



**ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICE
CODE INTERPRETATION**

6501 Magic Way, Building 100C
Orlando, Florida 32809
Telephone (407) 317-3794
Fax (407) 317-3950

Subject Title: Hot/Tempered Water Provisions
Applicable Code: FBC (Plumbing) Section 607.1
Date: April 11, 2017

Question:

Is hot/tempered water required to be supplied to all sinks in new/renovated school projects?

Comment:

2014 Edition Florida Building Code (Plumbing) Section 607.1 states “In residential occupancies, hot water shall be supplied to plumbing fixtures and equipment utilized for bathing, washing, culinary purposes, cleansing, laundry or building maintenance. In nonresidential occupancies, hot water shall be supplied for culinary purposes, cleansing, laundry or building maintenance purposes. In nonresidential occupancies, hot water or tempered water shall be supplied for bathing and washing purposes.”

To answer this question it would be appropriate to note that this code section differs from the 2010 Edition of the FBC (Plumbing) which stated “In occupied structures, hot water shall be supplied to all plumbing fixtures and equipment utilized for bathing, washing, culinary purposes, cleansing, laundry or building maintenance.”

It is important to note that the 2010 edition also contained an exception which stated “The delivery of cold water only shall be permitted to be delivered from all hand washing facilities except where hot water is required by law.” After investigating the requirements of the Florida State Health Department it was found that there are no requirements to provide hot/tempered water in this application. The removal of this exception in the 2015 edition appears to be a deliberate action to eliminate the cold water only provisions where washing takes place. Practically speaking, if an opinion was to be made that only one or some of the fixtures in a multiple fixture location such as group restrooms, classrooms etc. are to be provided with hot/tempered water, which fixtures would be chosen? Handicapped accessible fixtures? Non-handicapped accessible fixtures? How many? Can control measures be put in place to monitor which fixtures are not used for the purposes of washing or cleansing?

Answer:

There are obvious instances or locations where hot/tempered water would not be required such as drinking fountains, decorative water features and any fixture expressly identified as not being used for washing or cleansing purposes. However, it is clear that current code provisions require hot/tempered water be supplied to all fixtures used for the purposes of washing or cleansing, particularly due to the 2014 edition code change which deliberately removed the cold water only provision.