

# ***Notification of Inspection Changes Related to the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) Florida Building Codes***

The Florida Building Code 7th edition (2020) and Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC) 7th edition (2020) will be effective for building permit applications initially received on or after 12/31/2020. This document is not an all-encompassing list of code changes related to the 7th edition (2020) FBC. It is recommended that permit applicants review the numerous “Significant Changes” documents and the new 2020 code, accessible through the [“Current Codes and Helpful Links” page](#).

## **New required inspections and information to be submitted for plan reviews (B110.3)**

In-progress inspections will be required for exterior wall coverings (Siding/Lath) and soffits (Soffit/Fascia). This code change will require additional information to be submitted for plan reviews along with new in-progress inspections for **Soffit/Fascia**,

Section R704 and **Siding/Lath**, Section R703.

The two inspections may be called in at the same time, separately, or concurrently with other inspections. So we may provide as efficient of an inspection service as possible, please schedule these inspections at the same time whenever possible.

It is also recommended that the inspections are scheduled early in the installation process for that material. This limits labor in removing incorrectly-installed products, should a correction be necessary. All products shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s product approval specification and limitations of use. Manufacturer’s product approvals (including installation instructions) will be required to be on-site for these inspections.

### **Siding/Lath**

The in-progress Siding/Lath inspection for exterior wall coverings (e.g. vinyl siding, hardieplank, or stucco/lath), shall be called when the water-resistive barrier (e.g. Tyvek or felt), sheathing substrate (e.g. DensGlass®), and/or lath is installed, prior to the application of the final exterior wall covering. Inspector will verify that the installation is consistent with the manufacturer’s product approvals/installation details. Installation of lathing and furring for cement plaster (stucco) shall be in compliance with ASTM C 926 and ASTM C 1063. Please note: The length of staples used to attach lath has been increased from 7/8 inch to 1 ½ inches (R703.7.1).

### **Soffit/Fascia**

The in-progress soffit/fascia inspection will need to be scheduled for the day the soffits are being installed. Installation details verified during inspection include, but are not limited to, material type, fasteners (spacing and type), maximum support span, f and j

channel attachments, etc. See also 2020 FBC-R704 Soffits, providing prescriptive requirements for several common soffit materials (e.g. vinyl soffit panels maximum unsupported span is 12 inches) to resist wind loads. Material requirements are specified for vinyl, fiber-cement, and hardboard soffit panels.

[https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/FLRC2020P1/chapter-7-wallcovering#FLRC2020P1\\_Pt03\\_Ch07\\_SecR704](https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/FLRC2020P1/chapter-7-wallcovering#FLRC2020P1_Pt03_Ch07_SecR704)

### **Pool Electric Final inspections (R4501.19 / B454.2.19)**

Electric Final inspection, which includes a swimming pool barrier inspection, will be required prior to filling the pool with water.

Exception: Vinyl liner and fiberglass pools are required to be filled with water upon installation.

### **Clothes Dryer Exhaust Ducting (R M1502.4.2)**

Ducts shall not be joined with screws or similar fasteners. Where dryer exhaust ducts are enclosed in wall or ceiling cavities, such cavities shall allow the installation of the duct without deformation. (Ducts were previously allowed to be joined with screws or similar fasteners that protruded no more than 1/8 inch into the inside of the duct.)

Clothes dryer exhaust ducts are to be sealed in accordance with Section M1601.4.1.