

REQUEST FOR CODE ALTERNATE, INTERPRETATION, MODIFICATION

APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

The Minnesota State Building Code (MSBC) allows for construction methods that may not comply with the specific wording in the code. Minnesota Rule 1300.0110 allows for alternates, interpretations, and modifications to the MSBC that provide code compliance in some other way than stated in the code. All alternates, interpretations, or modifications must be reviewed by the building official. In order to be approved, the applicant for an alternate, interpretation, or modification must prove that it complies with the intent of the code and is equivalent in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety to the code requirement.

In order to be accepted for consideration as an alternate, interpretation, or modification a submittal must provide the necessary information. Please review the following information for use in preparing your request:

- Review Minnesota Rule 1300.0110 for an explanation of the requirements for your request
- Complete a ‘Request for Code Alternate, Interpretation, Modification’ form
- Indicate if your request is an alternate, interpretation, or modification
- Provide specifics about the building such as type of construction, occupancy classification, number of stories, floor area, exiting, or any other information related to your request
- Explain how the alternate, interpretation, or modification you are proposing meets the intent of the code
- Make sure all requested information on the form is provided
- Attach any additional information that will be helpful in explaining your request
- The information must show that your request complies with the intent of the code and is equivalent in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety
- Submit your request to the inspector or plan reviewer you are working with

Once your application has been reviewed a supervisor will contact you with the decision. Applicants whose applications are denied may submit an appeal to the building official. If an appeal is denied by the building official the applicant may be able to submit an appeal to the state.