

**CHAPTER 5
FIRE SERVICE FEATURES**

**SECTION 503.1.1
2003 Edition
IFC Interpretation No. 28-08
Issued 1-27-2009
FL_03_28_08**

503.1.1 Buildings and facilities. Approved fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. The fire apparatus access road shall comply with the requirements of this section and shall extend to within 150 feet (45 720 mm) of all portions of the facility and all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility.

Exception: The fire code official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet (45 720 mm) where:

1. The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3.
2. Fire apparatus access roads cannot be installed because of location on property, topography, water-ways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided.
3. There are not more than two Group R-3 or Group U occupancies.



Q: In accordance with the provisions of Section 503.1.1 of the *International Fire Code*, are fire apparatus access roads required to be located such that fire apparatus can park within 150 feet of every point within a building?

A: No. This section establishes the maximum distance of 150 feet from the exterior walls of a building to the fire apparatus access road. The intent is to limit the length of hose from the fire department vehicle to any point along the exterior of a building not to every point within a building.