

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Dave Heineman
Governor



STATE FIRE MARSHAL
John Falgione
Fire Marshal

MEMORANDUM

To: State Fire Marshal Inspection Personnel, Chief Deputies
Delegated Authorities and Interested Parties

From: Doug Hohbein
Chief Plans Examiner

Date: September 14, 2005

Re: **Calculating Occupancy in Gymnasium**

It has come to the attention of this office, that there have been questions in how occupant load is calculated for gymnasiums. This issue can affect exiting capacity along with other code issues.

In order to keep consistency throughout the state, this office will continue to calculate gyms in the following manner,

***7 square foot per person on the court area + (plus)
1 person per 18 linear inch of bleacher seating***

Accessory spaces open within gym area will be calculated accordingly, based on the plan.

This will load the gym for graduations, athletic events and other school functions to its fullest capacity. This calculation practice shall be used for new and existing gyms.

Beginning immediately, the Plans Division will note the occupant load on the plan review to aid in the determination of occupancy.

Cc: Dennis Hohbein, Bruce Neemann

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