Chapter Ind 56

SCHOOLS AND OTHER PLACES OF INSTRUCTION

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Ind 56.001 Scope. The requirements of this chapter, sections Ind 56.001 to Ind 56.19 inclusive, shall apply to all public and private schools, universities, colleges, academies, seminaries, libraries, museums and art galleries; including all buildings or parts of buildings used primarily for instructional purposes.

History: 1–2–56; am. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6–1–71.

Ind 56.01 History: 1–2–56; r. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6–1–71.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.02 (1) and (2) following is amended.

Ind 56.02 Classes of construction. (1) Every building not more than one story in height may be of frame construction as specified in Section Ind 51.03.

(2) Every 2-story building shall be not less than ordinary class of construction as specified in Section Ind 51.02 with exception that all floors and their supports shall be at least noncombustible one-hour fire-resistive rating.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.02 (1) and (2) is amended to read:

(1) Every building not more than one story in height may be of type No. 7 or No. 8 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03.

(2) Every 2-story building shall be not less than type No. 6 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03 with the exception that all floors and their supports shall be at least noncombustible one-hour fire-resistive rating.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.02 (3) following is repealed and recreated.

(3) Every building 3 or more stories in height shall be of fire-resistive class of construction as specified in Section Ind 51.001 except that roofs may be constructed of noncombustible 1-hour construction.

(a) Exception: The fire protection for structural steel supporting the roof may be omitted in 1-story sections of this classification provided the roof and its supports are of noncombustible or mill construction throughout.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.02 (3) is repealed and recreated to read:

(3) Every building 3 or more stories in height shall be of type No. 1 or No. 2 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03.

History: 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71; am. (1) and (2) and r. and recr. (3), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73.

Ind 56.03 History: 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.04 Subdivisions and fire stops. Every building of this classification which is built in connection with a building of a lower grade of construction shall be separated from such other building by walls of 4-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04, and all communicating openings shall be protected by fire-resistive doors as specified in section Ind 51.047 or equal. If such openings are used as a means of egress, they shall be kept normally open during the occupancy of the building.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187.

Ind 56.05 Exterior wall openings. (1) Every building more than one story shall be provided with wall openings for emergency purposes above the first story as specified in subsection Ind 52.02 (1) (b) with exception to the following:

(a) The requirement for wall openings is waived where the building design provides for installation of equipment to satisfy one of the following:

1. The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system as specified in section Ind 51.23 connected to a fire alarm (see Ind 56.19).

2. The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic fire protection device connected to a fire alarm (see section Ind 56.19), or to a sprinkler system (see section Ind 51.23).

Note: See definition section Ind 51.041 (2) for automatic.

(2) One story buildings with no floor levels below the first floor need not be provided with wall openings as referred to in subsection Ind 56.05 (1).

(3) Every building with floor levels below the first story shall at such levels be protected with an approved automatic sprinkler or fire protection system referred to in subsection (1) (a) 1. or 2.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, January, 1961, No. 61, eff. 2-1-61; r. and recr., Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff 6-1-71.

Ind 56.06 Number, location and type of exits. (1) The number and location of exits shall be such that in case any exit is blocked at any point some other exit will still be accessible through public passageways, from every room used by the public or by the occupants generally. Except that in a high school, university, college, library or museum building not more than 2 classrooms of ordinary size (900 square feet area) may be placed between an exit and the end of the building, provided that the exit doors from such classrooms are not more than 10 feet beyond the exit.

(a) Travel distance to an exterior exit door or a required fire rated enclosure from any point in a building shall not exceed 150 feet. Exception:

1. For building service and similar areas not accessible to the general public the travel distance may be increased to 300 feet.

(2) Number, location and type of exits for auditoriums, gymnasiums and field houses.

(a) Every floor and balcony shall be provided with not less than 2 exits, placed as far apart as practicable and so located that if any exit is blocked, some other exit will still be available from every part.

(b) All required exit doors from these areas shall be identified by approved exit lights.

(3) In buildings of more than one story, there shall be at least 2 stairway exits, each leading directly out of doors. The remaining exits shall be either such stairways or horizontal exits as specified in section Ind 51.19. Where such stairways lead to the basement they shall be enclosed below the first floor as specified in section Ind 51.18.

(4) In buildings of more than 2 stories, all stairways shall be enclosed as specified in sections Ind 51.17–51.18.

(5) Fire escapes may only be used as exits from the temporary end of incomplete or unit type buildings, as approved in writing by the department of industry, labor and human relations. Such fire escapes shall be of the "B" type where more than 100 persons can be accommodated above the first story.

(6) Handrails shall be provided on both sides of all exit stairs used by pupils.

(7) No storage closet or storage space shall be placed under any stairway, platform or landing. A room may be placed under a stairway or stair landing of two-hour fire resistive construction or better provided such room does not have any combustible material or hazardous equipment, stored or operated therein. All such rooms shall have a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet and the door thereto shall be a self-closing solid flush type wood door 1¾ inches in thickness or better.

(8) A room may be placed under a stairway or stair landing of 2-hour fire-resistive construction or better provided such room does not have any combustible material or hazardous equipment, stored or operated therein.

History: 1–2–56; am. (1), cr. (1) (a), Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10–1–59; am. Register, January, 1961, No. 61, eff. 2–1–61; r. and recr. (1) (a), renum. (2) to be (3), (3) to be (4), (4) to be (5), (5) to be (6) and (6) to be (7), and cr. (2) and (8), Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6–1–71.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.07 (1) following is amended.

Ind 56.07 Total width of exits. (1) The total width of exits from any floor shall be not less than the following rates, based on the total capacity of such floor and of the floors above.

(a) Fire-resistive buildings, 30 inches per 100 persons.

(b) Ordinary or frame buildings, 40 inches per 100 persons.

NOTICE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973 section Ind 56.07 (1) is amended to read:

(1) The total width of exits from any floor shall be not less than the following rates, based on the total capacity of such floor and of the floors above.

(a) Type No. 1 and No. 2 buildings, 30 inches per 100 persons.

(b) Type No. 3 through No. 8 buildings, 40 inches per 100 persons.

(2) Where permitted under Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 56.06, standard fire escapes may be used for not to exceed one-third of the above total widths.

(3) The capacity of educational buildings or any individual story or section thereof for the purpose of determining exits shall be the maximum capacity designated on approved plans.

(a) The maximum capacity shall not exceed the requirements of subsection (b).

(b) The computed capacities of all rooms and spaces as listed below shall be determined on the basis of the minimum net square feet area per person shown for that occupancy unless otherwise designated on the plans.

	Minimum Square Feet Per Occupant
1. Administrative and office space	75
2. Auditoriums, gymnasiums, field houses, theatres, lecture rooms (fixed seating)	6
3. Gymnasiums, field houses, multipurpose rooms, cafeterias, study halls, commons and other level floor areas with nonfixed individual seating	10
4. Bleachers (one seat per 18 inches of bench length)	
5. Regular academic classrooms	20
6. Libraries and resource centers	20
7. Laboratories—Science (fixed lab. tables)	30
8. Home economics, business education	30
9. Music	
a. Vocal	10
b. Instrumental	20
10. Arts, crafts, drafting	30
11. Industrial arts—vocational shop	50
12. Special education	
a. Mentally retarded, physically handicapped, etc.	35

History: 1-2-56: r. and recr. (3), Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71; am. (1), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73.

Ind 56.08 Exit doors. Exit doors shall comply with the requirements of Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 51.15, except that in elementary schools the width may be reduced to 3 feet. The aggregate width of exit doors shall be as required in section Ind 56.07. No single door or leaf of a double door shall be more than 42 inches wide.

Ind 56.09 Passageways. (1) The minimum unobstructed width of corridors and passageways which are used by the public or by the occupants generally, shall be determined in the same manner as specified for stairways in section Ind 56.07, but in no case shall this width

be less than 4 feet. Corridors and passageways serving as a means of egress shall be at least equal in combined width to the required width of the stairways or passageways leading to them.

History: 1-2-56; r. (1) and renum. (2) to be (1), Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.10 Access to attic and roof. Every building more than one story in height shall have permanent means of access to the roof and attic space from inside the building. Where a scuttle opening is provided, the opening shall be not less than 20 x 30 inches, with a permanent enclosure for a stairway or ladder leading thereto.

Ind 56.11 History: 1-2-56; am. (3), Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10-1-59; am. Register, January, 1961, eff. 2-1-61; r. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.12 History: 1-2-56; am. Register, December, 1962, No. 84, eff. 1-1-63; am. (1) (intro. par.) Register, October, 1967, No. 142, eff. 11-1-67; r. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.13 Auditoriums, gymnasiums and field houses. (1) AUDITORIUMS, GYMNASIUMS, field houses and other large group occupancy areas shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 56. Where any area of building in this category has a stage loft in excess of 25′ 0″ in height above the stage floor and is equipped with permanent or movable scenery, it shall comply with sections Ind 55.21 to 55.24 inclusive.

Note: It is the intent to differentiate between a theatre and an auditorium, gymnasium, field house or other large group occupancy area.

(2) SEATING. (a) All seats, chairs and benches shall be placed so as to provide a minimum unobstructed passage of 12 inches measured horizontally between plumb lines at the farthest projection of the back of one seat and the front of seat immediately behind.

Note: 1. Above measurements are relative to the furthest projection when seat is in its normal unseated position such as self-rising seat. 2. See allowable occupant space capacity under subsection Ind 56.07 (3) (b) 3. For exception see Ind 56.13 (2) (b) 3.

(b) The maximum number of seats in a row.

1. With aisles on both sides of row the maximum number of seats shall be 14.

2. With an aisle on only one end of row the maximum number of seats shall be 7.

3. The number of seats in a row may be increased to 100 where:

a. A minimum unobstructed passage of 18 inches between rows of seats measured horizontally between plumb lines at the farthest projection of the back of one seat and the front of seat immediately behind.

Note: For measurements see "Note No. 1" under Ind 56.13 (2) (a).

b. The unobstructed passage between rows leads to a side aisle on each end of row where exit doors are located at no more than 20 feet intervals leading to an exit corridor or exit court.

(c) No platform on which seats are placed shall be more than 22 inches in height of riser.

(d) The highest level of any floor or platform whether level, tiered or sloped, shall provide no less than 7 feet vertical clearance between floor and any ceiling construction or projection beneath the ceiling.

(3) WIDTH OF AISLES. (a) Aisles having seats on both sides shall not be less than 2 feet 10 inches wide at the beginning and shall increase in width toward the exits at the rate of ¼ inch per foot of run; or the aisle may have a uniform width not less than the average width of the foregoing calculation. No wall aisle shall be less than 3 feet wide and no other straight aisle shall be less than 3 feet 6 inches wide.

(b) There shall be a cross aisle leading to each required side exit. Cross aisles shall not be less than 6 feet 8 inches back to back of adjacent rows of seats.

History: 1-2-56; r. and recr., Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.14 Seats, desks and aisles. (1) Seats, desks, tables and other loose equipment need not be fastened to the floor or to each other provided that any seating arrangement use, will maintain during occupancy, free and unobstructed intermediate, cross and wall aisles leading to the exit.

(a) Stepped floors or tiered platforms shall be no less than 48 inches in width to permit the above arrangement.

(b) Seats, desks, tables and other loose equipment used in instructional occupancies shall be of a durable type of construction to assure safety and stability.

History: 1-2-56; r. and recr., Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.15 Heating plants. (1) In every building more than one story in height, all heating plants and fuel rooms shall be enclosed with not less than 4-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 51.04. All openings shall be protected with self-closing fire-resistive doors as specified in section Ind 51.047.

(2) In one story buildings all heating plants and fuel rooms shall be enclosed with not less than 2-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04, except that this requirement shall not apply to buildings where jacketed stoves or school room heaters are permitted. All openings shall be protected by self-closing fire-resistive doors as specified in section Ind 51.047.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187.

Ind 56.16 Sanitary facilities. (1) The following tabulated groups or combinations thereof shall be provided with one fixture of each type to serve the maximum number of persons designated for the appropriate group or groups.

Type of Fixture	K-6	7-12	Post High School	Large Group Occupancy Areas	Administrative Areas
Water Closets (F)	35	50	100	200	10
Water Closets (M)	75	100	200	300	15
Urinals	35	50	100	150	40
Lavatories	75	100	100	150	15
Drinking Fountains	1 per 6,000 sq. ft. floor area and/or 1 per floor				

(a) Where a theatre is a part of an educational facility the requirements listed under "large group occupancies" shall apply.

History: 1-2-56; am. (2), (3), (4) and (4) (a), Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10-1-59, r. and recr. (4), intro. par., Register, December, 1967, No. 144, eff. 1-1-68; r. and recr. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.17 Lighting. (1) ELECTRIC LIGHTING. Every class, study or recitation room shall be equipped with sufficient electrical lighting units to maintain the illumination required in Wis. Adm. Code Chapter Ind 19, Illumination Code.

(2) GENERAL. All other rooms and spaces in school buildings shall be equipped with means for supplying electric illumination in the quantity required for the purpose for which the room or space is used. All electrical work shall be installed to conform to the requirements of the Wisconsin State Electrical Code.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, January, 1961, No. 61, eff. 2-1-61; cr. (3), Register, November, 1963, No. 95, eff. 12-1-63; am. (3) (c), Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.18 Fire extinguishers. In every building, standard fire extinguishers, as specified in Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 51.22, shall be provided in the proportion of one extinguisher to each 2,500 square feet, or fraction, of floor area, but there shall be at least the fire extinguisher on each floor including basement. In addition to the fire extinguishers for general protection there shall be at least one extinguisher of appropriate type and size in each laboratory, art, shop or other vocational room. Every fire extinguisher shall be prominently exposed to view and always accessible.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

Ind 56.19 Fire alarms. Every building shall be provided with a proper alarm system complying with Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 51.24.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, May, 1971, No. 185, eff. 6-1-71.

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