

2021 City of Houston Construction Codes Addendum

Date: May 22, 2023

Addendum to the 2021 Houston Amendments

The following amendments have been approved within their corresponding Task Force Group to be included with the current 2021 Houston amendments and are provided as an addendum to the approved 2021 Houston amendments draft running docs currently posted online.

2021 Houston Energy Code Amendments Addendum (TFG-3)

R402.4.1.4 Sampling options for R2 multifamily dwelling units. For buildings with eight or more testing units that must be tested as required by R402.4.1.2 or R402.4.1.3, the greater of seven units or 20 percent of the testing units in the building shall be tested, including a top floor unit, a ground floor unit, a middle floor unit, and a unit with the largest testing unit enclosure area. For each tested unit that exceeds the maximum air leakage rate, an additional three units shall be tested, including a mixture of testing unit types and locations. Where buildings have fewer than eight testing units, each testing unit shall be tested.

R403.6.4 Sampling options for R-2 multifamily dwelling units. Sample Testing must follow Chapter 6 of the Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Systems Standards. For buildings with eight or more testing units that must be tested as required by R403.6.3, the greater of seven units or 20 percent of the testing units in the building shall be tested, including a top floor unit, a ground floor unit, a middle floor unit, and a unit with the largest testing unit floor area. For each tested unit that does not meet the minimum ventilation rate, an additional three units shall be tested, including a mixture of testing unit types and location. Where building have fewer than eight testing units, each testing unit shall be tested.

R403.3.8 Sampling options for R-2 multifamily dwelling units. Sample Testing must follow Chapter 6 of the Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Systems Standards. For buildings with eight or more testing units that must be tested as required by R403.3.5, the greater of seven units or 20 percent of the testing units in the building shall be tested, including a top floor unit, a ground floor unit, a middle floor unit, and a unit with the largest testing unit floor area. For each tested unit that exceeds the maximum duct leakage rate, an additional three units shall be tested, including a mixture of testing unit types and locations. Where buildings have fewer than eight testing units, each testing unit shall be tested.

Changes continued below...

**TABLE R406.5
MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX**

CLIMATE ZONE	ENERGY RATING INDEX
0-1	52
2	<u>5259, Effective until August 31, 2025</u> <u>57, Effective from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2028</u> <u>55, Effective from September 1, 2028 to September 1, 2031</u>
3	51
4	54
5	55
6	54
7	53
8	53

2021 Houston Building Code Amendments Addendum (TFG-1)

1512.1 General. Materials and methods of application used for recovering or replacing an existing *roof covering* shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 15.

Exceptions:

1. *Roof replacement* or *roof recover* of existing low-slope *roof coverings* shall not be required to meet the minimum design slope requirement of $\frac{1}{4}$ unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (2-percent slope) in Section 1507 for roofs that provide *positive roof drainage* and meet the requirements of Section 1608.3 and Section 1611.2.
2. Recovering or replacing an existing *roof covering* shall not be required to meet the requirement for secondary (emergency overflow) drains or *scuppers* in Section 1502.2 for roofs that provide for *positive roof drainage* and meet the requirements of Section 1608.3 and Section 1611.2. For the purposes of this exception, existing secondary drainage or *scupper* systems required in accordance with this code shall not be removed unless they are replaced by secondary drains or *scuppers* designed and installed in accordance with Section 1502.2.

Changes continue below...

2021 Houston Mechanical Code Amendments Addendum (TFG-4)

**TABLE 1701.1
REFERENCED STANDARDS**

Standard Number	Standard Title	Application	Referenced Sections
<u>ASTM B 68-2011</u>	<u>Specification for Seamless Copper Tube, Bright Annealed (Metric)</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>405.13.1</u>
NFPA 70-202320*	National Electrical Code	Miscellaneous	301.4, 511.1.6, 512.2.5, 516.2.7, 516.2.9(4), 602.2.1, 905.10.2, 1104.4(6), 1217.7.1, 1311.14.5(2), 1312.6, E 503.5(11)(c)
<u>NFPA 92-2015</u>	<u>Standard for Smoke Control Systems</u>	<u>Smoke Control</u>	<u>405.7, 405.8</u>
<u>UL 864-2003</u>	<u>Standards for Control Units and Accessories for Fire Alarm Systems</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>405.12</u>
<u>ASHRAE 15-2016 2022</u>	Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems	Refrigeration Systems	1102.1, <u>1104.6.1</u> , <u>1104.6.2.3</u> , <u>1104.6.4</u> , <u>1104.6.5</u> , 1106.1, Table 1113.5
<u>ASHRAE 34-2016 2022</u>	Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants	Refrigeration Classifications	1102.3, Table 1102.3, 1103.1, Table 1106.2.5.2
<u>UL 60335-2-40-2017 2022</u>	Household and Similar Electrical Appliances — Safety — Part 2-40: Particular Requirements for Electrical Heat Pumps, Air-Conditioners and Dehumidifiers	Appliances	903.1, 904.13
<u>UL 60335-2-89-2017 2021</u>	Household and Similar Electrical Appliances – Safety – Part 2-89: Particular Requirements for Commercial Refrigerating Appliances with an Incorporated or Remote Refrigerant Unit or Compressor	Appliances	934.1, 934.2, 934.3