

## CHAPTER 10

### MEANS OF EGRESS

**1001.3 Abatement of buildings and structures with inadequate means of egress. Buildings or structures that are not provided with adequate means of egress or emergency escapes are unsafe and shall be subject to the abatement procedures specified in Section 110. When abatement is by repair, or rehabilitation, means of egress and emergency escapes shall be provided and maintained in accordance with the *Oregon Structural Specialty Code*.**

**Such unsafe buildings are hereby declared to be public nuisances and shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or removal. See the abatement procedure specified in OAR 837-041-0050. Actions to correct hazards and other deficiencies shall be in accordance with ORS 479.160, 479.170 and 479.195.**

**ORS 479.160, 479.170, 479.195 and OAR 837-041-0050 are not a part of this code but are reproduced or paraphrased here for the reader's convenience.**

**ORS 479.160 defines the provisions for granting a permit for continued use or occupancy of existing nonconforming buildings.**

**ORS 479.170 provides authority to the State Fire Marshal or deputies to order repair or removal of material from buildings or premises.**

**ORS 479.195 provides authority to the State Fire Marshal or deputies to close buildings when the occupant load is exceeded.**

**OAR 837-041-0050 defines the rules for the abatement, repair or discontinuance of use or occupancy of unsafe buildings and specifies the parameters that are used to determine the degree of fire and life hazard.**

**1002.1 AREA OF REFUGE.** ~~An area where persons unable to use stairways can remain temporarily to await instructions or assistance during emergency evacuation.~~ **See the *Oregon Structural Specialty Code*, Section 1102, AREA OF RESCUE ASSISTANCE.**

**1003.2 Ceiling height.** The means of egress shall have a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet 6 inches (2286 mm).

**Exceptions:**

1. Sloped ceilings in accordance with Section 1208.2 of the *International Building Code*.
2. Ceilings of dwelling units and sleeping units within residential occupancies in accordance with Section 1208.2 of the *International Building Code*.
3. Allowable projections in accordance with Section 1003.3.
4. Stair headroom in accordance with Section 1009.2.
5. Door height in accordance with Section 1008.1.1.
- 6. Hallways and corridors shall be permitted to be not less than 7 feet (2133.6 mm) in height.**

**1003.3.4 Clear width.** Protruding objects shall not reduce the minimum clear width of accessible routes as required in Section ~~1104~~ **1109.5** of the *International Building Code*.

**1003.7 Elevators, escalators and moving walks.** Elevators, escalators and moving walks shall not be used as a component of a required means of egress from any other part of the building.

**Exception:** Elevators used as an accessible means of egress in accordance with Section ~~1007.4~~ **1108.3 of the *International Building Code***.

**[B] SECTION 1007**  
**ACCESSIBLE MEANS OF EGRESS**  
**Not adopted by the State of Oregon**  
**See Oregon Structural Specialty Code, Chapter 11**

**1007.1 (Not adopted) Accessible means of egress required.** *Accessible means of egress shall comply with this section. Accessible spaces shall be provided with not less than one accessible means of egress. Where more than one means of egress is required by Section 1015.1 or 1019.1 from any accessible space, each accessible portion of the space shall be served by not less than two accessible means of egress.*

**Exceptions:**

1. *Accessible means of egress are not required in alterations to existing buildings.*
2. *One accessible means of egress is required from an accessible mezzanine level in accordance with Section 1007.3, 1007.4 or 1007.5.*
3. *In assembly spaces with sloped floors, one accessible means of egress is required from a space where the common path of travel of the accessible route for access to the wheelchair spaces meets the requirements in Section 1025.8.*

**1007.2 (Not adopted) Continuity and components.** *Each required accessible means of egress shall be continuous to a public way and shall consist of one or more of the following components:*

- 1) *Accessible routes complying with Section 1104 of the International Building Code.*
- 2) *Stairways within vertical exit enclosures complying with Sections 1007.3 and 1020.*
- 3) *Exterior exit stairways complying with Sections 1007.3 and 1023.*
- 4) *Elevators complying with Section 1007.4.*
- 5) *Platform lifts complying with Section 1007.5.*
- 6) *Horizontal exits complying with Section 1021.*
- 7) *Ramps complying with section 1010.*
- 8) *Areas of refuge complying with Section 1007.6.*

**Exceptions:**

1. *Where the exit discharge is not accessible, an exterior area for assisted rescue must be provided in accordance with Section 1007.8.*
2. *Where the exit stairway is open to the exterior, the accessible means of egress shall include either an area of refuge in accordance with Section 1007.6 or an exterior area for assisted rescue in accordance with Section 1007.8.*

**1007.2.1 (Not adopted) Elevators required.** *In buildings where a required accessible floor is four or more stories above or below a level of exit discharge, at least one required accessible means of egress shall be an elevator complying with Section 1007.4.*

**Exceptions:**

1. *In buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, the elevator shall not be required on floors with a horizontal exit and located at or above the level of exit discharge.*
2. *In buildings equipped throughout with a automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, the elevator shall not be required on floors provided with a ramp conforming to the provisions of Section 1010.*

**1007.3 (Not adopted) Exit stairways.** *In order to be considered part of an accessible means of egress, an exit stairway shall have a clear width of 48 inches (1219 mm) minimum between handrails and shall either incorporate an area of refuge within an enlarged floor-level landing or shall be accessed from either an area of refuge complying with Section 1007.6 or a horizontal exit.*

**Exceptions:**

1. *Unenclosed exit stairways as permitted by Section 1020.1 are permitted to be considered part of an accessible means of egress.*
2. *The area of refuge is not required at unenclosed exit stairways as permitted by Section 1020.1 in buildings or facilities that are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1*
3. *The clear width of 48 inches (1219 mm) between handrails is not required at exit stairways in buildings or facilities equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 903.3.1.1. or 903.3.1.2.*
4. *The clear width of 48 inches (1219 mm) between handrails is not required for exit stairways accessed from a horizontal exit.*
5. *Areas of refuge are not required at exit stairways serving open parking garages.*

**1007.4 (Not adopted) Elevators.** *In order to be considered part of an accessible means of egress, an elevator shall comply with the emergency operation and signaling device requirements of Section 2.27 of ASME A17.1. Standby power shall be provided in accordance with Section 604.2.5 of this code and Section 3003 of the International Building Code. The elevator shall be accessed from either an area of refuge complying with Section 1007.6 or a horizontal exit.*

**Exception:** *Elevators are not required to be accessed from an area of refuge or horizontal exit in open parking garages.*

**1007.5 (Not adopted) Platform lifts.** *Platform (wheelchair) lifts shall not serve as part of an accessible means of egress, except where allowed as part of a required accessible route in Section 1109.7. Items 1 through 9 of the International Building Code. Standby power shall be provided in accordance with Section 604.2.6 for platform lifts permitted to serve as part of a means of egress.*

**1007.5.1 (Not adopted) Openness.** *Platform lifts on an accessible means of egress shall not be installed in a fully enclosed or fire-rated shaft.*

**1007.6 (Not adopted) Areas of refuge.** *Every required area of refuge shall be accessible from the space it serves by an accessible means of egress. The maximum travel distance from any accessible space to an area of refuge shall not exceed the travel distance permitted for the occupancy in accordance with Section 1016.1. Every required area of refuge shall have direct access to an enclosed stairway complying with Sections 1007.3 and 1020.1 or an elevator complying with Section 1007.4. Where an elevator lobby is used as an area of refuge, the shaft and lobby shall comply with Section 1020.7 for smokeproof enclosures except where the elevators are in an area of refuge formed by a horizontal exit or smoke barrier.*

**1007.6.1 (Not adopted) Size.** *Each area of refuge shall be sized to accommodate one wheelchair space of 30 inches by 48 inches (762 mm by 1219 mm) for each 200 occupants or portion thereof, based on the occupant load of the area of refuge and areas served by the area of refuge. Such wheelchair spaces shall not reduce the required means of egress width. Access to any of the required wheelchair spaces in an area of refuge shall not be obstructed by more than one adjoining wheelchair space.*

**1007.6.2 (Not adopted) Separation.** *Each area of refuge shall be separated from the remainder of the story by a smoke barrier complying with Section 709 of the International Building Code or a horizontal*

exit complying with Section 1021. Each area of refuge shall be designed to minimize the intrusion of smoke.

**Exception:** Areas of refuge located within a vertical exit enclosure.

**1007.6.3 (Not adopted) Two-way communication.** Areas of refuge shall be provided with a two-way communication system between the area of refuge and a central control point. If the central control point is not constantly attended, the area of refuge shall also have controlled access to a public telephone system. Location of the central control point shall be approved by the fire department. The two-way communication system shall include both audible and visible signals.

**1007.6.4 (Not adopted) Instructions.** In areas of refuge that have a two-way emergency communications system, instructions on the use of the area under emergency conditions shall be posted adjoining the communication system. The instructions shall include all of the following:

1. Directions to find other means of egress.
2. Persons able to use the exit stairway do so soon as possible, unless they are assisting others.
3. Information on planned availability of assistance in the use of stairs or supervised operation of elevators and how to summon such assistance.
4. Directions for use of the emergency communications system.

**1007.6.5 (Not adopted) Identification.** Each door providing access to an area of refuge from an adjacent floor area shall be identified by a sign complying with ICC A117.1, stating: AREA OF REFUGE, and including the International Symbol of Accessibility. Where exit sign illumination is required by Section 1011.2, the area of refuge sign shall be illuminated. Additionally, tactile signage complying with ICC A117.1 shall be located at each door to an area of refuge.

**1007.7 (Not adopted) Signage.** At exits and elevators serving a required accessible space but not providing an approved accessible means of egress, signage shall be installed indicating the location of accessible means of egress.

**1007.8 (Not adopted) Exterior area for assisted rescue.** The exterior area for assisted rescue must be open to the outside air and meet the requirements of Section 1007.6.1. Separation walls shall comply with the requirements of Section 704 of the International Building Code for exterior walls. Where walls or openings are between the area for assisted rescue and the interior of the building, the building exterior walls within 10 feet (3048 mm) horizontally of a nonrated wall or unprotected opening shall have a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1 hour. Openings within such exterior walls shall be protected by opening protectives having a fire protection rating of not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour. The construction shall extend vertically from the ground to a point 10 feet (3048 mm) above the floor level of the area for assisted rescue or to the roof line, whichever is lower.

**1007.8.1 (Not adopted) Openness.** The exterior area for assisted rescue shall be at least 50 percent open, and the open area above the guards shall be so distributed as to minimize the accumulation of smoke or toxic gases.

**1007.8.2 (Not adopted) Exterior exit stairway.** Exterior exit stairways that are part of the means of egress for the exterior area for assisted rescue shall provided a clear width of 48 inches (1219 mm) between handrails.

**1007.8.3 (Not adopted) Identification.** Exterior areas for assisted rescue shall have identification as required for area of refuge that complies with Section 1007.6.5.

**1008.1.1 Size of doors.** The minimum width of each door opening shall be sufficient for the occupant load thereof and shall provide a clear width of not less than 32 inches (813 mm). Clear openings of doorways with swinging doors shall be measured between the face of the door and the stop, with the door open 90 degrees (1.57 rad.). Where this section requires a minimum clear width of 32 inches (813 mm) and a door opening includes two door leaves without a mullion, one leaf shall provide a clear opening width of 32 inches (813 mm). The maximum width of a swinging door leaf shall be 48 inches (1219 mm) nominal. Means of egress doors in a Group I-2 occupancy used for the movement of beds shall provide a clear width not less than 41.5 inches (1054 mm). The height of doors shall not be less than 80 inches (2032 mm).

**Exceptions:**

1. The minimum and maximum width shall not apply to door openings that are not part of the required means of egress in Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies.
2. Door openings to resident sleeping units in Group I-3 occupancies shall have a clear width of not less than 28 inches (711 mm).
3. Door openings to storage closets less than 10 square feet (0.93 m<sup>2</sup>) in area shall not be limited by the minimum width.
4. Width of door leaves in revolving doors that comply with Section 1008.1.3.1 shall not be limited.
5. Door openings within a dwelling unit or sleeping unit shall not be less than 78 inches (1981 mm) in height.
6. Exterior door openings in dwelling units and sleeping units, other than the required exit door, shall not be less than 76 inches (1930 mm) in height.
7. In other than Group R-1 occupancies, the minimum widths shall not apply to exterior egress doors within a dwelling unit or sleeping unit that is not required to be an Accessible unit, Type A unit or Type B unit.
8. Door openings required to be accessible within Type B units shall ~~have a minimum clear width of 31.75 inches (806 mm)~~ **comply with Section 1110.4.2.**

**1008.1.8.6.1 Controlled egress locks. Controlled egress locks shall be permitted to be installed on doors serving Group I-1, I-2, R-3 occupancies subject to licensure by the state, Group R-4 and SR occupancies provided that the fire sprinkler system, the fire alarm system and the controlled egress are in compliance with Appendix SR 107 and 108.3.**

**1008.3 Turnstiles.** Turnstiles or similar devices that restrict travel to one direction shall not be placed so as to obstruct any required means of egress.

**Exception:** Each turnstile or similar device shall be credited with no more than a 50-person capacity where all the following provisions are met:

1. Each device shall turn in the direction of egress travel when primary power is lost, and upon the manual release by an employee in the area.
2. Such devices are not given credit for more than 50 percent of the required egress capacity.
3. Each device is not more than 39 inches (991 mm) high.
4. Each device has at least 16.5 inches (419 mm) clear width at and below a height of 39 inches (991 mm) and at least 22 inches (559 mm) clear width at heights above 39 inches (991 mm).

Where located as part of an accessible route, turnstiles ~~shall have at least 36 inches (914 mm) clear at and below a height of 34 inches (864 mm), at least 32 inches (813 mm) clear width between 34~~

inches (864 mm) and 80 inches (2032 mm) and shall consist of a mechanism other than a revolving device and gates shall comply with Section 1109.9.1.

**1009.1 Stairway width.** The width of stairways shall be determined as specified in Section 1005.1, but such width shall not be less than 44 inches (1118 mm). See Section ~~1007.3~~ **1109.8 of the International Building Code** for accessible means of egress stairways.

**Exceptions:**

1. Stairways serving an occupant load of less than 50 shall have a width of not less than 36 inches (914 mm).
2. Spiral stairways as provided for in Section 1009.8.
3. Aisle stairs complying with Section 1025.
4. Where an incline platform lift or stairway chairlift is installed on stairways serving occupancies in Group R-3, or within dwelling units in occupancies in Group R-2, a clear passage width not less than 20 inches (508 mm) shall be provided. If the seat and platform can be folded when not in use, the distance shall be measured from the folded position.

**1009.3.3 Profile.** The radius of curvature at the leading edge of the tread shall be not greater than 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Beveling of nosings shall not exceed 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Risers shall be solid and vertical or sloped from the underside of the leading edge of the tread above at an angle not more than 30 degrees (0.52 rad) from the vertical. The leading edge (nosings) of treads shall project not more than 1.25 inches (32 mm) beyond the tread below and all projections of the leading edges shall be of uniform size, including the leading edge of the floor at the top of a flight.

**Exceptions:**

1. Solid risers are not required for stairways that are not required to comply with Section ~~1007.3~~ **1108.1.1.4, of the International Building Code** provided that the opening between treads does not permit the passage of a sphere with a diameter of 4 inches (102 mm).
2. Solid risers are not required for occupancies in Group I-3.

**1009.11 Stairway to roof.** In buildings located four or more stories in height above grade plane, one stairway shall extend to the roof surface, unless the roof has a slope steeper than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-percent slope). In buildings without an occupied roof, access to the roof from the top story shall be permitted to be by an alternating tread device or a ship stair or ladder that is constructed of steel, is a minimum 30 inches (762 mm) between handrails, has a rise and run of the stair or ladder of 12 inches (304.8 mm) maximum and 4 inches (101.6 mm) minimum respectively and has handrails provided on both sides of the stair or ladder.

**1009.11.1 Roof access.** Where a stairway is provided to a roof, access to the roof shall be provided through a penthouse complying with Section 1509.2 of the *International Building Code*.

**Exception:** In buildings without an occupied roof, access to the roof shall be permitted to be a roof hatch or trap door not less than ~~16 square feet (1.5m<sup>2</sup>) in area and having a minimum dimension of 2 feet (610 mm)~~ **30 inches (762 mm) wide and 8 feet (2440 mm) long.**

**1010.1 Scope.** The provisions of this section apply to ramps used as a component of a means of egress.

**Exceptions:**

1. Other than ramps that are part of the accessible routes providing access in accordance with Sections ~~1108.2 through 1108.2.3~~ and ~~1108.2.5~~ of the *International Building Code*, **1109.7 of the International Building Code** ramped aisles within the assembly rooms or spaces shall conform with the provisions in Section 1025.11.

2. Curb ramps shall comply with ICC A117.1 **Section 1103.2.2 of the International Building Code**.

3. Vehicle ramps in parking garages for pedestrian exit access shall not be required to comply with Sections 1010.3 through 1010.9 when they are not an accessible route serving accessible parking spaces, other required accessible elements or part of an accessible, means of egress.

**1010.6.5 Doorways.** Where doorways are located adjacent to a ramp landing, maneuvering clearances required by ICC A117.1 **1109.9 of the International Building Code** are permitted to overlap the required landing area.

**1010.9 Edge protection.** Edge protection complying with Section 1010.9.1 or 1010.9.2 shall be provided on each side of ramp runs and at each side of ramp landings.

**Exceptions:**

1. Edge protection is not required on ramps that are not required to have handrails, provided they have flared sides that comply with the ICC A117.1 **Section 1109.7 of the International Building Code** curb ramp provisions.

2. Edge protection is not required on the sides of ramp landings serving an adjoining ramp run or stairway.

3. Edge protection is not required on the sides of ramp landings having a vertical dropoff of not more than 0.5 inch (12.7 mm) within 10 inches (254 mm) horizontally of the required landing area.

**1011.3 Tactile exit signs.** A tactile sign stating EXIT and complying with ICC A117.1 **Section 1107.5 of the International Building Code** shall be provided adjacent to each door to an egress stairway, an exit passageway and the exit discharge.

**1019.1.3 Multi-story dwelling units. Individual multi-story dwelling units located in buildings of any height shall be permitted to have a single exit from the dwelling unit provided all of the following criteria are met:**

**1. The individual dwelling unit occupies not more than three stories; and**

**2. The exit from the dwelling unit is located at the level of exit discharge or is located to provide immediate access to not less than two approved independent exits from the story; and**

**2. The dwelling unit complies with Section 1015.1 as a space with one means of egress.**

**1019.2 Buildings Stories with one exit.** Only one exit shall be required in buildings as described below:

1. Buildings described in Table 1019.2, provided that the building has not more than one level below the first story above grade. **Stories meeting the limitations of Table 1019.2.**

2. Buildings of Group R-3 occupancy.

3. ~~Single level buildings with the occupied space at the level of exit discharge provided that the story or space complies with Section 1015.1 as a space with one means of egress.~~

**TABLE 1019.2  
BUILDINGS STORIES WITH ONE EXIT**

<u>STORY ABOVE GRADE PLANE</u>	<u>OCCUPANCY</u>	<u>MAXIMUM OCCUPANTS (OR DWELLING UNITS) PER FLOOR AND TRAVEL DISTANCE TO EXIT</u>
<u>FIRST STORY OR BASEMENT</u>	<u>A, B<sup>d</sup>, E<sup>e</sup>, F<sup>d</sup>, M, U, S<sup>d</sup></u>	<u>49 occupants and 75 feet travel distance</u>
	<u>H-2, H-3</u>	<u>3 occupants and 25 feet travel distance</u>
	<u>H-4, H-5, I, R</u>	<u>10 occupants and 75 feet travel distance</u>
	<u>S<sup>a</sup></u>	<u>29 occupants and 100 feet travel distance</u>
<u>SECOND STORY</u>	<u>B<sup>b</sup>, F, M, S<sup>a</sup></u>	<u>29 occupants and 75 feet travel distance</u>
	<u>R-2</u>	<u>4 dwelling units and 75 feet travel distance</u>
<u>THIRD STORY</u>	<u>R-2<sup>c</sup></u>	<u>4 dwelling units and 50 feet travel distance</u>

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm

- a. For the required number of exits for parking structures, see Section 1019.1.1.
- b. For the required number of exits for air traffic control towers, see Section 412.1.
- c. Buildings classified as Group R-2, equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. or 903.3.1.2 and provided with emergency escape and rescue openings in accordance with section 1026.
- d. Group B, F and S occupancies in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. shall have a maximum occupant load of 10.
- e. Day care occupancies shall have a maximum occupant load of 10.

1020.1.6.1 Sign details.

1. Size. Signs shall be a minimum 12 inches by 12 inches (305 mm by 305 mm).
2. Stairway location. The stairway locations, such as STAIR 1 or WEST STAIR, shall be placed at the top of the sign in 1-inch-high (25 mm) block lettering with ¼-inch (6.4 mm) stroke.
3. Upper terminus. The stairway’s upper terminus, such as ROOF ACCESS or NO ROOF ACCESS, shall be placed under the stairway identification in 1-inch-high (25.4 mm) block lettering with ¼-inch (6.4 mm) stroke.
4. Floor level number. The floor level number shall be placed in the middle of the sign in 5-inch (127 mm) lettering with ¾-inch (19.1 mm) stroke. The mezzanine levels shall have the letter “M” preceding the floor number. Basement levels shall have the letter “B” preceding the floor number.
5. Lower terminus. The lower and upper terminus of the stairway shall be placed at the bottom of the sign in 1-inch (25.4 mm) block lettering with ¼-inch (6.4 mm) stroke.
6. Maintenance. Signs shall be maintained in an approved manner.

**1020.1.6.2 Examples. See figure 1019.1.7.2-A and 1019.1.7.2-B for examples.**

**1025.5.1 Enclosure of balcony openings.** Interior stairways and other vertical openings shall be enclosed in an exit enclosure as provided in Section 1020.1, except that stairways are permitted to be open between the balcony and the main assembly floor in occupancies such as theater, places of religious worship and auditoriums. At least one accessible means of egress is required from a balcony or gallery level containing accessible seating locations in accordance with Section ~~1007.3 and 1007.4~~ **1107 of the International Building Code.**

**1027.1 General.** Means of egress in existing buildings shall comply with Section 1003 through 1026, except as amended in Section 1027.

**Exception:** Means of egress conforming to the requirements of the building code under which they were constructed shall be considered as complying means of egress if, in the opinion of the fire code official, they do not constitute a distinct hazard to life.

**Buildings or structures that were not constructed under the requirements of a building code shall meet the minimum requirements of Chapter 10. See also OAR 837, Division 41.**

**OAR 837, Division 41 is not a part of this code but is reproduced or paraphrased here for the reader's convenience.**

**OAR 837, Division 41 regulates Exitway Protection.**

**1027.1.1 Determining the adequacy of the means of egress. In determining the adequacy of the means of egress, as required by OAR 837-041-0050(2)(d), the fire code official may be guided by the requirement specified in Sections 1026.2 through 1026.21.**

**1028.1 General.** The means of egress for buildings or portions thereof shall be maintained in accordance with this section. **Overcrowding conditions shall be abated in accordance with Section 107.6.**