



BBS MEMO

Ohio Board of Building Standards

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TEMPORARY DOOR LOCKING DEVICES

House Bill 64 adopted by the Ohio General Assembly on June 30, 2015, included new ORC § 3781.106 which required the Ohio Board of Building Standards (Board) to adopt rules for the use of a device by a staff member that prevents both ingress and egress through school doors in an emergency situation and during active shooter drills. At its meeting on April 8, 2016, the Board adopted amendments to Ohio Building Code (OBC) Chapters 2 & 10 for the use of Temporary Door Locking Devices (TDL) in schools under the conditions set forth in these rules. These amendments took effect April 18, 2016.

The Conditions of Use and Operational Requirements for TDLs are outlined in OBC §1010.4:

1010.4 Temporary door locking device in school buildings. *A temporary door locking device shall be permitted when approved by the building official and noted on the certificate of occupancy only in school buildings where the requirements of OBC sections 1010.4.1 and 1010.4.2 are met.*

1010.4.1 Conditions of use. *A temporary door locking device shall only be used on doors under the following conditions:*

- 1. Proof is provided by the administrative authority of a school building that a school safety plan has been adopted and filed pursuant to section 3313.536 of the Ohio Revised Code; and*
- 2. The temporary door locking device shall only be used in an emergency situation and during active shooter drills; and*
- 3. The temporary door locking device is engaged only by a staff member of the school building; and*
- 4. The temporary door locking device shall only be engaged for a finite period of time as determined by the administrative authority of a school building in accordance with the school safety plan adopted pursuant to section 3313.536 of the Ohio Revised Code; and*
- 5. Proof is provided by the administrative authority of a school building that police and fire officials having jurisdiction for the school building have been notified prior to the use of the temporary door locking device; and*
- 6. In-service training on the use of the temporary door locking device is provided for school staff members and records verifying this training shall be maintained on file and provided to the fire official upon request.*

1010.4.2 Operational requirements. *The temporary door locking device shall be permitted to be used in accordance with the following items:*

- 1. The temporary door locking device shall not be permanently mounted to the door.*
Exception: *Individual parts of the temporary door locking device assembly such as bolts, stops, brackets, pins, etc. that do not prevent normal ingress and egress through the door may be permanently mounted provided that when such parts are mounted on a labeled fire door assembly such installation does not affect the fire rating of the fire door assembly.*
- 2. The removal of the temporary door locking device, after it is engaged, shall not require more than one operation.*
Exception: *Two operations may be permitted to remove a temporary door locking device, after it is engaged, if the school building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with section 903.3.1.1.*

Provisions of the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 104 Stat. 327, 42 U.S.C.A. 12101, as amended, may apply to the use of the temporary door locking device but are outside the scope of this code.

Also, note new definitions in OBC Chapter 2 for the following terms: *Active Shooter Drill, Administrative Authority of a School Building, Emergency Situation, Institution of Higher Education, Private School, Public School, School Building and Temporary Door Locking Device.*

If a school chooses to use TDLs, it must submit an application with required information to the building department with jurisdiction for approval. While the scope of the project will not necessitate the preparation of detailed construction documents, per OBC § 106.1.1, the application should include information sufficient to determine compliance with the code, including, but not limited to, evidence of a properly adopted and filed school safety plan, a statement that both police and fire officials have been notified of the proposed use of TDLs, a description of the proposed TDL, and, if applicable, a confirmation by the owner that any bolts, stops, brackets, pins employed by the device and that are permanently mounted to doors pursuant to OBC § 1010.4.2(1) neither affect the fire rating of a fire door assembly nor prevent normal ingress and egress through the door. The code does not prescribe in what form this information or evidence of such communications shall be provided.

Upon receipt of an application for approval of a TDLD that sufficiently sets forth the information above, the building official must evaluate the proposed TDLD to confirm that it meets the operational requirements of OBC § 1010.4.2(2). Primarily, the building official must determine the number of operations necessary to remove the device. Only a device that requires not more than one operation to be removed may be approved. The code permits two operations to remove the device if the school building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system. Note that the number of operations described in OBC §1010.4.2(2) is in addition to the motion required to unlatch the existing door hardware. The motion necessary to unlatch the existing door hardware should not be counted when determining compliance with this section. While this evaluation rests in the judgment of the building official, the building official is encouraged to seek input on the proposed devices from the local fire official during application review similar to review and comment by the fire official per OBC § 106.1.2(5) which does not cause unnecessary delay in the review of the application.

If the building official determines that a proposed TDLD conforms to the operational requirements of OBC § 1010.4.2, the device shall be approved. Such approval shall be noted on the Certificate of Occupancy with the following conditions: the TDLD may only be used in an emergency situation and during active shooter drills, the TDLD may only be engaged by a staff member of the school building for a finite period of time as determined by the administrative authority of a school building, and in-service training on the use of the temporary door locking device is provided for school staff members and records verifying this training shall be maintained on file and provided to the fire official upon request.

If the building official determines that a proposed TDLD does not conform to the operational requirements of OBC § 1010.4.2, the building official shall notify the school of the items of non-compliance per OBC § 107.6 and an opportunity to appeal pursuant OBC § 109.

Finally, building officials can also communicate to school officials intending to use a TDLD that, while the accessibility provisions of OBC Chapter 11 and ANSI A117.1 do not apply to temporary security devices, there are provisions of the “Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” (104 Stat. 327, 42 U.S.C.A. 12101, as amended) that may apply to the use of the temporary door locking device but are outside the scope of the building code. Schools should consult with their legal counsel regarding any other applicable requirements.

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