" (100mm). The OVAL fire extinguisher is  
well suited to comply with the ISO 21542 guidelines for height and depth of protrusion.



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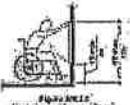




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**Model 2400 Series**

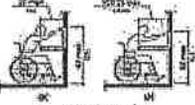
Model 2400 Series: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.



**Figure 2400.1**  
Underside of Fire Engine

**Model 2400 Series High Speed**

Model 2400 Series High Speed: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.



**Figure 2400.2**  
Underside of High Speed Fire Engine

**Model 2400 Series**

Model 2400 Series: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.

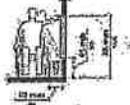
**Figure 2400.3**  
Underside of Fire Engine

Model 2400 Series  
Underside of Fire Engine

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**Model 2400 Series**

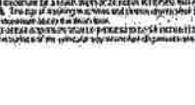
Model 2400 Series: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.



**Figure 2400.1**  
Underside of Fire Engine

**Model 2400 Series High Speed**

Model 2400 Series High Speed: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.



**Figure 2400.2**  
Underside of High Speed Fire Engine

**Model 2400 Series**

Model 2400 Series: When a fire occurs, the high speed of the fire engine is not enough to get the fire engine to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire. The fire engine must be able to get to the fire.

**Figure 2400.3**  
Underside of Fire Engine

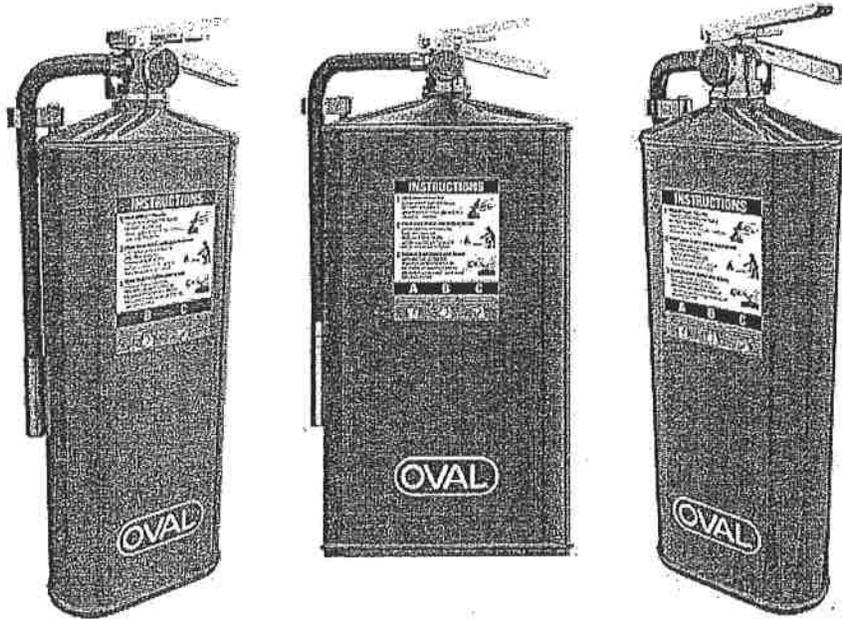
Model 2400 Series  
Underside of Fire Engine



# OVAL BRAND FIRE PRODUCTS. SLENDER WALL MOUNTED CONTACT.

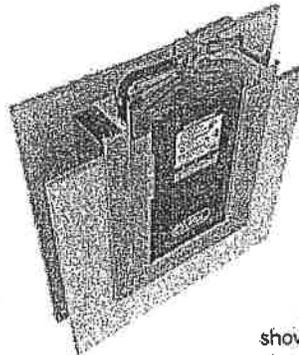
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*The Oval Brand fire extinguisher is much more than a pretty face.*



### Oval Innovation Means... Unparalleled Design Flexibility

- Fit a FULLY-RECESSED, fire-rated cabinet in a STANDARD-DEPTH wall
- Never again build out a wall to 6" or 8" simply to accommodate a fire extinguisher
- Fully-recessed cabinets can be installed in a 2-1/2" studded partition or a 6" masonry wall, saving construction costs & valuable real estate
- Slender profile allows for design flexibility and better aesthetics along hallways and corridors
- Oval Brand fire extinguishers look great and complement any décor



Model 10JABC  
shown installed in a  
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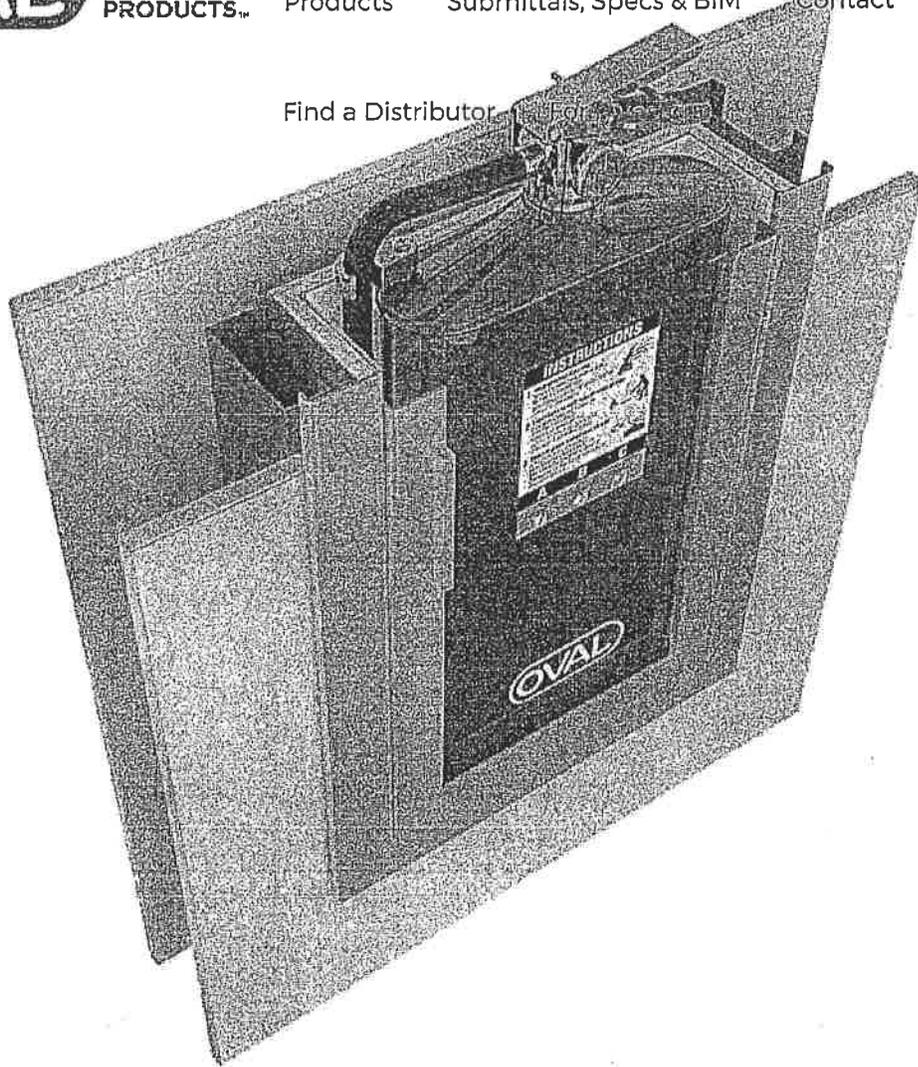
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## Additional Links Regarding Fire Extinguisher Code Compliance and ADA Accessibility

- [New Hampshire State Fire Marshal confirms that the ADA & ANSI / ICC A117.1 height limit for fire extinguishers is 48 inches](#)
- [Oregon Structural Specialty Code states any wall or post mounted projection greater than 4 inches shall extend to the floor \(Comment – Only Oval Brand Easily Complies\)](#)
- [Protruding Objects within the Ohio Means of Egress Code](#)





Oregon states that the max height for fire extinguishers is 48 inches

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Indicates that the maximum height for fire extinguishers is 48 inches

- Merced County, California, agrees that the height limit for fire extinguishers is 48 inches
- US Department of Justice (DOJ) letter which confirms the height and protrusion limits for fire extinguishers and cabinets

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Oval Brand Fire Products mission is to revolutionize expectations for fire safety products by improving accessibility, functionality, and design.

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AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) GUIDELINES FOR  
FIRE EXTINGUISHER CABINETS AND FIRE HOSE/VALVE CABINETS

The following guidelines should be used when fire extinguisher cabinets, fire hose/valve cabinets, and other fire protection cabinets are located in public accommodations and commercial facilities subject to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

**WALL PROJECTIONS**

ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) specify that objects projecting from walls with their leading edges between 27" and 80" above the finished floor shall protrude no more than 4" into walks, corridors, passageways, or aisles. Objects mounted with their leading edges at or below 27" may protrude any amount.

Most semi-recessed fire protection cabinets have 2-1/2" return trims which comply with ADAAG. However, certain limited wall depths may require the specifier to consider return trims which project 4". If this occurs in a location subject to ADAAG and the cabinet must be mounted with its leading edge more than 27" above the finished floor, the 4" projecting trim must be specified with Larsen's recessed handle (see the "Exclusive Options for Extinguisher Cabinets" snapshot). Semi-recessed cabinets with 4-1/2" return trims do not comply with ADAAG, unless they can be mounted with their leading edges at or below 27" above the finished floor.

Larsen's surface-mounted cabinets project more than 4" from the wall. To comply with ADAAG, these units must be mounted with their leading edges at or below 27" from the finished floor. If this is not possible, these units may have to be changed to recessed or semi-recessed cabinets which do comply with ADAAG or relocated in areas not subject to ADAAG.

Larsen's recessed and trimless "bubble" cabinets (Cameo and Vista Series) project no more than 4" from the finished wall and comply with ADAAG. Larsen's semi-recessed and surface-mounted Cameo and Vista cabinets project more than 4" from the wall, and compliance with ADAAG depends on location and installation issues discussed in the above paragraph. Please refer to the "Fire Extinguisher Cabinets; Cameo Series and Vista Series" profiles to identify these specific Cameo and Vista Series cabinets.

**MOUNTING HEIGHTS**

ADA Guidelines specify reach ranges for building occupants who require access to equipment such as fire extinguishers and other fire safety devices.

For an unobstructed approach, the maximum forward reach to this equipment (for example, the fire extinguisher handle) is 48" above the floor. The maximum side reach for such an approach is 54". The actual mounting heights for cabinets housing this equipment can be determined by reviewing the exact dimensions of the specified cabinet and the positioning of the fire equipment within that cabinet. Please note that these ADAAG reach range requirements fall with the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) guidelines. The NFPA guidelines state that the distance from the floor to the top of the fire extinguisher to be no more than 5 feet.

**SIGNAGE AND OPERATING MECHANISMS**

At the present time, raised and brailled characters or other special ADA signage are not required for fire protection cabinets. In addition, the controls, handles, and other operating mechanisms for fire protection cabinet doors presently are not covered by ADA Accessibility Guidelines for hardware.

Please note that many ADA Guidelines for fire protection cabinets are not clearly defined and may be subject to change through the court system or other mediation methods. It is important to contact Larsen's for the most current information.

Home Page	Fire Extinguishers & Cabinets	Fire Ext. & Cabinets Submittal & Detail Sheets	Access Panels	Access Panels Submittal & Detail Sheets	Detention Equipment	Marine, Industrial Fire Equipment	Aluminum Replacement Doors & Frames	Website Map
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**Contact Larsen's Mfg. - Request More Info**

If you would like us to contact you or provide more information please use the online form below. Please note we respect your privacy and will not distribute your information including email address to anyone else. Thank You!

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[http://www.larsensmfg.com/fire\\_extinguishers/ada.html](http://www.larsensmfg.com/fire_extinguishers/ada.html)

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## What is the ADA height requirements for wall mounted fire extinguishers?

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Relevance



**Best Answer:** A maximum height above the finished floor of 48 inches for a forward approach or 54 inches for a side approach. In addition, wall-mounted extinguishers cannot project more than 4 inches beyond the wall if the bottom is not in the cane-detectable area below 27 inches off the floor. Recessed cabinets may be required.

Source(s):  
Standards §§ 4.1.3(13), 4.27.2, 4.27.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5, 4.2.6  
http://www.ada.gov/pcaotoolkit/chap7/shelterchk.htm  
http://www.ada.gov/omahaneatl.htm  
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Extinguisher Man · 6 years ago

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Fire Extinguisher Cabinet Height

Source(s):  
https://shrinks.im/a9UoW

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This Site Might Help You.

RE:  
What is the ADA height requirements for wall mounted fire extinguishers?

Source(s):  
ada height requirements wall mounted fire extinguishers: https://tr.im/OFJDI

? · 2 years ago

Comment



The height limit for installation, as determined by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), is 60 inches for fire extinguishers weighing less than 40 pounds. However, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) also needs to be followed within the United States. The ADA height limit of the fire extinguisher, as measured at the handle, is 48 inches. Fire extinguisher installations are also limited to protruding no more than 4 inches into the adjacent path of travel. The ADA rule states that any object adjacent to a path of travel cannot project more than 4 inches if the object's bottom leading edge is higher than 27 inches. The 4 inch protrusion rule was designed to protect people with low-vision and those who are blind. The height limit rule of 48 inches is primarily related to ac-

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cess by people with wheelchairs, but it is also related to other disabilities as well. Prior to 2012, the height limit was 64 inches for side-reach by wheel chair accessible installations. Installations made prior to 2012 at the 64 inch height are not required to be changed.

Kevin Kozlowski · 3 years ago

Comment



ada height requirements wall mounted fire extinguishers

Meill · 1 year ago

Comment



For the best answers, search on this site <https://shorturl.im/awkfg>

Yes, you do in fact have to mount the fire extinguisher(s) on a boat. The number of extinguishers, their type and size varies with the length of the boat, so, the Coast Guard puts out a pamphlet explaining this regulation. The U.S. Power Squadron and most marine dealers have this information available.

Karen · 1 year ago

Comment



For a side reach, the height cannot exceed 54".

For a forward reach, the height cannot exceed 48".

SO I would just stick with the 48" max height rule.

Source(s):

My good friend Terry Flanagan who knows the CFR's (Codified Federal Regulations) like the back of his hand.

CFR 36. (Which is the ADA standard)

tadvango · 6 years ago

Comment

What is the ADA height requirements for wall mounted fire extinguishers?



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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner



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## INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

BULLETIN #	TITLE	DATE ISSUED		
2013-10	Fire Extinguishers and the ADA	12/19/13		
SUPERSEDES	RELEASED BY	APPROVED BY	SOURCE	SUPERSEDED BY
	JDW	JDW	NFPA 10, ICC A-117.1	

Ensuring accessibility by all the population through ADA compliance is an important part of the design and construction of new facilities in New Hampshire. The required fire extinguisher electronic monitoring technology for new construction when a fire alarm is required raised a question regarding how ADA and the fire code meet in regards to fire extinguishers.

\* The State Fire Code adopts NFPA 10 which requires that fire extinguishers be mounted so that the top of the extinguisher is no higher than 60" above finish floor and the bottom of the extinguisher no less than 4" above the floor. The 2003 ICC A117.1 does not specifically address fire extinguisher mounting heights, but does have specific requirements for reaching for an object from a wheelchair. I believe that these requirements would certainly apply to fire extinguishers as far as the applicable accessibility code is concerned. The maximum high reach allowed shall be 48 inches. The minimum reach is 15 inches. Clear floor space requirements specific to the type of approach to the extinguisher must also be accommodated.

\* People in wheel chairs should be able to reach a fire extinguisher if needed. The obstruction detection of the fire extinguisher electronic monitoring system will help maintain the accessibility required by ADA. The Extinguisher electronic monitoring is required when the building is new construction and is required to have a fire alarm which in new construction is designed to include the appropriate location for horns/strobes to meet the notification requirements of ADA when a fire emergency is detected in a facility.

Although my original intent for requiring this technology was purely for life safety and first aid fire fighting use by the occupants. I had not considered that population that needs accessibility to all life safety devices. The fire extinguishers have to be accessible and most important when one would be accessed it is ready for use. The NH requirement for electronically monitoring fire extinguishers ensures the population with disabilities will have an accessible and usable fire extinguisher if needed along with sending an alarm when it is removed from the location so someone else knows there is a fire problem.