



Informal Interpretation Report Number 9128



Date August 13, 2025

Edition 2023

Section 1709.5.2.1

Question:

- (1) Is it the intent of this code section to require that all sectional garage doors be tested?
- (2) Can a garage door be designed and not tested by using code section 1709.5 for exterior window and door assemblies exception for "custom doors" or one of a kind?

Answer

For commercial applications:

(1) Yes. Section 1709.5.2.1 of the Florida Building Code specifically requires that sectional garage doors be tested to recognized standards like ANSI/DASMA 108. This section clearly applies to all sectional garage doors and reflects their importance in protecting buildings during wind events.

(2) No, not if it is a sectional garage door. The custom door exception in 1709.5 is meant for one-of-a-kind doors like hand-built, side-hinged doors. Sectional garage doors, even if made to custom sizes, are not considered "custom doors" under this exception due to their complex assemblies and components. Because Section 1709.5.2.1 specifically addresses sectional garage doors, it overrides the general custom door exception per Section 102.1 of the code.

For residential applications:

For garage doors in a residence, testing is required by Section R609.4. Section R301.2.1 of the Florida Building Code-Residential. Residential addresses wind loads for garage doors.

Commentary:

None.

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.