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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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Source Document: 19NYCRR 1221 - *Building Code of New York State (BCNYS)*

Topic: BCNYS Table 302.3.3, **Required Separation of Occupancies, footnote e**
Assembly uses accessory to Group E

This document provides the application of footnote e of Table 302.3.3, which states that “Assembly uses accessory to Group E are not considered separate occupancies.”

Does footnote e mean that assembly spaces in Group E, educational occupancy buildings are regulated as education occupancies for all code purposes including means of egress, fire protection and live loads?

No. Footnote e is a footnote to BCNYS Table 302.3.3, “Required Separation of Occupancies.” This footnote means that accessory assembly spaces in educational occupancies can exceed the 10 percent maximum floor area requirement in BCNYS section 302.2, *accessory use area*, and still be considered accessory without having to be fire-separated in accordance with the table. All assembly spaces in the school are accessory to the Group E, education occupancy.

Other code sections applicable to Group A, assembly occupancies are applicable only when the code refers to them. For example, BCNYS section 1003.2, means of egress, refers to section 1008 (assembly means of egress) in a number of subsections. Additionally, the code refers to “assembly” as a type of use rather than an “occupancy classification.” BCNYS Table 1003.2.2, maximum floor area allowances per occupant, provides the applicable floor area in square feet per occupant for types of uses such as “assembly with fixed seats, assembly without fixed seats, classroom, library, locker rooms, pool, and stages.” BCNYS Table 1004.2.4 footnote a is applicable to “assembly seating” and refers to section 1008.

Regarding the requirements for automatic sprinkler systems, and fire alarm and detection systems, BCNYS sections 903.2.2 and 907.2.3 for Group E, education occupancy classification are applicable. Regarding the structural live load requirements of BCNYS Table 1607.1, minimum uniformly distributed live loads and minimum concentrated live loads, similarly provide live loads applicable to types of uses such as “assembly, corridors, gymnasiums, libraries, and classrooms.”

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