

Building Types and Exempt Building Types

Per 59 OS 46.21b, the following building types require an Architect or are exempt from needing an Architect to design and seal all architectural plans, based upon the building's Code Use Group: (All codes used in Oklahoma are adopted from the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission. For a complete list of codes, please visit their [website](#).)

Building Code Use Groups that require an Architect:	Building Code Use Groups that are exempt from needing an Architect: (when certain criteria are met)
<p>Code Use Group I- Institutional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common I Buildings: Assisted living facilities, group homes, social rehabilitation facilities, hospitals, nursing homes, foster care facilities, detoxification facilities, psychiatric hospitals, detention centers, jails, adult day care centers, child day care centers 	<p>Code Use Group A-2 and A-3 - Assembly, food and/or drink consumption, worship, recreation, or amusement-when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height (not including a basement) and with a code-defined occupancy of no more than 50 people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common A-2 and A-3 Buildings: Banquet halls, casinos, nightclubs, restaurants, cafeterias, taverns, bars, arcades, art galleries, bowling alleys, community halls, courtrooms, funeral parlors, gymnasiums (without spectator seating), lecture halls, libraries, museums, places of religious worship, pool and billiard halls, waiting areas in transportation terminals
<p>Code Use Group R-2- Residential Group occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common R-2 Buildings: Apartment houses, boarding houses (with more than 16 occupants), congregate living facilities (with more than 16 occupants), dormitories, fraternities and sororities, vacation timeshare properties, convents and monasteries 	<p>Code Use Group E- Educational - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height (not including a basement) and has a code-defined occupancy of no more than 50 people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common E Buildings: Schools and all related buildings, religious educational rooms and auditoriums
<p>Code Use Group A-1- Assembly and theaters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common A-1 Buildings: Movie theaters, symphony and concert halls, television and radio studios with space for an audience, theaters 	<p>Code Use Group R-1- Residential - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height and no more than 64 transient lodging units per building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common R-1 Buildings: hotels, motels, boarding houses (transient)
<p>Code Use Group A-4- Assembly, arenas and courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common A-4 Buildings: Arenas, skating rinks, swimming pools, tennis courts 	<p>Code Use Group B- Business - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height and with a gross square footage not exceeding 100,000sq. ft.</p>

*If you have any questions about which types of buildings require an Architect that are not answered by the 59 Oklahoma State Architectural and Registered Interior Designers Act Section 46.21b,

please call the OBA office at (405) 949-2383 or email lauren.vaughan@boardofarch.ok.gov.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common B Buildings: Ambulatory care facilities, animal hospitals, kennels, and pounds, banks, barber and beauty shops, car wash, civic administration, outpatient clinics, dry cleaning and laundries, educational occupancies for students above 12th grade, post offices, print shops, professional services offices (architects, attorneys, dentists, physicians, engineers, etc.), training and skills development not in a school (tutoring centers, gymnastics, martial arts studios, etc.)
<p>Code Use Group A-5- Assembly, bleachers and grandstands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common A-5 Buildings: Amusement park structures, bleachers, grandstands, stadiums 	<p>Code Use Group M- Mercantile - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height and with a gross square footage not exceeding 200,000sq. ft.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common M Buildings: Medical marijuana center, store, or dispensary, department stores, drug stores, markets, retail or wholesale stores, sales rooms
	<p>Code Use Group U- Utility - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common U Buildings: Agricultural buildings, aircraft hangars, barns, carports, fences more than 6ft in height, grain silos, greenhouses, livestock shelters, private garages, sheds, stables, tanks, towers
	<p>Code Use Group F- Factory and Industrial - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common F Buildings: Marijuana grow facilities, marijuana oil extraction operations, marijuana-infused product kitchens/bakeries, factories manufacturing low-hazard items (for a full list of what is considered "low hazard," click here)

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	<p>Code Use Group H- High hazard - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common H Buildings: Buildings in which high hazard products are manufactured (for a full list of what is considered "high hazard," click here)
	<p>Code Use Group S- Storage - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common S Buildings: A space primarily used for storage of moderate- or low-hazardous materials or products
	<p>Code Use Group R-2- Residential - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height and which contains no more than 32 dwelling units or guest units</p>
	<p>Code Use Groups R-3 and R-4 - Residential - when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height</p>
	<p>Common R-3 and R- Buildings: Boarding houses, congregate living facilities, lodging houses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All buildings used by a municipality, county, state, public trust, public agency, or the federal government with a construction value under \$158,000 and when the construction, addition, or alteration is on a building no more than 2 stories in height.
	<p>All uninhabitable, privately-owned agricultural buildings.</p>

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