



**ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICE
CODE INTERPRETATION**

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Subject Title: Building Use and Occupancy Classification
Applicable Code: Florida Building Code Chapters 3 and 4
Date: January 28, 2021
Revised:

Question: What is the occupancy and use designations for new and altered buildings on OCPS district property?

Answer: All buildings constructed or altered on district owned property, with the exception of structures not used by the district, are classified as E occupancy. Depending on the actual use of the building, it may also be classified as being a B (office), A (assembly), S (storage) and U (utility) use group.

Comment: Based on FBC Sections 303.1.3 which states that “a space used for assembly purposes that is associated with a group E occupancy is not considered a separate occupancy” and Section 453.8.1.1 which states that “the support spaces such as media centers, administrative offices, cafeterias and kitchens located within educational facilities are not separate occupancies” the occupancy classification for all buildings constructed are considered to be “E” educational. The code does identify ancillary and auxiliary facilities as defined in Section 453.5.6 as a “building or other facility necessary to provide district-wide support services”. These buildings may contain use classifications of A, B, S and U depending on their actual uses. As stated in Section 453.8.1.3 ancillary facilities shall use the applicable occupancy section of the FBC meaning that they would also have to comply with applicable code requirements for that particular use.