

Chapter 10

Means of Egress

CHANGE TYPE: Modification

CHANGE SUMMARY: Provisions addressing the minimum required number of means of egress and their arrangement for rooms and space as well as stories have been reformatted and relocated.

2015 CODE: **Section 1015 1006 Numbers of Exits and Exit Access Doorways.**

Section 1021 Number of Exits and Exit Configuration

Section 1007 Exit and Exit Access Doorway Configuration

Section 1007 1009 Accessible Means of Egress

(Renumbering and formatting affect most remaining sections.)

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: Most of the egress provisions in 2012 IBC Sections 1015 and 1021 have been combined, reformatted, and relocated to the general provisions of Sections 1006 and 1007. Previously, both Sections 1015 and 1021 contained requirements addressing the number of means of egress and their arrangement. Section 1015 typically dealt with the required number and arrangement of the means of egress from an individual room or space, while Section 1021 addressed the requirements for the individual story or overall building. Because the relationship of and the distinction between these two sections was not always clear, it often led to confusion or unnecessary difficulty in applying the requirements.

Combining many of the provisions of Sections 1015 and 1021 with some other provisions into a single location should result in making the provisions easier to understand and apply, providing for a more uniform application of the code. The reformatting allows the requirements to be placed within technical context and clarifies whether or not the provisions apply to a room or a story. Provisions that were very similar have either been combined so that the distinction is clearer or eliminated, in order to reduce confusion. Section 1006 now addresses the number of means of egress that are required, with new Section 1007 addressing the arrangement and separation of means-of-egress routes.

Relocating the provisions of Sections 1015 and 1021 to the general provision portion of the chapter allows a natural sequential flow of requirements based on the occupant load. Section 1004 begins by providing the means to determine the occupant load, and Section 1005 establishes the capacity requirements for the egress path based on that occupant load. At that point, the two new sections follow, with Section 1006 establishing the number of means of egress required and Section 1007 addressing how those multiple egress paths must be arranged.



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