



I. Required Corridor Construction

Section 1005.7 of the Uniform Building Code requires walls of corridors serving an occupant load of 30 or more to be of not less than one-hour fire-resistive construction and ceilings to be of not less than that required for a one-hour fire-resistive floor or roof ceiling system.

II. Exception

In Group B, office buildings, however, tenant corridors located entirely within a single tenancy area of a building, and which are tributary to main exit corridors, which provide direct egress from the floor level are exempt from these fire-resistive construction requirements and from the opening protection requirements specified in Section 1005.8 when all of the following conditions have been met:

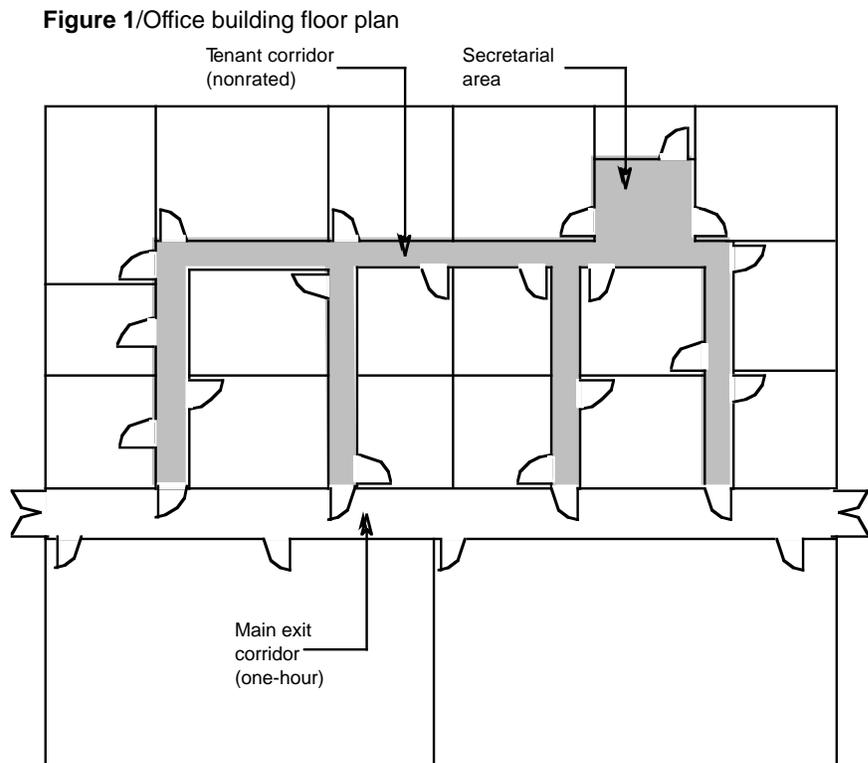
- A. The tenant corridor is provided with exits to the main exit corridor such that no portion of the tenant corridor serves as a required exit for an occupant load of 30 or more persons. Exits from the tenant area must be reasonably separated. See Figure 1.
- B. Any tenant corridor over 20 feet in length must be continuous in both directions to the main exit corridor. Intervening rooms are prohibited except for reception rooms.
- C. The required width of the tenant corridor shall be as determined by Section 1003.2, but no less than 44 inches. Corridors serving an occupant load of 49 or less may be 36 inches in width (unless disabled access requirements are more restrictive). The required width must be maintained for the full tenant corridor length and the boundaries must be clearly delineated by full or partial height partitions, counters or rails, permanently fastened in place. Secretarial areas are permitted in open alcoves adjoining the path of the tenant corridor.
- D. Desks, file cabinets and similar equipment in work areas

shall not be located so as to obstruct any tenant corridor. These furnishings must be oriented so that workers do not occupy or encroach into the corridor during use.

- E. Doors placed across tenant corridors within the tenancy shall not include locking devices on either side.
- F. All exit doors from tenant corridors into the one-hour exit corridor must swing in the direction of travel when the total occupant load for the tenant space is 50 or more.

An example of an unprotected tenant corridor meeting the intent of this newsletter is shown in Figure 1.

Note: Section 1005.7, Exceptions 5 and 8, permit tenant corridors within tenant spaces having an occupant load of 100 or less to be non-rated if the entire story (or building per Exemption 8) is protected with an automatic sprinkler system and smoke detectors are provided along corridors satisfying Exemption 5.



NOTE: The tributary occupant load to each portion of the nonrated tenant corridor must be less than 30.