



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6654**



Date March 22, 2011

Edition 2007

Section 311.4.2

Question:

Is it the intent of Section R311.4.2 to require a 36" clear opening width or is a smaller clear opening approved

Answer

No, the section does not specify any clear opening size. The assumption is that if a 36" wide door leaf is provided there will be adequate egress capacity.

Commentary:

Although the code is silent on the exact opening size, the intent appears to be to provide a 32" net-clear opening when the door is open at a 90 degree angle. a standard 36"x80" swing door with a 36" door leaf is the minimum size allowed.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.