FIRE CODE OPERATIONAL



What is a Fire Code Operational Permit?

A Fire Code Operational Permit (FCPO) is required for businesses 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 the applicant must apply for a new permit.

Which Fire Code Operational Permit Do I Need?

There are many different kinds of FCPO, some operations are common, and others are not. Below are common FCPOs 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 over 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, repair, and fuel-servicing vehicles.
- Bed & Breakfast (FCPO-BB)
 A dwelling or separate structure which is used by the owner or primary resident to provide overnight guest lodging for compensation including not more than ten guest rooms and which usually provides a morning meal as part of the room rate structure.
- 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 420 microns or less in diameter, when dispersed in the air, could ignite by an ignition source.
- 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 a dry cleaning business 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)
 Manufacture, store, handle, sell, or use 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 the 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 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 hot work equipment inside a structure, welding booths, within a wildfire risk area, or applying 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 assembly include but are not limited to: restaurants, churches, 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-dispensing 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 sg. ft. IFC 105.6.45
- Waste Handling (FCPO-WASTE)
 To operate a wrecking yard, junkyard, 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, all supporting documents for each operation must be submitted so that the plan reviewer can ensure 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, the applicant will need to have an issued fire permit to schedule the final building inspection. It is important to submit your permit in plenty of time (**not less than 10 days**) so 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