

Location of Exit Signs

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

3.4.5.1. Exit Signage

- (1) Except as provided by Sentence (9) and (10), every exit door shall have an exit sign placed over or adjacent to it if the exit serves,
 - (a) a building more than 2 storeys in building height,
 - (b) a building having an occupant load of more than 150, or
 - (c) a room or floor area that has a fire escape as part of a required means of egress.
- (2) Except as provided in sentence (7), every exit sign shall,
 - (a) be visible on approach to the exit,
- (7) Where no exit is visible from a public corridor, from a corridor used by the public in a Group A or B major occupancy or from principal routes serving an open floor area having an occupant load of more than 150, an exit sign conforming to Clauses (2)(b) and (c) with an arrow or other indicator pointing at the direction of egress shall be provided.
- (8) Except for egress doorways describe in Sentence 3.3.2.3.(4), an exit sign conforming to Sentences (2) to (6) shall be placed over or adjacent to every egress doorway from rooms with an occupant load more than 60 in Group A, Division 1 occupancies, dance halls, licensed beverage establishment and other similar occupancies that, when occupied, have lighting levels below the level that would provide easy identification of the egress doorway
- (9) Except for suite doors opening directly to the exterior, every exit serving a hotel shall have an exit sign placed over or adjacent to it.
- (10) An exit sign is not required within a suite containing a Group B, Division 3 occupancy if the following requirements are met:
 - (a) the suite contains sleeping accommodation for not more than 10 persons, and
 - (b) not more than 6 occupants require assistance in evacuation in case of an emergency.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of Exit Signage (Emergency Exit Signs) is to provide appropriate visual conditions and direction to allow escape routes to be readily located and used. When there is an emergency in a building, all occupants and visitors must be informed of the most efficient way to exit the building. Not every person is familiar with a buildings layout. Occupants and visitors rely on exit signs to assist in locating the closest, safest way out of the building in the event of an emergency evacuation. If smoke affects visibility, exit signs may be critical in finding the way to safety.

LEGEND



