



Washington State Building Code Council

Improving the built environment by promoting health, safety and welfare

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STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 17-09

CODE: 2015 Washington State Energy Code - Commercial

SECTION: C403.6, Dedicated outdoor air systems

QUESTION 1: Does this provision apply to building types or building areas? If building areas, does this provision apply to building areas that are ancillary to the primary building type if the building type is not required to comply with Section C403.6?

ANSWER: Section C403.6 applies to building areas. The exception would be areas that qualify as accessory occupancies according to Section 508.2 of the *International Building Code* are not required to comply with this section.

QUESTION 2: Are all areas within an office, retail or education building required to be served by a DOAS, or just those areas within the building that are for office, retail, or educational use?

ANSWER: Areas classified as different use types would be exempt. See also the answer to Question 1, above.

QUESTION 3: What areas within a library or fire station are required to be served by a DOAS? Fire stations and libraries often have areas that fall under multiple occupancy types: vehicle garage (Group S), training room (Group B), exercise area (Group A-3), sleeping area (Group R), library area (Group A-3), community meeting rooms (Group A-3), storage area (Group S).

ANSWER: All occupied spaces that are part of the library or fire station use within the building envelope would be required to be served by the DOAS, unless naturally ventilated as allowed by exception 1 of C403.6.

QUESTION 4: Are medical office buildings or areas required to comply with this provision?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION 5: In this provision, does “education” include all of the following education-related occupancies: day care facilities (Group E), primary education up thru 12th grade (Group E), college and university secondary education (Group B and A-3), professional training or skill development facilities (Group B), educational areas accessory to places of religious worship (Group E), vocational training areas?

ANSWER: Yes, the intent is to apply to any classroom or lecture use areas not incidental to another use type. Daycare and non-classroom vocational training areas would not be subject to this requirement.

QUESTION 6: In this provision, does “retail” include all of the following occupancies: all Group M including pay booths at a motor fuel-dispensing facilities; retail display areas that are within buildings not defined as Group M such as a motor vehicle showroom or product display areas in a beauty salon or print shop (Group B)?

ANSWER: The intent is to apply this requirement to all areas for display and sales of merchandise. This would not apply to any of the stated uses that are incidental to another occupancy type, or very small areas such as pay booths.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Bellingham