

**5.6.5 Validity.** Evidence shall be provided to confirm that the assessment methods are valid and appropriate for the proposed building, use, and conditions.

**5.7\* Safety Factors.** Approved safety factors shall be included in the design methods and calculations to reflect uncertainty in the assumptions, data, and other factors associated with the performance-based design.

**5.8 Documentation Requirements.**

**5.8.1\* General.** All aspects of the design, including those described in 5.8.2 through 5.8.14, shall be documented. The format and content of the documentation shall be acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

**5.8.2\* Technical References and Resources.** The authority having jurisdiction shall be provided with sufficient documentation to support the validity, accuracy, relevance, and precision of the proposed methods. The engineering standards, calculation methods, and other forms of scientific information provided shall be appropriate for the particular application and methodologies used.

**5.8.3 Building Design Specifications.** All details of the proposed building design that affect the ability of the building to meet the stated goals and objectives shall be documented.

**5.8.4 Performance Criteria.** Performance criteria, with sources, shall be documented.

**5.8.5 Occupant Characteristics.** Assumptions about occupant characteristics shall be documented.

**5.8.6 Design Fire Scenarios.** Descriptions of design fire scenarios shall be documented.

**5.8.7 Input Data.** Input data to models and assessment methods, including sensitivity analyses, shall be documented.

**5.8.8 Output Data.** Output data from models and assessment methods, including sensitivity analyses, shall be documented.

**5.8.9 Safety Factors.** The safety factors utilized shall be documented.

**5.8.10 Prescriptive Requirements.** Retained prescriptive requirements shall be documented.

**5.8.11\* Modeling Features.**

**5.8.11.1** Assumptions made by the model user, and descriptions of models and methods used, including known limitations, shall be documented.

**5.8.11.2** Documentation shall be provided to verify that the assessment methods have been used validly and appropriately to address the design specifications, assumptions, and scenarios.

**5.8.12 Evidence of Modeler Capability.** The design team's relevant experience with the models, test methods, databases, and other assessment methods used in the performance-based design proposal shall be documented.

**5.8.13 Performance Evaluation.** The performance evaluation summary shall be documented.

**5.8.14 Use of Performance-Based Design Option.** Design proposals shall include documentation that provides anyone involved in the ownership or management of the building with notification of the following:

- (1) Approval of the building as a performance-based design with certain specified design criteria and assumptions
- (2) Need for required re-evaluation and reapproval in cases of remodeling, modification, renovation, change in use, or change in established assumptions

## Chapter 6 Classification of Occupancy and Hazard of Contents

### 6.1 Classification of Occupancy.

#### 6.1.1 General.

**6.1.1.1 Occupancy Classification.** The occupancy of a building or structure, or portion of a building or structure, shall be classified in accordance with 6.1.2 through 6.1.13. Occupancy classification shall be subject to the ruling of the authority having jurisdiction where there is a question of proper classification in any individual case.

**6.1.1.2 Special Structures.** Occupancies in special structures shall conform to the requirements of the specific occupancy chapter, Chapters 12 through 43, except as modified by Chapter 11.

**6.1.2 Assembly.** For requirements, see Chapters 12 and 13.

**6.1.2.1\* Definition — Assembly Occupancy.** An occupancy (1) used for a gathering of 50 or more persons for deliberation, worship, entertainment, eating, drinking, amusement, awaiting transportation, or similar uses; or (2) used as a special amusement building, regardless of occupant load.

**6.1.2.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.3 Educational.** For requirements, see Chapters 14 and 15.

**6.1.3.1\* Definition — Educational Occupancy.** An occupancy used for educational purposes through the twelfth grade by six or more persons for 4 or more hours per day or more than 12 hours per week.

**6.1.3.2 Other Occupancies.** Other occupancies associated with educational institutions shall be in accordance with the appropriate parts of this *Code*.

**6.1.3.3 Incidental Instruction.** In cases where instruction is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of this *Code* governing such other occupancy shall apply.

**6.1.4 Day Care.** For requirements, see Chapters 16 and 17.

**6.1.4.1\* Definition — Day-Care Occupancy.** An occupancy in which four or more clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision, by other than their relatives or legal guardians, for less than 24 hours per day.

**6.1.4.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.5 Health Care.** For requirements, see Chapters 18 and 19.

**6.1.5.1\* Definition — Health Care Occupancy.** An occupancy used to provide medical or other treatment or care simultaneously to four or more patients on an inpatient basis, where such patients are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupants' control.

**6.1.5.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.6 Ambulatory Health Care.** For requirements, see Chapters 20 and 21.

**6.1.6.1\* Definition — Ambulatory Health Care Occupancy.** An occupancy used to provide services or treatment simultaneously to four or more patients that provides, on an outpatient basis, one or more of the following:

- (1) Treatment for patients that renders the patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency conditions without the assistance of others

- (2) Anesthesia that renders the patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency conditions without the assistance of others
- (3) Emergency or urgent care for patients who, due to the nature of their injury or illness, are incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency conditions without the assistance of others

**6.1.6.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.7 Detention and Correctional.** For requirements, see Chapters 22 and 23.

**6.1.7.1\* Definition — Detention and Correctional Occupancy.** An occupancy used to house one or more persons under varied degrees of restraint or security where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation because of security measures not under the occupants' control.

**6.1.7.2\* Nonresidential Uses.** Within detention and correctional facilities, uses other than residential housing shall be in accordance with the appropriate chapter of the *Code*. (See 22.1.3.3 and 23.1.3.3.)

**6.1.8 Residential.** For requirements, see Chapters 24 through 31.

**6.1.8.1 Definition — Residential Occupancy.** An occupancy that provides sleeping accommodations for purposes other than health care or detention and correctional.

**6.1.8.1.1\* Definition — One- and Two-Family Dwelling Unit.** A building that contains not more than two dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities.

**6.1.8.1.2 Definition — Lodging or Rooming House.** A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one- or two-family dwelling, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of 16 or fewer people on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, but without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants.

**6.1.8.1.3\* Definition — Hotel.** A building or groups of buildings under the same management in which there are sleeping accommodations for more than 16 persons and primarily used by transients for lodging with or without meals.

**6.1.8.1.4\* Definition — Dormitory.** A building or a space in a building in which group sleeping accommodations are provided for more than 16 persons who are not members of the same family in one room, or a series of closely associated rooms, under joint occupancy and single management, with or without meals, but without individual cooking facilities.

**6.1.8.1.5 Definition — Apartment Building.** A building or portion thereof containing three or more dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities.

**6.1.8.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.9 Residential Board and Care.** For requirements, see Chapters 32 and 33.

**6.1.9.1\* Definition — Residential Board and Care Occupancy.** An occupancy used for lodging and boarding of four or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

**6.1.9.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.10 Mercantile.** For requirements, see Chapters 36 and 37.

**6.1.10.1\* Definition — Mercantile Occupancy.** An occupancy used for the display and sale of merchandise.

**6.1.10.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.11 Business.** For requirements, see Chapters 38 and 39.

**6.1.11.1\* Definition — Business Occupancy.** An occupancy used for the transaction of business other than mercantile.

**6.1.11.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.12 Industrial.** For requirements, see Chapter 40.

**6.1.12.1\* Definition — Industrial Occupancy.** An occupancy in which products are manufactured or in which processing, assembling, mixing, packaging, finishing, decorating, or repair operations are conducted.

**6.1.12.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.13 Storage.** For requirements, see Chapter 42.

**6.1.13.1\* Definition — Storage Occupancy.** An occupancy used primarily for the storage or sheltering of goods, merchandise, products, or vehicles.

**6.1.13.2 Other. (Reserved)**

**6.1.14 Multiple Occupancies.**

**6.1.14.1 General.**

**6.1.14.1.1** Multiple occupancies shall comply with the requirements of 6.1.14.1 and one of the following:

- (1) Mixed occupancies — 6.1.14.3
- (2) Separated occupancies — 6.1.14.4

**6.1.14.1.2** Where exit access from an occupancy traverses another occupancy, the multiple occupancy shall be treated as a mixed occupancy.

**6.1.14.1.3\*** Where incidental to another occupancy, areas used as follows shall be permitted to be considered part of the predominant occupancy and shall be subject to the provisions of the *Code* that apply to the predominant occupancy:

- (1) Mercantile, business, industrial, or storage use
- (2)\* Nonresidential use with an occupant load fewer than that established by Section 6.1 for the occupancy threshold

F (3) Portions of buildings used as accessory offices or for  
L customary non-hazardous uses necessary for transacting  
F the principal business in storage and industrial occupancies  
L need not be separated from the principal use.

F (4) Industrial occupancies producing, using, or storing low  
L hazard products in accordance with Subdivision 6.2.2 need  
F not be separated by fire-resistant construction from the  
L occupancies to which they are accessory.

L **6.1.14.1.3.1** Incidental use areas shall be separated as required by  
F Table 508.2.5 of the Florida Building Code where Table 508.2.5  
L permits an automatic fire-extinguishing system without a fire  
F barrier, the incidental use area shall be separated by construction  
L capable of resisting the passage of smoke.

L **6.1.14.1.4** The following accessory occupancies shall not be  
F required to be separated from the primary occupancy as required  
L in 6.1.14.4:

- F (1) A kitchen in an assembly occupancy does not constitute a  
L mixed occupancy.
- L (2) Accessory uses in industrial and storage occupancies as  
F otherwise provided in 6.1.14.1.3(1)
- L (3) Rooms or spaces used for customary storage of non-  
F hazardous materials in assembly, business, educational,  
L industrial, mercantile, hotel and dormitory, and apartment  
F occupancies which in aggregate do not exceed 10% of the  
L major floor area in which they are located. Protection from  
L hazards shall be as otherwise provided in the specific  
F occupancy chapter.

**6.1.14.2 Definitions.**

**6.1.14.2.1 Multiple Occupancy.** A building or structure in which two or more classes of occupancy exist.

**6.1.14.2.2 Mixed Occupancy.** A multiple occupancy where the occupancies are intermingled.

**6.1.14.2.3 Separated Occupancy.** A multiple occupancy where the occupancies are separated by fire resistance-rated assemblies.

**6.1.14.3 Mixed Occupancies.**

**6.1.14.3.1** Each portion of the building shall be classified as to its use in accordance with Section 6.1

**6.1.14.3.2\*** The building shall comply with the most restrictive requirements of the occupancies involved, unless separate safeguards are approved.

**6.1.14.4 Separated Occupancies.**

**6.1.14.4.1** Where separated occupancies are provided, each part of the building comprising a distinct occupancy, as described in this chapter, shall be completely separated from other occupancies by fire-resistive assemblies, as specified in 6.1.14.4.2, 6.1.14.4.3, Table 6.1.14.4.1(a), and Table 6.1.14.4.1(b), unless separation is provided by approved existing separations.

**6.1.14.4.2** Occupancy separations shall be classified as 3-hour fire resistance-rated, 2-hour fire resistance-rated, or 1-hour fire resistance-rated and shall meet the requirements of Chapter 8.

**6.1.14.4.3** The minimum fire resistance rating specified in Table 6.1.14.4.1(a) and Table 6.1.14.4.1(b) shall be permitted to be reduced by 1 hour, but in no case shall it be reduced to less than 1 hour, where the building is protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) and supervised in accordance with 9.7.2, unless prohibited by the double-dagger footnote entries in the tables.

**6.1.14.4.4** Occupancy separations shall be vertical, horizontal, or both or, when necessary, of such other form as required to provide complete separation between occupancy divisions in the building.

**6.1.14.4.5** One-story or two-story structures that are less than 10,000 square feet, whose occupancy is defined in the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code as business or mercantile, the authority having jurisdiction shall enforce the wall fire-rating provisions for occupancy separation as defined in the Florida Building Code.

**6.2 Hazard of Contents.****6.2.1 General.**

**6.2.1.1** For the purpose of this *Code*, the hazard of contents shall be the relative danger of the start and spread of fire, the danger of smoke or gases generated, and the danger of explosion or other occurrence potentially endangering the lives and safety of the occupants of the building or structure.

**6.2.1.2** Hazard of contents shall be classified by the registered design professional (RDP) or owner and submitted to the authority having jurisdiction for review and approval on the basis of the character of the contents and the processes or operations conducted in the building or structure.

**6.2.1.3\*** For the purpose of this *Code*, where different degrees of hazard of contents exist in different parts of a building or structure, the most hazardous shall govern the classification, unless hazardous areas are separated or protected as specified in Section 8.7 and the applicable sections of Chapters 11 through 43.

**6.2.2 Classification of Hazard of Contents.**

**6.2.2.1\* General.** The hazard of contents of any building or structure shall be classified as low, ordinary, or high in accordance with 6.2.2.2, 6.2.2.3, and 6.2.2.4.

**6.2.2.2\* Low Hazard Contents.** Low hazard contents shall be classified as those of such low combustibility that no self-propagating fire therein can occur.

**6.2.2.3\* Ordinary Hazard Contents.** Ordinary hazard contents shall be classified as those that are likely to burn with moderate rapidity or to give off a considerable volume of smoke.

**6.2.2.4\* High Hazard Contents.** High hazard contents shall be classified as those that are likely to burn with extreme rapidity or from which explosions are likely. (*For means of egress requirements, see Section 7.11.*)

**Chapter 7 Means of Egress****7.1 General.**

**7.1.1\* Application.** Means of egress for both new and existing buildings shall comply with this chapter. (*See also 5.5.3.*)

**7.1.2 Definitions.**

**7.1.2.1 General.** For definitions see Chapter 3 Definitions.

**7.1.2.2 Special Definitions.** A list of special terms used in this chapter follows:

- (1) **Accessible Area of Refuge.** See 3.3.22.1.
- (2) **Accessible Means of Egress.** See 3.3.170.1.
- (3) **Area of Refuge.** See 3.3.22.
- (4) **Common Path of Travel.** See 3.3.47.
- (5) **Electroluminescent.** See 3.3.68.
- (6) **Elevator Evacuation System.** See 3.3.69.
- (7) **Elevator Lobby.** See 3.3.70.
- (8) **Elevator Lobby Door.** See 3.3.62.1.
- (9) **Exit.** See 3.3.81.
- (10) **Exit Access.** See 3.3.82.
- (11) **Exit Discharge.** See 3.3.83.
- (12) **Externally Illuminated.** See 3.3.144.1.
- (13) **Horizontal Exit.** See 3.3.81.1.
- (14) **Internally Illuminated.** See 3.3.144.2.
- (15) **Means of Egress.** See 3.3.170.
- (16) **Photoluminescent.** See 3.3.207.
- (17) **Ramp.** See 3.3.219.
- (18) **Self-Luminous.** See 3.3.239.
- (19) **Severe Mobility Impairment.** See 3.3.244.
- (20) **Smokeproof Enclosure.** See 3.3.255.

**7.1.3 Separation of Means of Egress.** See also Section 8.2.

**7.1.3.1 Exit Access Corridors.** Corridors used as exit access and serving an area having an occupant load exceeding 30 shall be separated from other parts of the building by walls having not less than a 1-hour fire resistance rating in accordance with Section 8.3, unless otherwise permitted by one of the following:

- (1) This requirement shall not apply to existing buildings, provided that the occupancy classification does not change.
- (2) This requirement shall not apply where otherwise provided in Chapters 11 through 43.

Table 6.1.14.4.1(a) Required Separation of Occupancies (hours),<sup>†</sup> Part 1

Occupancy	Assembly ≤300	Assembly >300 to ≤1000	Assembly >1000	Educational	Day-Care >12 Clients	Day-Care Homes	Health Care	Ambulatory Health Care	Detention & Corrections 1	One- & Two- Family Dwellings	Lodging or Rooming Houses	Hotels & Dormitories
Assembly ≤300	—	0	0	2	2	1	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Assembly >300 to ≤1000	0	—	0	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Assembly >1000	0	0	—	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Educational	2	2	2	—	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Day-Care >12 Clients	2	2	2	2	—	1	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Day-Care Homes	1	2	2	2	1	—	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Health Care	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	—	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>
Ambulatory Health Care	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	—	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Detention & Correctional	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	—	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>
One- & Two- Family Dwellings	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	—	1	1
Lodging or Rooming Houses	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	—	1
Hotels & Dormitories	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	1	—
Apartment Buildings	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	1	1
Board & Care, Small	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	2	2
Board & Care, Large	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Mercantile	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Mercantile, Mall	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Mercantile, Bulk Retail	3	3	3	3	3	3	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	3	3	3
Business	1	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Industrial, General Purpose	2	2	3	3	3	3	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Industrial, Special-Purpose	2	2	2	3	3	3	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Industrial, High Hazard	3	3	3	3	3	3	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	NP	3	3	3
Storage, Low & Ordinary Hazard	2	2	3	3	3	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2	2
Storage, High Hazard	3	3	3	3	3	3	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	NP	3	3	3

NP: Not permitted.

<sup>†</sup>Minimum Fire Resistance Rating. The fire resistance rating is permitted to be reduced by 1 hour, but in no case to less than 1 hour, where the building is protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) and supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

<sup>‡</sup>The 1-hour reduction due to the presence of sprinklers in accordance with the single-dagger footnote is not permitted.

Table 6.1.14.4.1(b) Required Separation of Occupancies (hours)<sup>†</sup>, Part 2

Occupancy	Apartment Buildings	Board & Care, Small	Board & Care, Large	Mercantile	Mercantile, Mall	Mercantile, Bulk Retail	Business	Industrial, General Purpose	Industrial, Special-Purpose	Industrial, High Hazard	Storage, Low & Ordinary Hazard	Storage, High Hazard
Assembly ≤300	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	3	2	3
Assembly >300 to ≤1000	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Assembly >1000	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
Educational	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Day-Care >12 Clients	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Day-Care Homes	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	3
Health Care	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>
Ambulatory Health Care	2	2	2	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	1	2	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2	2 <sup>‡</sup>
Detention & Correctional	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	2 <sup>‡</sup>	NP	2 <sup>‡</sup>	NP
One- & Two-Family Dwellings	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Lodging or Rooming Houses	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Hotels & Dormitories	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Apartment Buildings	—	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Board & Care, Small	2	—	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Board & Care, Large	2	1	—	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
F Mercantile	2	2	2	—	0	3	2*	2	2	3	2	3
Mercantile, Mall	2	2	2	0	—	3	2	3	3	3	2	3
Mercantile, Bulk Retail	3	3	3	3	3	—	2	2	2	3	2	2
F Business	2	2	2	2*	2	2	—	2	2	2	2	2
Industrial, General Purpose	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	—	1	1	1	1
Industrial, Special-Purpose	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	1	—	1	1	1
Industrial, High Hazard	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	—	1	1
Storage, Low & Ordinary Hazard	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	—	1
Storage, High Hazard	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	—

NP: Not permitted.

<sup>†</sup>Minimum Fire Resistance Rating. The fire resistance rating is permitted to be reduced by 1 hour, but in no case to less than 1 hour, where the building is protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) and supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

<sup>‡</sup>The 1-hour reduction due to the presence of sprinklers in accordance with the single-dagger footnote is not permitted.

F \*Where the building is two stories or less in height and the total building square footage is less than 10,000 square feet, no separation is required.