



# CHEMIST

*The chemist helps businesses stay safe and compliant with fire code. Businesses need to make sure their interior decor doesn't pose a fire hazard. Our chemist tests materials and interior finishes for flammability.*

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As of October 1, 2023 chemist applications are available on our [Fire Prevention Portal](#) (<https://onlinepermitsandlicenses.boston.gov/BFD/Views/Login.aspx>). For best results, it is recommended that you apply for your Flame Certifications as soon as they are available online. The fees and requirements are the same, however each application is limited to two items. This allows the actual permit to print out accurately.

**MORE ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS**  
([HTTPS://WWW.BOSTON.GOV/NEWS/CHEMIST-APPLICATIONS-AVAILABLE-FIRE-PREVENTION-PORTAL-STARTING-OCTOBER-1-2023](https://www.boston.gov/news/chemist-applications-available-fire-prevention-portal-starting-october-1-2023))

**FIRE PREVENTION PORTAL**  
([HTTPS://ONLINEPERMITSANDLICENSES.BOSTON.GOV/BFD/VIEWS/LOGIN.ASPX](https://onlinepermitsandlicenses.boston.gov/BFD/Views/Login.aspx))

Still have questions? Contact:

[FIRE PREVENTION \(/DEPARTMENTS/FIRE-PREVENTION\)](#)



[617-343-3628 \(TEL:617-343-3628\)](tel:617-343-3628)



[SEND AN EMAIL \(MAILTO:BFDFIREPREVENTIONINFO@BOSTON.GOV\)](mailto:BFDFIREPREVENTIONINFO@BOSTON.GOV)



1010 MASS AVENUE  
4TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MA 02118

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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No related posts are available at this time.

## APPLICATIONS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE FIRE PREVENTION PORTAL

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[REGULATED MATERIALS: GUIDELINES AND FEES](#)

<https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2022/03/Regulated%20Materials%20->

[ARTICLE 9 FIRE PREVENTION CODE](#)

<https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/embed/f/fire-prevention-code-article->

[SMALL SCALE TESTING REGULATION](#)

[https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/11/Classification%20Fire%20Test\\_0.pdf](https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/11/Classification%20Fire%20Test_0.pdf)



**Boston Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Division  
1010 Massachusetts Avenue – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02118  
Tel: 617-343-3527**

**Regulated Materials - General Guidelines**

	Furniture <sup>1</sup>		Draperies & Decorative Material <sup>2</sup>	Wall-covering		Panel Systems	Floor-covering <sup>3</sup>	Tents & Temp. Enclosure	Mattress & Mattress Products <sup>4</sup>
	Upholstered	Reupholstered		Vinyl/(Ceiling Tile)	Fabric/Textile				
Regulation	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX BFD IX-10	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX BFD IX-10	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX BFD IX-10	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX Mass. State Bldg Code 6th Ed. Section 801	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX Mass. State Bldg Code 6th Ed. Section 801	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX Mass. State Bldg Code 6th Ed. Section 801	Mass. State Bldg Code 6th Ed. Section 801	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX Section 31.05 & 7.12(a)	Boston Fire Prev. Code Article IX BFD IX-11
Test Method	BFD IX-10, *CAL-TB 133*, Cal-TB 117* ASTM 1537	BFD IX-10	BFD IX-1 TB	ASTM E84	ASTM E84	ASTM E84	ASTM E648	BFD IX-1	BFD IX-11
BFD Requirements	Label Designated by 527 CMR 1.00 C 12.6.3.5 To be affixed to product.	Use of existing foam or FR foam (min CAL TB 117). Foam must be covered with barrier. All fiberfill must be protected by barrier.	Submit 12" x 12" sample from actual yardage to be used. Certificate of flame-retardant finish shall be submitted.	Submit actual ASTM E84 test report. Submit 12" x 12" sample from actual yardage to be used.	Submit actual ASTM E84 test report. Must be Class A FS 0-25 AND building must be fully sprinkled. Submit 12" x 12" sample from actual yardage to be used.	Submit actual ASTM E84 test report. All fiberfill must be protected by barrier. Unless tested as assembly.	Submit actual radiant panel test report. Carpet and under layment must be tested as assembly.	Temp. Enc.: Submit 1 Sq. yard for testing. Tents: Submit 12" x 12" sample for testing. * other permits from FP Division may be required.	BFD IX-11 test report and test video must be submitted.
BFD Restrictions	*See BFD 1X-10 Revised 7/8/16 for more information		Shall not be placed to obstruct the use of an exit.	Must be installed over a non-combustible base. Previous wall covering must be removed.	Not for use as ceiling finish or elevator cabs.		Not for use as wall or ceiling finish, seating products, or as decorative material.		
Fee	\$25.00 per fabric	\$25.00 per fabric	\$25.00 per sample	\$25.00 per sample	\$25.00 per sample	\$25.00 per sample	\$25.00 per sample	\$25 per location / \$25 annual	50.00 per mattress

**Regulated Occupancies**

A - Assembly, E - Educational, I - Institutional, R - Residential (excluding R-3 & R-4), B - Business and M - Mercantile w/ exceptions for upholstered furniture (rev. 7/8/16)  
B - Business and M - Mercantile use groups having (R) Residential spaces above with exceptions. (rev. 7/8/16)

\*Note: See Regulation of Upholstered Furniture BFD 1X-10 rev. 7/8/16 for additional requirements and exceptions @ <https://www.cityofboston.gov/fire/prevention/chemist.asp>

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Including but not limited to: chairs, benches, banquettes, couches including plastic & molded seating.

<sup>2</sup> Including but not limited to: curtains, drapery, banners, paper, films and foam cellular board.

<sup>3</sup> Regulated in corridors, exit ways, stairways, lobbies, and common areas.

<sup>4</sup> Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Dormitories, Hotels, Detention Facilities.

\* All submissions must be accompanied by a completed and signed application with the appropriate fee. Incomplete applications will result in delays in processing or rejection.



## CHEMIST APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON FIRE PREVENTION PORTAL STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2023

Last updated: September 20, 2023



PUBLISHED BY:

[Fire Prevention \(/departments/fire-prevention\)](/departments/fire-prevention)

We have more information about the update to our Fire Prevention Portal.

Starting on **October 1, 2023**, chemist applications will be available on our Fire Prevention Portal. For best results, it is recommended that you apply for your Flame Certifications as soon as they are available online. The fees and requirements are the same, however each application is limited to two items. This allows the actual permit to print out accurately.

We require a minimum of 10 business days (not including weekends or holidays) to process your application. Please note: If a sample is required, you will have 10 days to submit the sample to the Departmental Chemist. Expect an additional five days of processing after receipt of your sample. Please be sure to include your application number as a reference on all correspondence.

All Samples with the CHM# on it should be mailed/delivered to:

Boston Fire Prevention

c/o Departmental Chemist Office

1010 Massachusetts Avenue - 4th Floor

Boston, MA 02118

You will receive an automatic email when your application has been accepted for intake and available for payment. Payment must be received before your application can be forwarded to the Departmental Chemist for review.

Once payment is received, your application will be forwarded to the Department Chemist who will:

1 Review

2 (if required) Test your sample once it is received

3 Approve, request more information, or in some cases Deny your application.

You will receive email notification at any of these milestones. When your application is finalized, you will have the ability to print out your permit. If you do not receive a confirmation that your application has been accepted, check your SPAM folder. If it's not there, contact us at the email or phone number below.

Email your questions to [BFDCChemist@boston.gov](mailto:BFDCChemist@boston.gov) (<mailto:BFDCChemist@boston.gov>) or call [617-343-3628](tel:617-343-3628) (<tel:617-343-3628>). If you already have an account on the City of Boston Portal, there is no need to register again.

**GO TO THE FIRE PREVENTION PORTAL**  
([HTTPS://ONLINEPERMITSANDLICENSES.BOSTON.GOV/BFD/VIEWS/LOGIN.ASPX](https://onlinepermitsandlicenses.boston.gov/bfd/views/login.aspx))

Last updated: September 20, 2023



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[LANGUAGE AND DISABILITY ACCESS \(HTTPS://WWW.BOSTON.GOV/DEPARTMENTS/LANGUAGE-AND-COMMUNICATIONS-ACCESS/NOTICE-ACCOMMODATIONS\)](https://www.boston.gov/departments/language-and-communications-access/notice-accommodations)