

Construction Site Fire Watch Requirements

Information Sheet

A fire watch during off hours on a jobsite is required when a combustibile building under construction has reached a height of at least 40 feet above adjacent grade. See below to learn more about how to comply with the fire watch requirement and see [Code Bulletin No. F-2001](#) for more detail.

The prime contractor identified on the building permit is responsible to provide all necessary documentation.

COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

- ☐ You are required to upload your fire site safety plan through [eCLIPSE](#) prior to initial inspection. Please see the [how-to guide on resolving a permit hold](#) for submittal instructions.
- ☐ Establish a fire watch as required by [Code Bulletin No. F-2001](#) for the following:
 - When the height of the building under construction reaches 40 feet or an area of 50,000 square feet;
 - During an emergency or planned impairment of a fire protection system;
 - When hot work activity occurs.
- ☐ Keep daily fire watch logs.
- ☐ You may stop the fire watch when fire protection systems have been installed and certified.

AUDITS

L&I's Audits and Investigations Unit (AIU) will select projects at random to audit compliance. If AIU notifies you that your jobsite is being audited, you must submit one or more of the following, as appropriate:

- Copies of daily fire watch logs or
- Confirmation that the building under construction has not reached 40 feet in height or an aggregate area of 50,000 square feet (to be verified by an inspector) or
- Copies of fire protection certifications, demonstrating that fire watch is no longer required.

Failure to respond to the audit can result in:

- A \$2,000 license violation issued to the contractor for failure to respond to a request for information.
- Issuance of a Stop Work Order if inspectors determine that a fire watch is required but has not been implemented.

A project may be audited more than once, and enforcement procedures may be modified.