



Fire Prevention

MAINTAINING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS IN CLASSROOMS AND CORRIDORS, INCLUDING THE DISPLAY OF STUDENTS' WORK

The California Fire Code (CFC) requires that combustible decorative materials in classrooms be flame resistant. However, CFC Subsection 807.4.3 provides an exemption for educational materials from the flame resistant requirement. Subsequently, the State Fire Marshal has determined that the amount of displayed material that is not flame resistant can be regulated by local fire departments in order to decrease the hazard.

To meet the intent of the CFC while still allowing the display of students' work, the City of Riverside Fire Department has interpreted students' work as educational material. Therefore, the following guidelines have been adopted to regulate the display of combustible educational materials in public and private schools:

1. When hanging decorations from the ceiling, the bottom of the decoration must be a minimum of seven feet above the floor.
2. Fifty percent of the total wall and window area may be covered with materials that are not flame resistant; however, at no time shall more than fifty percent of the window area be covered.
3. Exit doors shall be readily distinguishable from the adjacent construction and shall be easily recognizable as exit doors.
4. Fire protection devices, such as fire extinguishers and pull stations shall not be blocked, covered, or obscured from view at any time.

The City of Riverside has determined to enforce the International Fire Code (IFC) limiting artwork and teaching materials on the walls of corridors to not more than twenty percent of the wall area.

City of Riverside Fire Department
Fire Prevention
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