



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE COMMAND CENTER REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH RISE BUILDINGS

In accordance with Section B-911 of the 2018 Philadelphia Building Code and Section F-508 of the 2018 Philadelphia Fire Code, the following are Philadelphia Fire Department requirements for Fire Command Centers for new high-rise buildings or high-rise buildings undergoing a change of use.

1. The Fire Command Center shall be within a room separated from the rest of the building by a one-hour minimum, fire rating.
2. The floor area of the Fire Command Center must have a minimum area of .015% of the total building area or 200 square feet in area. Whichever is greater.
3. The Fire Command Center must have a minimum dimension 0.7 times the square root of the room area or 10 feet. Whichever is greater.
4. The room shall be located adjacent to the main lobby at grade level in a location approved by the Fire Department.
5. The door to the room shall be labeled “FIRE COMMAND CENTER.”
6. In addition to equipment required in the room by the Philadelphia Building Code, the room shall contain the following:
 - Where the Fire Department communication system utilizes phone jacks, a minimum of six handsets shall be provided.
 - Copies of all fire and/or building code variances.
 - A completed copy of the Philadelphia Fire Department’s High-rise Vital Building Information form, which lists vital emergency information about the building.
 - Materials Safety Data Sheets for all on-site hazardous materials.
 - A list of emergency contact names and telephone numbers.
 - A list of the room numbers of occupants who may need assistance.
 - Elevator override keys (or stored at a readily accessible location). The state elevator code requires one set of keys for each elevator. Six sets of keys are required for fire department use.
 - A set of master keys (or made readily available from on-site building personnel).

Upload a diagram (pdf format) of the floor plan indicating the Fire Command Center to eCLIPSE for the Fire Code Unit to review and approve.

Document Guidelines:

- The diagram shall be the ground-level or first-level floor plan with all exits indicated.
- The diagram shall indicate & label all surrounding streets.
- A north directional arrow shall be indicated.
- The fire command center room shall be indicated & labeled 'Fire Command Center'.
- The area dimensions of the Fire Command Center shall be listed (i.e. 20' x 12') and the total area shall be equal to or greater than 200 square feet.
- A tick line representing the travel distance from the front door (listed address) of the building to the front door of the Fire Command Center, shall be indicated.