



## Attachment J: Temporary Tent Permit Supplemental Application Materials

### Code References:

PA Uniform Construction Code (PAUCC)  
2018 International Building Code (IBC) Chapter 1 Section 108  
2018 International Fire Code (IFC) Chapter 31

- 1. Approval required.** Tents having an area in excess of 400 square feet shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the fire official.  
Exceptions: Tents open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
  - a. Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet.
  - b. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet, not exceeding 700 square feet total.
  - c. A minimum clearance of 12 feet to all structures and other tents.
- 2. Provide Construction documents.** A detailed site (or aerial view) and floor plan for tents with an occupant load of 50 or more shall be provided with each application for approval. The tent floor plan shall indicate details of the means of egress facilities, seating capacity, arrangement of the seating and location and type of heating and electrical equipment.
- 3. Access.** Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided in accordance with 2018 IFC Chapter 5.
- 4. Show the Location.** Tents shall not be located within 20 feet of lot lines, buildings, other tents or membrane structures, parked vehicles or internal combustion engines. For the purpose of determining required distances, support ropes and guy wires shall be considered as part of the temporary tent.  
Exceptions:
  - a. Separation distance between tents not used for cooking is not required when the aggregate floor area does not exceed 15,000 square feet.
  - b. Tents need not be separated from buildings when all of the following conditions are met:
    - i. The aggregate floor area of the tent shall not exceed 10,000 square feet.
    - ii. The aggregate floor area of the building and tent shall not exceed the allowable floor area including increases as indicated in the 2018 IBC.
    - iii. Required means of egress are provided for both the building (tent cannot block the existing means of egress) and tent including travel distances.
    - iv. Fire apparatus access roads are provided in accordance with 2018 IFC Chapter 5.
- 5. Connecting corridors for multiple tents.** Tents are allowed to be joined together by means of corridors. Exit doors shall be provided at each end of such corridor. On each side of such corridor and approximately opposite each other, there shall be provided openings not less than 12 feet wide.
- 6. Fire break.** An unobstructed fire break passageway or fire road not less than 12 feet wide and free from guy ropes or other obstructions shall be maintained on all sides of all tents unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.
- 7. Anchorage required.** Tents and their appurtenances shall be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent against collapsing. Documentation of structural stability shall be furnished to the fire code official on request.
- 8. Distribution (if tent has flaps or obstructions).** Exits shall be spaced at approximately equal intervals around the perimeter of the tent or membrane structure, and shall be located such that all points are 100 feet or less from an exit.

9. **Number.** Tents shall have at least one exit and not less than the number of exits required by 2015 IFC Table 3103.12.2. The total width of means of egress in inches shall not be less than the total occupant load served by a means of egress multiplied by 0.2 inches per person.
10. **Exit openings from tents (if tent has flaps or obstructions).** Exit openings from tents shall remain open unless covered by a flame-resistant curtain. The curtain shall comply with the following requirements:
  - a. Curtains shall be free sliding on a metal support. The support shall be a minimum of 80 inches above the floor level at the exit. The curtains shall be so arranged that, when open, no part of the curtain obstructs the exit.
  - b. Curtains shall be of a color, or colors, that contrasts with the color of the tent.
11. **Corridor Doors.** Exit doors shall swing in the direction of exit travel. Opening force at the door edge shall not exceed 15 pounds.
12. **Aisle serving the seating.** The width of aisles without fixed seating shall be in accordance with the following:
  - a. In areas serving employees only, the minimum aisle width shall be 24 inches but not less than the width required by the number of employees served.
  - b. In public areas, smooth-surfaced, unobstructed aisles having a minimum width of not less than 44 inches shall be provided from seating areas, and aisles shall be progressively increased in width to provide, at all points, not less than 1 foot of aisle width for each 50 persons served by such aisle at that point.
13. **Arrangement and maintenance.** The arrangement of aisles shall be subject to approval by the fire code official and shall be maintained clear at all times during occupancy.
14. **Exit signs (if tent has flaps or obstructions).** Exits shall be clearly marked. Exit signs shall be installed at required exit doorways and where otherwise necessary to indicate clearly the direction of egress when the exit serves an occupant load of 50 or more.
15. **Exit sign illumination (if tent has flaps or obstructions).** Exit signs shall be either listed and labeled in accordance with UL 924 as the internally illuminated type and used in accordance with the listing or shall be externally illuminated by luminaires supplied in the following manner:
  - a. Two separate circuits, one of which shall be separate from all other circuits, for occupant loads of 300 or less; or
  - b. Two separate sources of power, one of which shall be an approved emergency system, shall be provided when the occupant load exceeds 300. Emergency systems shall be supplied from storage batteries or from the on-site generator set, and the system shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 70. The emergency system provided shall have a minimum duration of 90 minutes when operated at full design demand.
16. **Means of egress illumination.** Means of egress shall be illuminated with light having an intensity of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at floor level while the structure is occupied. Fixtures required for means of egress illumination shall be supplied from a separate circuit or source of power.
17. **Maintenance of means of egress (no obstructions).** The required width of exits, aisles and passageways shall be maintained at all times to a public way and free from obstructions. Guy wires, guy ropes and other support members shall not cross a means of egress at a height of less than eight (8) feet. The surface of means of egress shall be maintained in an approved manner.
18. **Flame propagation performance treatment.** Before a permit is granted, the owner or agent shall file with the fire code official a certificate executed by an approved testing laboratory certifying that the tents and their appurtenances; sidewalls, drops and tarpaulins; floor coverings, bunting and combustible decorative materials and effects, including sawdust when used on floors or passageways, are composed of material meeting the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 or shall be treated with a flame retardant in an approved manner and meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701, and that such flame propagation performance criteria are effective for the period specified by the permit.
19. **Smoking.** Smoking shall not be permitted in tents. Approved "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted in accordance with 2018 IFC Section 320.
20. **Portable fire extinguishers.** Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided as required by 2018 IBC Section 906.

*Items above are not all-inclusive of the code requirements that may be required.*

Please provide two (2) sets of plans and documentation for review.

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF A COPY OF THIS FORM:

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Applicant

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Date