

Bulletin # 18 : Blower Door Testing

Date: June 8th, 2017

Effective Date: July 1, 2017

Amended Date: July 27th, 2023

To: All Staff

From: Fred Clum, Chief Building Official

Subject: Blower Door Testing

Reference **FBC 7th Edition 2020: Energy R402.4, Residential M1507 and R303.4, Commercial Mechanical 401.2 and HB 535** Supplemental amendments

- Permits applied for on or **after July 1st, 2017** will require Blower Door Testing.
- This applies to **NEW CONSTRUCTION, ADDITIONS, or any ALTERATIONS (with limitations)** involving the building thermal envelope per FBC Existing Building 7th Edition 2020.
- Affected building types include **Residential 1 and 2 Family & Townhouses** as well as **R - 2, R - 3, and R - 4 Multi-Family dwellings up to 3 stories.**
- Blower Door Test to be conducted **AFTER** all penetrations of the *building thermal envelope* and immediately **BEFORE** Building Final Inspection (115)
- The acceptable range for Blower Door Test must be : **ACH (50) = 7 or LESS**
- **If ACH(50) < 3** , Mechanical Ventilation is **REQUIRED** and abatement method must be per FBC Residential 5th Edition (2014) **Table M1507.3.3(1) Continuous or M1507.3.3(2) Intermittent** method and documented on the **Compliance Report** and submitted with **Envelope Leakage Test Report** to receive a Certificate of Occupancy
- Both the **Envelope Leakage Test Report** and the **Compliance Report** must be completed and signed by the approved individual certified for the 3rd Party testing, however the **Compliance Report** is only required when $ACH(50) < 3$.
- To resolve the **Blower Door** condition, upload the results through your City View portal under conditions for the respective permit.



- Blower Door Testing must be conducted by an **Approved 3rd Party Certified Individuals** certified as:
 - A Design Professional **OR**
 - a RESNET / BPI Certified Energy Auditor or Energy Rater **OR**
 - Individuals licensed under FS 489.105(3) (f), (g), or (i) as:
 - a) Class A Air Conditioning Contractor
 - b) Class B Air Conditioning Contractor
 - c) Mechanical Contractor
 - **OR** an Individual Approved by the Building Official
 - **MUST** be Registered with the Building Department showing proof of licensure and/or certification, proof of liability insurance, workman's compensation, and business tax receipt
- Approved Standard for Blower Door Test : **ANSI / RESNET / ICC 380 – 2016** (attached)