



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

Building Division
300 N Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054
760-435-3950
www.ci.oceanside.ca.us

Codes 2022

1/1/2023-12/31/2025
Effective Date

Single Family Residential Code Requirements Checklist

The code requirements in this document are excerpts only, not a comprehensive list of all requirements that may apply to your project. These sheets, when attached to a set of plans, become part of those plans and must remain attached thereto. The approval of these plans and specifications shall not be held to permit or approve the violation of any City ordinance or State or Federal law.

Building Code Requirements

- **In dwelling units, smoke alarms shall be installed** on the wall or ceiling of the area immediately outside each separate sleeping area, in each room used for sleeping purposes, and on each story within the dwelling unit. In dwellings with basements, an alarm shall be installed on each story and in the basement. In dwelling units where a story or basement is split into two or more levels and does not have an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm need only be installed on the upper level, except that when the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level, an alarm shall be installed on each level. Where the ceiling height of a room that opens onto a hallway serving a bedroom exceeds the height of the hallway by 24 inches, smoke alarms shall be installed in the hallway and in the adjacent room. In new construction, the required smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from a commercial source and have a battery back up. When more than one smoke alarm is being provided the alarms shall be interconnected. 2022 CRC, Section R314.
- When interior **alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a permit** are made, provide approved **smoke alarms** as required for new buildings. The alarm may be battery operated when meeting the exceptions provided in 2022 CRC, Section R314.6.
- **When new construction, and alteration, repairs and additions requiring a permit are made, an approved carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed** in dwelling units and in sleeping units within which fuel-burning appliances including fireplaces are installed and in dwelling units that have attached garages. 2022 CRC, Section R315.1. The alarm may be battery powered when meeting the exceptions of R315.6.
- **Sprinklers shall be installed** to protect all areas of a new dwelling unit. Fire sprinklers shall be designed and installed per 2022 CRC, Section R313 or NFPA 13.
- **Basements, habitable attics, and every sleeping room in dwelling units** shall have not less than one operable emergency escape and rescue opening approved for **emergency escape or rescue** that shall open directly into a public way, yard, or court that opens to a public way. Escape or rescue windows shall have a minimum net clear opening area of not less than 5.7 square feet, except that when escape and rescue windows are on the grade-floor they can have a minimum net clear opening area of 5 square feet. All emergency escape and rescue windows shall have the bottom of the clear opening not greater than 44 inches measured from the floor. The minimum net clear opening height shall be 24 inches. The minimum net clear opening width shall be 20 inches. Storm shelters and basements that are less than 200 square feet and are only used to house mechanical equipment are exempt from this requirement. 2022 CRC, Section R310.



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- **Private garages shall be separated from a dwelling unit and its attic space** by minimum ½ inch gypsum board applied on the garage side. Private garages located beneath habitable spaces shall be separated from the habitable space by means of minimum 5/8 inch gypsum board. A garage shall not open directly into a room used for sleeping purposes. Door openings between a private garage and a dwelling unit are required to be self-closing and self-latching. When not protected by fire sprinklers, the door shall be constructed of solid wood, solid material, or honey comb core steel and must be 1-3/8 inch thick or have a 20 minute fire rating. 2022 CRC, Sections R302.5.
- **Ducts may pass through the walls or a ceiling separating a private garage from a dwelling unit** provided the ducts within the garage are constructed of steel having a thickness of not less than 26 gauge galvanized sheet steel and the duct has no openings into the garage. 2022 CRC, Section R302.5.2.
- Provide **readily accessible natural ventilation directly to the outdoors** for all habitable rooms within a dwelling unit equal to 4 percent of the floor area ventilated. 2022 CRC, Section R303.1.
- Provide **natural or artificial light** to all habitable rooms within a dwelling unit. Natural light shall be equal to 8 percent of the floor area served. Artificial light shall have an average illumination of 6 foot-candles at a height of 30 inches above the floor level. 2022 CRC, Section R303.1.
- **Rooms containing bathtubs, showers, spas, and similar bathing fixtures** shall be provided with an aggregate glazing area of not less than 3 square feet of which at least one half must be openable or be mechanically ventilated with the exhaust air going directly to the outside. 2022 CRC, Section R303.3. Provide **safety glazing** for all glazing in locations specified as hazardous in the 2022 CRC, Section R308.4.
- **Shower compartments and walls above bathtubs with installed shower heads** shall be finished with a smooth, nonabsorbent surface to a height of not less than 6 feet above the floor. 2022 CRC, Section R307.2
- Provide an approved **attic access** in a readily accessible location sized 22 inches by 30 inches with minimum 30 inch vertical headroom. 2022 CRC, Section R807.1. **If mechanical equipment** is installed in the attic space the access must be sized so that the largest piece of equipment can be removed, but in no case smaller than 22 inch by 30 inch with 30 inch vertical headroom clearance per 2022 CMC, section 304.4.
- **Enclosed usable space under interior stairways** in dwelling units shall have the walls and soffits protected on the enclosed side with ½ inch gypsum board. 2022 CRC, Section R302.7.
- **Private stairways** shall be constructed with a 7.75 inch maximum rise, a 10 inch minimum run, and a 36 inch minimum width. A nosing not less than ¾ inch but not more than 1-1/4 inch shall be provided on stairways with solid risers where the tread depth is less than 11 inches. The largest tread run and the greatest riser height within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inch. Maintain a continuous 6 foot 8 inch headroom clearance above the stairway. 2022 CRC, Section R311.7.



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- A minimum of **one handrail is required on all stairway runs with four or more risers** that serve dwelling units. The top of handrails shall be placed not less than 34 inches nor more than 38 inches above the nosing of the treads except for at the lowest riser, landing transitions, and the start of the flight where they may be allowed to be higher. A clear space of 1-1/2 inches is required between the handrail and the wall. The maximum projection of the handrail into the required stairway width shall be 4-1/2 inches. Openings in open **guards on stairways** shall be sized such that a 4-3/8 inch sphere will not pass through. The triangular openings formed by the riser, tread and bottom rail at the open side of a stairway shall be of a maximum size such that a sphere of 6 inches in diameter cannot pass through the opening. 2022 CRC, Section R311.7.8 and R312.1.3.
- **Circular handrails** shall have a minimum diameter of 1-1/4 inches and a maximum diameter of 2 inches. **Non-circular handrails** shall have a minimum perimeter dimension of 4 inches, a maximum perimeter dimension of 6-1/4 inches, and a maximum cross-section of 2-1/4 inches. **Handrails with a perimeter greater than 6-1/4 inches** shall have a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of 3/4 inch measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least 5/16 inch within 7/8 inch below the widest part of the profile. The required depth shall continue for at least 1-3/4 inches below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be 1-1/4 inches to a maximum of 2-3/4 inches. 2022 CRC, Section R311.7.8.
- **Guards** are required where open-sided walking surfaces including stairs, ramps, and landings are located more than 30 inches above the floor below. These guards shall be a minimum of 42 inches in height. Openings in open guards for these areas shall be sized such that a 4 inch diameter sphere cannot pass through any opening. 2022 CRC, Section R312.1.
- **On stairways, guards whose top rail also serves as a handrail** shall have a height not less than 34 inches and not more than 38 inches measured vertically from a line connecting the leading edge of the treads. 2022 CRC, Section 312.2.1 exception #2.
- **Interior spaces intended for human occupancy shall be provided with heating facilities** capable of maintaining a room temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit at a point 3 feet above the floor and 2 feet from exterior walls in all habitable rooms. 2022 CRC, Section R303.10.
- **Ceiling heights** for habitable space, hallways and portions of basements containing these spaces shall have a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet. Bathrooms, toilet rooms and laundry rooms shall have a ceiling height not less than 6 feet 8 inches. 2022 CRC, Section R305.1.
- **Factory built chimneys and factory built fireplaces** shall be listed and installed in accordance with the terms of their listing and the manufacturer's instructions. 2022 CRC, Sections R1004.1 & R1005.1.
- **Braced wall lines** shall consist of braced wall panels that meet the requirements for location, size, spacing and type of bracing as shown in 2022 CRC, Sections R602.10. Brace wall lines shall be in line or offset from each other by not more than 4 feet. All braced wall panels shall be clearly indicated on the plans.



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- Any braced wall panel may be replaced by an **alternate braced wall panel** constructed in accordance with 2022 CRC, Section R602.10.6.1 and Table R602.10.6.1.
- **Cripple walls having a stud height exceeding 14 inches** shall be framed of studs not less in size than the studs above. Cripple walls exceeding 4 feet in height shall be framed with studs sized as required for an additional story. Cripple walls with studs less than 14 inches high shall be framed of solid blocking or shall be sheathed on at least one side with a wood structural panel that is fastened to both the top and bottom plate. All cripple walls shall be supported on a continuous foundation. 2022 CRC, Section R602.9.
- **Stud size, height, and spacing** shall conform to 2022 CRC, Table R602.3(5).
- **Provide access to all under-floor spaces.** Access provided through the floor shall be a minimum size of 18 inches by 24 inches. Access provide through the wall shall be a minimum of 16 inches by 24 inches and shall not be located under a door to the residence. 2022 CRC, Section 408.4.
- **Provide adequate ventilation at all under-floor spaces.** 2022 CRC, Section 408.1.
- **Wood framing members** and wood based products must be foundation grade redwood or treated and marked by an approved agency when required by 2022 CRC, section R317.
- **Foundation plates or sills shall be bolted or anchored to the foundation** with not less than ½ inch diameter steel bolts or approved anchors spaced a minimum of 6 feet on center for one and two story dwellings and a minimum of 4 feet on center for three or more story dwellings. There shall be at least two bolts per plate that start within 12 inches or 7 bolt diameters of the end of the plate. All foundation bolts shall be embedded a minimum of 7 inches into the concrete or masonry. Each bolt shall have a properly sized nut and washer. 2022 CRC, Sections R403.1.6 & R403.1.6.1. **The washers** must be a minimum 3 x 3 inches square and .229 inches thick. A diagonal slot is allowed of a width 3/16 inch larger than the bolt diameter and a maximum 1-3/4 in length, provided a standard cut washer is used between the nut and plate washer. 2022 CRC, Section R602.11.1.
- **Cutting and notching** of exterior walls and bearing partitions shall not be greater than 25 percent of the stud width. Cutting or notching of studs to a depth not greater than 40 percent of the width of the stud is permitted in nonbearing partitions supporting no loads other than the weight of the partition. 2022 CRC, Section 602.6 #1.
- **A drilled or bored hole** not greater in diameter than 60 percent of the stud width is permitted in a non-bearing partition or in a wall where the bored stud is doubled provided not more than two such successive studs are bored. A minimum 5/8 inch of wood is required between the bored hole and the edge of the wood. Bored holes can not be located in the same vicinity as a cut or a notch. 2022 CRC, Section 602.6.
- **Footings** shall be designed so that the allowable bearing capacity of the soil is not exceeded per Table R401.4.1. Where a specific design is not provided, the size of concrete footings supporting walls of light-frame construction shall conform to the requirements of 2022 CRC, Table R403.1. The minimum depth of footings shall be 12 inches below undisturbed ground. 2022 CRC, Section R403.1.4.



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- Where **post and beam or girder construction** is used, a **positive connection** shall be provided to ensure against uplift and lateral displacement. 2022 CRC, Section R502.9.
- Where rafters are not parallel with the ceiling joist, rafters shall be tied to an equivalent **rafter tie** that is connected per Table 802.5.1(9). The rafter ties shall be a minimum of 2 inch by 4 inch. 2022 CRC, Section R802.5.2.2. Where ceiling joists or rafter ties are not provided, the ridge formed by these rafters shall be supported by a wall or girder designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.
- Provide adequate **ventilation to all attic spaces**. 2022 CRC, Section R806.1
- Provide **fireblocking and draft stopping** in concealed locations of combustible construction in accordance with the 2022 CRC, Sections R302.11 & R302.12.
- **All gypsum board, stucco, plaster, and lath** shall be installed as per 2022 CRC, Chapter 7.
 - **Note:** When lath is applied over wood base sheathing, include two layers of grade D paper. 2022 CRC, Section R703.6.3
- Provide **weather protection** on all exterior walls located above grade that are not constructed of concrete or masonry. 2022 CRC, Section R703.1.
- On graded sites, **the top of any exterior foundation** shall extend above the elevation of the street gutter at point of discharge or the inlet of an approved drainage device a minimum of 12 inches plus 2 percent per foot (1/4 inch per linear foot measured from the gutter to the edge of the footing). Where a gutter is not present, the measurement shall be taken from the crown of road. 2022 CRC, Section R403.1.7.3.

Electrical Code Requirements

- Provide a **grounding electrode** as per 2022 CEC, Article 250.64(D) & 250.52.
- **Grounding conductors** to be provided where installing a branch circuit or feeder supplying a separate building or structure. 2022 CEC, Article 250.32(B).
- At least **one wall switch-controlled lighting outlet** shall be installed in every habitable room, in bathrooms, hallways, stairways, attached garages, detached garages with electrical power, Attics, under floor spaces, utility rooms, basements used for storage or having equipment that requires servicing, and at outdoor entrances or exits. 2022 CEC, Article 210.70.
- Dwellings with direct grade level access shall have at least one **receptacle outlet at grade level at the front and back of the dwelling**. All 125 volt, 15 and 20 amp, receptacles installed outdoors with direct grade level access shall be GFCI protected. All receptacles installed outdoors in wet or damp locations shall be in a weatherproof enclosure as per 2022 CEC, Articles 210.52(E), 210.8(A)(3), & 406.9.
- At least one receptacle outlet, in addition to any provided for laundry equipment, shall be installed **in each basement, in each attached garage**, and in each detached garage or accessory building with electric power. These outlets are to be GFCI protected. 2022 CEC, Article 210.52(G).
- **Provide GFCI protection to all 125 volt, 15 amp and 20 amp receptacles installed in bathrooms, garages**, outdoors, crawlspaces at or below grade, unfinished basements, receptacles to serve



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counter top surfaces installed in kitchens, and receptacles within 6 feet of a sink. 2022 CEC, Article 210.8(A).

- **ARC –fault circuit interrupter** protection is required in dwellings for all 120 volt single phase 15 and 20 amp branch circuits specified in 2022 CEC, Article 210.12.
- **Receptacle outlets shall be spaced not more than 12 feet** apart and a maximum of 6 feet from the ends of walls or openings. Receptacle outlets are also required in walls 2 feet or greater. 2022 CEC, Article 210.52(A).
- **Provide two or more 20 amp small appliance branch circuits** evenly proportioned in the kitchen, pantry, breakfast room, dining room, or similar area. Such circuits shall have no other outlets. 2022 CEC, Article 210.52(B).
- **Provide one additional 20 amp branch circuit** shall be provided to supply the laundry receptacle outlet(s). This circuit shall have no other outlets. 2022 CEC, Article 210.11(C)(2).
- **Provide fuses or approved circuit breakers** at air conditioning units and heat pumps as per 2022 CEC, Article 440. (Do not exceed maximum fuse requirements or minimum on equipment specification plate).
- An **equipment grounding conductor** is required with all branch circuits and feeders supplying a separate building or structure. 2022 CEC, Article 250.32(B).
- Provide a **receptacle for each hallway** 10 feet or more in length.
- Provide a service **receptacle at heating and air conditioning equipment**. 2022 CEC, Article 210.63.
- Provide a **dedicated circuit for heating equipment**. 2022 CEC, Article 422.12.
- Provide an **intersystem bonding termination means** that includes provisions for connecting three grounding or bonding conductors for communications systems using a #6 copper conductor. 2022 CEC, Article 250.94,
- **Equipment grounding conductors** to be provided for grounding means and effective ground-fault path by performing both grounding and bonding functions. 2022 CEC, Article 250.118
- **Equipment bonding jumpers** that connect grounding terminals of receptacles to a grounded metal box must be sized according to table 250.122 using the rating of the overcurrent device, fuse, or circuit breaker for the circuit. 2022 CEC, Article 250.146.
- **Lighting junction boxes** to be designed for the purpose and listed with the capacity of holding 50 pounds. It must be marked for the purpose of holding luminaries. 2022 CEC, Article 314.27(A).
- **Armored clad cable (AC)** is acceptable for branch circuits and feeders. 2022 CEC, Article 320.10(1).
- **Metal clad cable (MC) is permitted for wet locations** if meeting the conditions of 2022 CEC, Article 330.10(A)(11).
- **Flexible metal conduit** isn't permitted for use in wet locations, regardless of any conditions. 2022 CEC, Article 348.12(1).
- **Flexible metal conduit and liquid tight flexible metal conduit** may be fished within walls or concealed spaces without the need for support. 2022 CEC, Article 348.30(A).
- **Device or equipment fill in a junction box** to be calculated using twice the wire size volume if the device is wider than 2 inches. 2022 CEC, Article 314.16(B)(4).
- An **equipment disconnecting means that isn't within sight of the equipment** it serves is required to be capable of being locked open (off position) and have a means for adding a lock that must remain



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with the equipment whether the lock is installed or not. This is a special device that connects to the breaker. 2022 CEC, Article 110.25.

- **Receptacles in wet locations.** 120 volt and 250 volt are required to be listed weather-resistant type. 2022 CEC, Article 406.9(A) & (B).
- **Tamper-resistant receptacles** to be installed in dwelling, garages and accessory residential buildings as specified by 210.52 shall be listed tamper-resistant type. 2022 CEC, Article 406.12.
- All **luminaires and lamp holders shall be listed.** 2022 CEC, Article 410.6.
- **Those luminaries allowed in clothes closets** by 2022 CEC 410.16(A) shall be installed per the requirements of 2022 CEC 410.16(C)
- The **disconnecting means for pool and spa or hot tub** shall simultaneously open all ungrounded conductors. It shall be further than 5 feet from the waters edge. 2022 CEC, Article 680.13.
- **Receptacles shall be greater than 6 feet from the water edge of the pool,** fountain, spa or similar installation. It shall be GFCI protected. 2022 CEC, Articles 680.22, 680.34, and 680.43.
- **GFCI protection is required for all pool pump motors** for either 125 volt or 240 volt. 2022 CEC, Article 680.21(C).
- **Equipotential bonding** will be required around pool areas. A conductor sized at a minimum of #8 copper shall be used. 2022 CEC, Article 680.26.
- **Pumps for portable pools** shall have an integral GFCI protected cord within 12 inches of the attachment plug. All 125 volt, 15 and 20 amp receptacles within 20 feet of a pool shall be GFCI protected. 2022 CEC, Article 680.31 & 680.32.
- **Hydro massage bathtubs** and their associated equipment must be supplied by at least one separate individual circuit. 2022 CEC, Article 680.71.

Plumbing Code Requirements

- Provide an **approved dishwasher air gap fitting** as per 2022 CPC, Section 807.3.
- Potable water outlets with hose attachments, other than water heater drains, boiler drains, and clothes washer connectors, shall be protected by a listed non-removable hose bibb type backflow preventer or a listed atmospheric vacuum breaker as per 2022 CPC, Section 603.5.7.
- **Joints.** Where a fixture comes in contact with the wall or floor, the joint between the fixture and the wall or floor shall be made watertight. 2022 CPC, Section 402.2
- **Gas Water heaters located in residential garages or adjacent spaces** open to the garage that are not part of the living space shall be installed so that the pilots, burners, and burner-igniter devices are at least 18 inches above the floor unless listed as flammable vapor ignition resistant. 2022 CPC, Section 507.13.
- **Fuel burning water heaters** shall be installed per 2022 CPC, Section 506.0, for combustion air.
- **Water heaters that depend on the combustion** of fuel for heat shall not be installed in bedrooms or bathrooms unless installed in an approved closet or direct vent type per 2022 CPC, Section 504.
- **Listed water heaters shall be installed in** accordance with their listing and the manufacturers' instructions and comply with California Energy Code Section 110.3.



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- Any water system containing **storage water heating equipment** shall be provided with an approved, listed, and adequately sized combination pressure and temperature relief valve. 2022 CPC, Section 608.3.
- **Relief valves located inside a building** shall be provided with a drain of galvanized steel, hard drawn copper piping and fittings, or CPVC. The drain shall extend from the valve to the outside of the building with the end of the pipe not more than 2 feet nor less than 6 inches above the ground and pointing downward. 2022 CPC, Section 608.5.
 - **Note:** No part of such drain pipe shall be trapped, and the terminal end of the drain pipe shall not be threaded.
- **Water heaters shall be anchored or strapped** to resist horizontal displacement due to earthquake motion. Strapping shall be at points within the upper one-third and lower one-third of its vertical dimensions. At the lower point, a minimum distance of 4 inches shall be maintained above the controls with the strapping. 2022 CPC, Section 507.2.
- **Gas utilization equipment** connected to a piping system shall have an accessible approved **manual shut off valve** with a non-displaceable valve member, or a listed gas convenience outlet installed within 6' of the equipment it serves. Shut off valves serving decorative gas appliances shall be permitted to be installed in fireplaces if listed for such use. 2022 CPC, Section 1212.6.
- **Showers and tub-shower combinations** in all buildings shall be provided with individual control valves of the pressure balance or the thermostatic mixing valve type or a water heater conforming to ASSE 1084. 2022 CPC, Section 408.3.

Mechanical Code Requirements

- **Domestic clothes dryer moisture exhaust ducts** shall terminate on the outside of the building and shall be equipped with a back-draft damper. Sheet metal screws or other fasteners that will obstruct the flow shall not be used. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions and by the building official, domestic dryer moisture exhaust ducts shall not exceed a total combined horizontal and vertical length of 14 feet including two 90-degree elbows. Two feet shall be deducted for each 90-degree elbow in excess of two. 2022 CMC, Section 504.4.
- **Make up air.** When a closet is designed for the installation of a clothes dryer, a minimum opening of 100 square inches for makeup air shall be provided in the door or by other approved means. 2022 CMC, Section 504.4.1.
- **Installation of a Listed Cooking Appliance or Microwave Oven above a Listed Cooking Appliance.** The installation of a listed cooking appliance or microwave oven over a listed cooking appliance shall conform to the conditions of the upper appliance's listing and the manufacturers' installation instructions. 2022 CMC, Section 920.4(3).
- **Domestic range vents.** Ducts for domestic kitchen downdraft grill-range ventilation shall be installed as per 2022 CMC, Section 504.3.
- **Fuel burning equipment** shall be assured a sufficient supply of combustion air as per Chapter 7, 2022 CMC.



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- **Warm air furnaces shall not be installed** in a room used or designed to be used as a bedroom or bathroom unless direct vent type or installed in an approved closet enclosure per 2022 CMC, Section 904.1.
- **Attic furnace.** The distance from the passageway access to the furnace shall not exceed 20 feet measured along the center line of the passageway. The passageway shall be unobstructed and shall have continuous solid flooring not less than 24 inches wide from the entrance opening to the furnace. A level working platform not less than 30 inches in depth and width shall be provided in front of the entire fire box side of the warm air furnace. If the furnace temperature limit control, air filter, fuel control valve, vent collar, or air handling unit is not serviceable from the fire box side of the furnace, a continuous floor not less than 24 inches in width shall be provided from the platform in front of the fire box side of the furnace to and in front of this equipment. A permanent electric outlet and lighting fixture controlled by a switch located at the required passageway opening shall be provided at or near the furnace. 2022 CMC, Section 304.4.
- **Vent termination.** Gas vents with listed vent caps 12 inches in size or smaller shall be permitted to be terminated in accordance with Table 802.6.1, provided they are located at least 8 feet from the vertical wall or similar obstruction. All other gas vents shall terminate not less than 2 feet above the highest point where they pass through the roof and at least 2 feet higher than any portion of a building within 10 feet. 2022 CMC, Section 802.6.1.
 - **Note:** Single wall metal pipe shall not originate in an unoccupied attic or concealed space and shall not pass through any attic, inside wall, concealed space or floor. 2022 CMC, Section 802.7.3.2.
- **Approval of Equipment.** Listed and unlisted equipment shall comply with the 2022 CMC, Section 301.2.
- **Ignition source.** Heating and cooling equipment located in a garage that generates a glow, spark, or flame capable of igniting flammable vapors shall be installed with sources of ignition at least 18 inches above the floor level and be protected from physical damage. 2022 CMC, Section 305.