CHAPTER 3 [RE]

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION R301
[RESERVED]

SECTION R302
DESIGN CONDITIONS

R302.1 Interior design conditions. The interior design temperatures used for heating and cooling load calculations shall be a maximum of 72°F (22°C) for heating and minimum of 75°F (24°C) for cooling.

R302.2 Exterior design conditions. The following design parameters in Table 302.2 shall be used for calculations required under this code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter*, Design Dry-Bulb</td>
<td>-11°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer*, Design Dry-Bulb</td>
<td>84°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer, Design Wet Bulb</td>
<td>69°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Days Heating</td>
<td>7,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Days Cooling</td>
<td>2,228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For SI: °C = [(°F) - 32] / 1.8.

a. The outdoor design temperature is selected from the columns of 97 1/2-percent values for winter and 2 1/2-percent values for summer from tables in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals. Adjustments shall be permitted to reflect local climates which differ from the tabulated temperatures, or local weather experience determined by the code official or other authority having jurisdiction, where one exists.

b. The degree days heating (base 65°F) and cooling (base 65°F) shall be identified in a manner that will allow a determination of compliance with the applicable provisions of this code.

SECTION R303
MATERIALS, SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

R303.1 Identification. Materials, systems and equipment shall be identified in a manner that will allow a determination of compliance with the applicable provisions of this code.

R303.1.1 Building thermal envelope insulation. An R-value identification mark shall be applied by the manufacturer to each piece of building thermal envelope insulation 12 inches (305 mm) or greater in width. Alternately, the insulation installers shall provide a certification listing the type, manufacturer and R-value of insulation installed in each element of the building thermal envelope. For blown or sprayed insulation (fiberglass and cellulose), the initial installed thickness, settled thickness, settled R-value, installed density, coverage area and number of bags installed shall be listed on the certification. For sprayed polyurethane foam (SPF) insulation, the installed thickness of the areas covered and R-value of installed thickness shall be listed on the certification. For insulated siding, the R-value shall be labeled on the product’s package and shall be listed on the certification. The insulation installer shall sign, date and post the certification in a conspicuous location on the job site.

R303.1.2 Insulation mark installation. Insulating materials shall be installed such that the manufacturer’s R-value mark is readily observable upon inspection.

R303.1.3 Fenestration product rating. U-factors of fenestration products (windows, doors and skylights) shall be determined in accordance with NFRC 100.

Exception: Where required, garage door U-factors shall be determined in accordance with either NFRC 100 or ANSI/DASMA 105.

U-factors shall be determined by an accredited, independent laboratory, and labeled and certified by the manufacturer.

Products lacking such a labeled U-factor shall be assigned a default U-factor from Table R303.1.3(1) or R303.1.3(2). The solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) and visible transmittance (VT) of glazed fenestration products (windows, glazed doors and skylights) shall be determined in accordance with NFRC 200 by an accredited, independent laboratory, and labeled and certified by the manufacturer. Products lacking such a labeled SHGC or VT shall be assigned a default SHGC or VT from Table R303.1.3(3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRAME TYPE</th>
<th>SINGLE PANE</th>
<th>DOUBLE PANE</th>
<th>SKYLIGHT Single</th>
<th>SKYLIGHT Double</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal with Thermal Break</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>1.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmetal or Metal Clad</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glazed Block</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

303.1.1 Compliance. Compliance with Section 304 shall be achieved by meeting Section 304.2 and 304.3 or demonstrating compliance with ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2013 (Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Low-Rise Residential Buildings).

304.2 Local ventilation. Bathrooms containing a bathtub, shower, spa or similar bathing fixture and not included in the whole house ventilation system shall be sized to meet the net capacity rates as required in Table 304.2. Whole house ventilation fans serving both localized and whole house ventilation functions shall be sized to meet the net capacity rates as required by Section 304.6 and must meet all other requirements listed in Section 304.3, as applicable.

#### SECTION 304

### DESIGN CRITERIA FOR RESIDENTIAL VENTILATION SYSTEMS

304.1 Scope. This section shall govern ventilation of the dwelling unit(s) within Type R-1 residential buildings, Type R-2 residential buildings and multiple single-family attached dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories in height.

### TABLE R303.1.3(2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOOR TYPE</th>
<th>U-FACTOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uninsulated Metal</td>
<td>1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulated Metal</td>
<td>0.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulated, nonmetal edge, max 45% glazing, any glazing double pane</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE R303.1.3(3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHGC</th>
<th>VT</th>
<th>SINGLE GLAZED</th>
<th>DOUBLE GLAZED</th>
<th>GLAZED BLOCK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CLEAR</td>
<td>TINTED</td>
<td>CLEAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

304.3 Whole house ventilation (MANDATORY). Every home and dwelling unit built to RBES shall be mechanically ventilated by a whole house ventilation system as defined in Chapter 2. The whole house ventilation system shall be one of two types: "exhaust only" or "balanced."

304.4 Whole house air circulation. Provisions shall be made to allow air flow to all finished living spaces by installation of distribution ducts, undercutting doors, installation of grilles, transoms or equivalent means. Door undercuts shall be at least 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) above the surface of the finished floor covering.

304.5 Fan motor requirements. Fans installed for the purpose of providing whole house ventilation must meet the minimum requirements as specified in this section.

**Exception:** Fans installed exclusively for local ventilation purposes are exempt from meeting the fan motor requirements listed in Section 304.5.

304.5.1 Fan durability. Whole house ventilation fan motors shall be rated for “continuous duty” and have manufacturer flow ratings as listed in HVI 911.

304.5.2 Fan power consumption. Single-port whole house ventilation equipment shall not exceed 50 watts as listed by the manufacturer on the fan motor or as listed in accordance with HVI 911. Power used for lights, sensors, heaters, timers or night lights shall not be included in the determination of power consumption.

304.5.3 Fan noise. Whole house ventilation equipment located less than 4 feet (1219 mm) from louvers, grilles or openings shall have a sound rating no greater than 1.5 sones as determined in accordance with HVI 911.

304.5.4 Performance verification. In-field measurements of exhaust fan flows shall be conducted using a manufactured flow-measuring device in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Acceptable devices include a calibrated orifice combined with a digital manometer or a flow hood. All measuring devices shall be accurate to within 10 percent of measured flow.
304.6 Net capacity requirements. Whole house ventilation system fans shall be installed according to the manufacturer’s installation instructions and shall have the manufacturer’s fan flow ratings as listed in accordance with HVI 911. Unless the whole house system is tested according to procedures in Section 304.6.1, the minimum continuous flow rate that the ventilation system must be capable of supplying during its operation shall be based on the rate per bedroom as specified in Table 304.6.

304.6.1 Testing option. Testing may be done to verify that the whole house ventilation system satisfies the ventilation requirements of this section in accordance with Sections 304.6.1.1 and 304.6.1.2.

304.6.1.1 Minimum outdoor air. Automatic operation of the ventilation system shall not reduce the minimum continuous ventilation rate below 15 cfm of outdoor air per bedroom plus 15 cfm during occupancy.

304.6.1.2 Performance verification. In-field measurements of exhaust fan flows shall be conducted using a manufactured flow-measuring device in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Acceptable devices include a calibrated orifice combined with a digital manometer or a flow hood. All measuring devices shall be accurate to within 10 percent of measured flow.

304.7 Ventilation required during periods of occupancy. Ventilation shall be provided continuously or intermittently during the period that the building is occupied.

304.8 Controls. Whole house ventilation systems shall be capable of being set remotely for continuous operation or shall be provided with an automatic control for intermittent operation. All whole house ventilation controls shall be readily accessible.

Exception: Fans installed expressly for local ventilation purposes.

304.8.1 Intermittent operation. Intermittently operated whole house ventilation systems shall be capable of being set remotely for continuous operation; or shall be provided with an automatic control capable of operating without the need for occupant intervention, such as a time switch or some other control device. Twist or crank-style timers are prohibited as control devices for whole house ventilation systems. Operation controlled solely by a humidity sensor (humidistat or dehumidistat) does not qualify.

304.8.2 Continuous operation. Continuously operated whole house ventilation systems shall not be provided with local controls unless that control only operates the whole house ventilation system both intermittently at high speed and continuously at low speed.

304.8.2.1 On/off switch for continuous operation. An on/off switch for continuously operated whole-house ventilation systems shall be remotely installed and appropriately labeled.

304.9 Installation requirements. Ventilation equipment shall be installed according to the manufacturer’s instructions and in accordance with Sections 304.9.1 through 304.9.8.

304.9.1 Fan housings. Fan housings for single-port exhaust only systems must be sealed to the ceiling or wall.

304.9.2 Inlet grills. Inlet grills for multiport exhaust ventilation systems or balanced whole house ventilation systems must be sealed to the ceiling or wall.

304.9.3 Ducts. Smooth wall ducts (PVC or metal) must be used for all duct runs longer than 8 feet (2438 mm). Ducts shall be insulated when installed in an unheated location.

304.9.4 Fasteners. Mechanical fasteners must be used to connect all ducts to the fan(s) without impeding the operation of the fan or any internal backdraft damper.

304.9.5 Joints and connections. All joints, seams and connections shall be securely fastened and sealed with welds, gaskets, mastic (adhesives), mastic embedded fabric systems or approved tapes.

304.9.6 Noise abatement. Remote whole house ventilation fans shall be acoustically isolated from the structural elements of the building and from attached ducts using at least 1 foot (305 mm), but not more than 2 feet (610 mm) of insulated flexible duct.

### TABLE 304.6

**PRESCRIPTIVE FAN CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF BEDROOMS</th>
<th>MINIMUM NOMINAL RATED TOTAL FAN CAPACITY (at 0.1 inches w.g.)</th>
<th>MINIMUM NUMBER OF FANS TO MEET WHOLE HOUSE AIRFLOW RATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>50 cfm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>75 cfm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>100 cfm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>125 cfm</td>
<td>All other systems—2 or more, or Centrally ducted systems—1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>150 cfm</td>
<td>All other systems—2 or more, or Centrally ducted systems—1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homes &gt; 3,000 ft²</td>
<td>cfm = 0.05 • ft²</td>
<td>All other systems—2 or more, or Centrally ducted systems—1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For SI: 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719 m³/s, 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot = 0.00508 m³/(s • m²).

a. Represents the total installed rated capacity of all fans designed for whole house ventilation.
304.9.7 Intake openings. Mechanical and gravity outside air intake openings for balanced whole house systems, integrated supply systems or heat recovery ventilating systems that are installed in accordance with Section 304 shall be located a minimum of 10 feet (3048 mm) from any hazardous or noxious contaminant, such as vents, chimneys, plumbing vents, fuel fills and vents, streets, alleys, parking lots and loading docks, except as otherwise specified in this code.

The bottom of the intake termination shall be located at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the normally expected snow accumulation level.

304.9.8 Outside opening protection. Air exhaust and intake openings located in exterior walls shall be protected with corrosion-resistant screens, louver or grilles having a minimum opening size of 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) and a maximum opening size of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm), in any dimension. Openings shall be protected against local weather conditions.

304.10 Clothes dryer exhaust. Clothes dryers shall be exhausted in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall convey the moisture and any products of combustion to the outside of the building.

Exception: This section shall not apply to listed and labeled condensing (ductless) clothes dryers

304.11 Makeup air required. Exhaust hood systems capable of exhausting in excess of 400 cubic feet per minute (0.19 m³/s) shall be provided with makeup air at a rate approximately equal to the exhaust air rate. Such makeup air systems shall be equipped with a means of closure and shall be automatically controlled to start and operate simultaneously with the exhaust system.

SECTION 305
COMBUSTION SAFETY (MANDATORY)

305.1 General. The provisions of this section shall govern the requirements for combustion and dilution air for fuel-burning appliances in every new home built to RBES, whenever a new heating system is installed, or whenever alteration, renovation or repair work creates unusually tight construction as defined in NFPA 54 and NFPA 31.

305.2 Unusually tight construction. For the purpose of applying the provisions of Section 305 to fuel gas, kerosene and oil-burning equipment, buildings constructed in compliance with the RBES shall be considered so tight that normal infiltration does not meet combustion air requirements, and therefore, of unusually tight construction as defined in NFPA 54 and NFPA 31.

305.3 Fuel gas, kerosene and oil-burning equipment. Every new home built to the RBES that contains Category I or II natural draft venting fuel-burning appliances shall be provided with combustion and dilution air as required by NFPA 54 for fuel-gas utilization equipment or NFPA 31 for oil-burning equipment. Direct vent appliances that do not draw combustion air from inside of the building are not required to be considered in the determination of the combustion and dilution air requirements.

Exception: Where all combustion devices in the home have a sealed combustion venting system, a mechanical draft venting system or are direct-vent appliances, then the combustion and dilution air requirements of this section do not apply.

305.3.1 Crawl space and attic space. For the purposes of applying the provisions of Section 305, an opening to a naturally ventilated crawl space or attic space is not considered equivalent to an opening outdoors and is therefore prohibited for the purposes of supplying combustion and dilution air.

305.3.2 Unvented room heaters. Unvented fuel-fired heaters, including room heaters and unvented fireplaces are prohibited.

305.4 Solid fuel-burning appliances and fireplaces. All solid fuel-burning appliances and fireplaces shall meet the provisions of this section.

305.4.1 Gasketed doors. All solid fuel-burning appliances and fireplaces shall have tight-fitting (defined as gasketed doors with compression closure or compression latch system) metal glass or ceramic doors.

Exception: Any home certified to have passed the Canadian General Standards Board 51.71 “Spillage Test” is not required to have tight-fitting doors. The CGSB Spillage Test creates a “worst-case” condition to determine whether the appliances can vent properly even with the house closed tight and all the exhaust equipment running.

305.4.2 Spillage testing. All chimney-vented equipment shall establish complete draft without spillage under “worst-case” conditions within two minutes. If any chimney-vented equipment fails this requirement, mechanically induced pressure relief shall be provided such that the requirement is met.

305.4.2 Exterior air supply requirements. Solid fuel-burning appliances and fireplaces shall be equipped with an exterior air supply according to the provisions of Sections 305.4.2.1 through 305.4.2.7.

Exception: Factory-built fireplaces, masonry fireplaces and solid fuel-burning appliances that list exterior air supply ducts as optional or required for proper installation are permitted to be installed with those exterior air supply ducts according to the manufacturer’s installation instructions.

305.4.2.1 Combustion air shall not be taken from within the garage, attic, or basement.

305.4.2.2 The exterior air inlet shall not terminate to the exterior higher than the firebox and shall not rise vertically within 18 inches of the firebox.

Exception: Where woodstove or fireplace is installed below grade (in a basement), air intake is permitted to terminate above the firebox if the combustion air supply point is below the firebox and the
305.4.2.3 The exterior air intake must deliver combustion air to the firebox.

Exception: For older woodstoves and cookstoves where direct connection of combustion air is not possible, combustion air may be delivered within 24 inches (610 mm) of the stove’s air intake opening.

305.4.2.4 The air inlet shall be screened with 1/4 inch (6 mm) mesh.

305.4.2.5 The air inlet shall be closable and designed to prevent debris from dropping into the air intake.

305.4.2.6 The exterior air inlet shall be installed so as to remain free of obstruction from snow.

305.4.2.7 Passageway. The combustion air passageway for unlisted exterior air supply ducts shall be a minimum of 6 square inches (3870 mm²) and not more than 55 square inches (0.035 m²). The passageway shall be non-combustible, masonry or 30 gauge (or thicker) metal, have 1 inch clearance to combustibles for the length of the combustion air intake. Combustion air systems for listed fireplaces shall be constructed according to the fireplace manufacturer’s instructions.