



## California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	12-05-02	Interpretation #	02-031
Topic	Section 305.2.4, California Building Code (1998 ed)		
Code Section(s)	Windows & Security Grills in Schools		
Requested by	Robert E. Laughton Los Angeles Unified School District 355 South Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90074		

***1. The Life Safety Code, Section 11-2.11.1 has a series of exceptions to the window requirement. Do the exceptions over ride the window requirement or the window size? Also, exception #2 would appear to remove the requirement for windows regardless of the occupancy load.***

NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) is not adopted by the California State Fire Marshal. Therefore, it is not applicable or enforceable.

***2. In your Interpretation # 00-010, it states that a classroom regardless of the occupancy requires windows. What is the requirement?***

The requirement is as stated in SFM interpretation #00-010.

***3. Section 305.2.4 of the CBC lists the requirements for security grills on buildings constructed after January 1, 1990. Is this for new construction only?***

No. This requirement is specific to all classrooms constructed after January 1, 1990 that are not equipped with sprinkler systems and have bars or grills on the windows.

***4. Does this code section apply if we install security grills on a building with an occupant load of 49 that was built in 1991 if it has one door opening to the exterior?***

Yes.

***5. What if it was built prior to January 1, 1990?***

The new installation of the security grills would need to meet the requirements of the California Building Code (1998 edition).