What is a Fire Code Operational Permit?

A Fire Code Operational Permit (FCPO) is required for a business conducting a specialized or hazardous operation within a building or on the property. The FCPO is not transferrable, which means if the business changes owners, the operation changes, the business moves, or the life safety requirements are not maintained the permit is revoked and applicant will need to apply for a new permit.

Which Fire Code Operational Permit Do I Need?

There are many different kinds of FCPO, some operations are very common and others are not. Below are common FCPO and the definition of each one:

- **Aerosol Product (FCPO-AEROS):**
  To manufacture, store or handle an aggregate quantity of Level 2 or Level 3 aerosol products in excess of 500 pounds net weight.

- **Amusement Buildings (FCPO-AMUSE):**
  To operate a special amusement building such as a haunted house, maze or carnival attraction.

- **Aviation Facilities (FCPO-AVIAT):**
  To use a Group H or S occupancy for aircraft servicing or repair and aircraft fuel-servicing vehicles.

- **Bed & Breakfast (FCPO-BB):**
  A residential building or portion of residential building that occupants are primarily transient in nature.

- **Carnival/Fair (FCPO-CFAIR):**
  A permit to conduct a carnival or fair.

- **Carbon Dioxide Systems (FCPO-CO2):**
  Carbon dioxide systems having more than 100 pounds of carbon dioxide.

- **COMBO (FCPO-COMBO):**
  For businesses that have more than one operational classification.

- **Combustible Dust Producing (FCPO-CDUST):**
  Finely divided solid material which is 420 microns or less in diameter, when dispersed in air could ignite by a source of ignition.

- **Compressed Gases (FCPO-CGAS):**
  For the storage, use or handling of normal temperature and pressure of compressed gases in excess of IFC Table 105.6.9-see checklist.

- **Cutting & Welding (FCPO-CW):**
  To conduct cutting and welding operations within the Jurisdiction, inside or outside a building.

- **Dry Cleaning (FCPO-DRYCL):**
  To engage in the business of dry cleaning or to change to a more hazardous cleaning solvent used in existing dry cleaning equipment.

- **Exhibits/Trade Shows (FCPO-EXHIB):**
  To hold an exhibit or trade show.

- **Explosives (FCPO-EXPLO):**
  For manufacture, storage, handling, sale or use of any quantity of explosives, explosive materials, fireworks or pyrotechnic special effects.

- **Fireworks Display (FCPO-FWDI):**
  A presentation of fireworks for a public or private gathering.

- **Fireworks Stand (FCPO-FWST):**
  The sale of fireworks during a predetermined time approved by State and County code in a free standing structure.

- **Fireworks Tent (FCPO-TENT):**
  The sale of fireworks during a predetermined time approved by State and County code in a membrane structure (tent).

- **Flammable/Combustible Liquids (FCPO-FCLIQ):**
  To store, handle, or use Class I more than 5 gal, Class II or Class IIIA more than 25 gal, Class IIIB in tanks for fueling motor vehicles or fuel burning equipment; removal of Class I or II tanks.

- **Hazardous Materials (FCPO-HAZMAT):**
  To store, transport on site, dispense, use or handle or hazardous materials in excess of amounts listed in Table 105.6.21
- **High-pile Storage (FXPO-HPS):**
  Area exceeding 500 square feet with storage higher than 12’ or High-hazard commodities greater than 6’ in height.
- **Hot Work (FCPO-HOTWO):**
  To perform at public exhibitions or demonstrations, portable hotwork equipment inside of a structure, welding booths, within a wildfire risk area or the application of roof coverings with an open flame device.
- **Liquid/gas Fueled Vehicles or Equipment (FCPO-LPFV):**
  To Display, operate or demonstrate liquid or gas fueled vehicles or equipment in an assembly building.
- **LP Gas (FCPO-LPGAS):**
  Storage and use for any commercial application, for residential tanks over 500 gallons, multiple container systems having an aggregate amount of more than 500 gallons and the operation of cargo tankers that transport.
- **Marijuana Extraction Systems (FCPO-MJEXT):**
  Use of a marijuana/cannabis extraction system.
- **Motor Fuel Dispensing (FCPO-MFD):**
  For the operation of automotive, marine and fleet motor fuel dispensing facilities.
- **Open Flame/Candles (FCPO-OPFL2):**
  To use in connection with assembly areas, dining areas of restaurants, or drinking establishments.
- **Open Flame/Torches (FCPC-OPFL1):**
  To use a torch to remove paint or use open flame devices/torches in a wildfire risk area.
- **Places of Assembly (FCPO-ASSY):**
  To operate a place of assembly. Examples of an assembly include but are not limited to: restaurants, a church, theatres, Libraries, Skating rinks and Grandstands.
- **Pyrotechnic Special Effects Material (FCPO-PYROT):**
  To use or handle any pyrotechnic special effect materials.
- **Repair Garages and Motor Fuel-dipping Facilities (FCPO-REPAI):**
  For the operation of a repair garage.
- **Spray or Dipping Operations (FCPO-SPRAY):**
  Utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible powders.
- **Storage of Scrap Tires & Tire Byproducts (FCPO-TIRES):**
  To establish, conduct or maintain storage exceeding 2,500 cubic feet total volume.
- **Temp Tent/Canopy (FCPO-TENT):**
  To operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an area greater than 400 sq. ft. IFC 105.6.45
- **Waste Handling (FCPO-WASTE):**
  To operate a wrecking yard, junk yard, and waste material handling facility.

**What If I Have More Than One Operation In My Business?**
Sometimes a business has several different operations; in that case a FCPO-COMBO (Combination Fire Permit) can be submitted. The benefit of a Combination Permit is that the business owner saves on permit fees. Although one permit is being applied for all supporting documents for each operation is required to be submitted so that the plan reviewer can insure compliance with all applicable codes.

**When Do I Have To Submit My Operation Permit?**
Once it has been determined that an operation permit is required, applicant will need to have an issued fire permit in order to schedule the final building inspection. It is important to submit your permit in plenty of time (**not less than 10 days**) so that it can be approved and issued before you want to schedule your inspection.

**Do I Need the Operational Permit Inspected?**
Yes you do. Once the final building inspection has been approved, a Certificate of Occupancy Inspection can be scheduled at that time and the inspector will also inspect for your operational permit.