

E 57-15

Part I:

202 (New), 1010.1.4.4 (New), 1010.1.4.4.1 (New); (IFC[BE] 1010.1.4.4 (New), 1010.1.4.4.1 (New))

Part II:

202 (New), 406 (New), 406.1 (New), 406.2 (New), 406.2.1 (New), 704.2 (New), 704.2.1 (New)

THIS IS A 2 PART CODE CHANGE. PART I WILL BE HEARD BY THE IBC-MEANS OF EGRESS COMMITTEE. PART II WILL BE HEARD BY THE IEBC COMMITTEE. SEE THE TENTATIVE HEARING ORDERS FOR THESE COMMITTEES.

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Part I

2015 International Building Code

Add new definition as follows:

SECTION 202 DEFINITIONS

CREDENTIAL. A tangible object, knowledge, or human physical characteristic required for locking and unlocking. A key to operate a lock cylinder; a magnetic card to swipe in a magnetic card reader; knowledge of a specific code for keypad operations; and a fingerprint for a fingerprint scanner; are examples of credentials, and their potential uses.

Add new text as follows:

1010.1.4.4 Group E classrooms. In Group E occupancies, classroom doors shall be lockable from within the classroom without opening the classroom door. All the following conditions shall apply:

1. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from within the classroom and shall comply with Section 1010.1.9.
2. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from outside the classroom by the use of a key or other credential.

1010.1.4.4.1 Remote operation of locks. Remote operation of locks complying with Section 1010.1.4.4 shall be permitted.

Part II

2015 International Existing Building Code

Add new definition as follows:

SECTION 202 DEFINITIONS

CREDENTIAL. A tangible object, knowledge, or human physical characteristic required for locking or unlocking. A key to operate a lock cylinder; a magnetic card to swipe in a magnetic card reader; knowledge of a specific code for keypad operations; and a fingerprint for a fingerprint scanner; are examples of credentials, and their potential uses.

Add new text as follows:

SECTION 406 MEANS OF EGRESS

406.1 General. Alterations shall be such that the existing building or structure is no less conforming to the provisions of the International Building Code than the existing building or structure was prior to the alteration.

406.2 Existing occupancy Group E classrooms. In Group E occupancies, existing classroom doors shall be lockable from within the classroom without opening the classroom door. All the following conditions shall apply:

1. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from within the classroom and shall comply with Section 1010.1.9 of the International Building Code.
2. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from outside the classroom by the use of a key or other credential.

406.2.1 Remote operation of locks. Remote operation of locks complying with 406.2 shall be permitted.

704.2 Group E occupancy classroom. In Group E occupancies, classroom doors shall be lockable from within the classroom without opening the classroom door. All the following conditions shall apply:

1. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from within the classroom and shall comply with Section 1010.1.9 of the International Building Code.
2. The classroom door shall be unlockable and openable from outside the classroom by the use of a key or other credential.

704.2.1 Remote operation of locks. Remote operation of locks complying with 704.2 shall be permitted.

Reason:

Part I: Many jurisdictions have taken measures to address the high priority concern of safety of occupants in K-12 classrooms in the event of a threatening situation. While well-intended and likely to have a degree of positive impact, these actions create disparate requirements from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and some actions may inadvertently compromise certain aspects of life safety while attempting to address others.

This proposal for the IBC provides requirements which balance the challenges of providing protection for students and teachers in the classroom with that of free and immediate egress at all times without use of keys, tools, or special knowledge.

In addition to the security concerns, classroom doors are required to meet accessibility requirements which include door operating hardware configuration and location, door hardware operational forces, and a smooth surface of the bottom 10" of the push side of the door.

Door locksets with "classroom security function" are readily available today at the same cost as traditionally-used "classroom function" door locksets. The most common configuration of a classroom security function lockset is the ability to lock the door from inside the classroom with a key preventing entry to the classroom; and for egress, the door may be unlatched and opened from inside the classroom without a key by rotating the lever handle. On the outside of the classroom, consistent with tradition, the door may be locked with a key, and unlocked and opened with a key.

This code change proposal will require all Group E classroom doors to be lockable from the inside of the classroom preventing entry to the classroom, without the need to open the door. This proposal does not prescribe specifically how the door is to be lockable from inside the classroom.

Additional requirements are the door is to be unlockable and readily openable inside the classroom without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort, as required in IBC Section 1010.1.9. Subsections of 1010.1.9 include requirements for hardware height (between 34 and 48 inches above the floor), and for hardware configuration (for doors required to be accessible, which would be almost all classroom doors, the door operating hardware shall not require tight grasping, tight pinching or twisting of the wrist to operate). An additional requirement of this proposal is the classroom door is to be unlockable and openable from outside the classroom by a key or other lock credential.

Part II: Many jurisdictions have taken measures to address the high priority concern of safety of occupants in K-12 classrooms in the event of a threatening situation. While well-intended and likely to have a degree of positive impact, these actions create disparate requirements from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and some actions may inadvertently compromise certain aspects of life safety while attempting to address others.

This proposal for the IEBC provides guidance which balances the challenges of providing protection for students and teachers in the classroom with that of free and immediate egress at all times without use of keys, tools, or special knowledge.

In addition to the relatively recent demand to protect students and teachers from outside-the-classroom threats, many classroom doors are required to function as fire-rated doors (opening protectives); and fire-rated doors are required to be always self-latching when closed to ensure the doors perform its fire protection function in the event of a fire. Additionally, classroom doors are required to meet accessibility requirements which include door operating hardware configuration and location, door hardware operational forces, and a smooth surface of the bottom 10" of the push side of the door.

This code change proposal will not require existing Group E classroom doors to be lockable from the inside of the classroom without the need to open the door. This proposal does provide guidance if modifications are made to the door in an effort to control access to the classroom.

This proposal does not prescribe specifically how the door is to be lockable from inside the classroom.

Additional requirements are the door is to be unlockable and readily openable inside the classroom without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort, as required in IBC Section 1010.1.9. Subsections of IBC 1010.1.9 include requirements for hardware height (between 34 and 48 inches above the floor), and for hardware configuration (for doors required to be accessible, which would be almost all classroom doors, the door operating hardware shall not require tight grasping, tight pinching or twisting of the wrist to operate). An additional requirement of this proposal is the classroom door is to be unlockable and openable from outside the classroom by a key or other lock credential.

If the door locking hardware is under consideration for replacement, door locksets with "classroom security function" are readily available today at essentially the same cost as traditionally-used "classroom function" door locksets. The most common configuration of a classroom security function lockset is the ability to lock the door from inside the classroom with a key preventing entry to the classroom; and for egress, the door may be unlatched and opened from inside the classroom without a key by rotating the lever handle. On the outside of the classroom, consistent with tradition, the door may be locked with a key, and unlocked and opened with a key.

Cost Impact:

Part I: Will not increase the cost of construction

No cost impact. Door locksets with the classroom security function are the same cost as traditionally specified door hardware locksets (with the classroom function).

Part II: Will not increase the cost of construction

This proposal does not require retrofitting of existing doors with new hardware. IF door locking hardware replacement is being considered, the requirements of this proposal provide guidance.

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