

Relevant State Building Codes

- **Fire Rating:** Doors must maintain the rating of the wall, usually 1-hour, or as required by Up Codes for specific occupancies.
- **Functionality:** Doors must be self-closing and positively latch, with hardware allowing for easy egress without keys or special knowledge.
- **Fire Separation:** Mechanical and electrical rooms require a minimum 1-hour fire barriers, necessitating 1-hour fire-rated doors, especially if opening onto egress paths.
- **Labeling:** Fire doors must have an embossed label indicating their fire rating (e.g., 20, 45, or 60 minutes).
- **Regulatory Basis:** Compliance with the [Rhode Island Life Safety Code \(450-RICR-00-00-8\)](#) is required for both new and existing buildings, enforced by local fire authorities.
- **Fire Resistance Rating:** Generally, fuel-fired equipment rooms must be separated from other areas with **1-hour rated construction** and **20-minute rated opening protectives** (fire doors).
- **Door Assembly Standard:** Fire door assemblies must be tested in accordance with NFPA 252 or UL 10C.
- **Maintenance:** Doors must remain in operating condition, cannot be blocked, and must have proper labeling.
- **Hardware:** Doors must be self-closing or automatic-closing and equipped with approved latching hardware.
- **Access:** Rooms containing fire control equipment (panels, mechanical ventilation controls, and emergency shutoff switches) must be accessible from a secured exterior door.
- **Applicable Codes (Available via [SOS.ri.gov](https://sos.ri.gov) and [Fsc.ri.gov](https://fsc.ri.gov))**
- **RISBC-1 Rhode Island Building Code (2021/2024):** Incorporates the International Building Code (IBC) with amendments, including Chapter 7 (Fire and Smoke Protection Features).
- **Rhode Island Fire Safety Code (450-RICR-00-00-1):** Incorporates NFPA 1 (Fire Code) 2021 Edition and NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) 2021 Edition.

- **RISBC-4 Rhode Island Mechanical Code:** Covers the installation of mechanical systems and appliances.