



The International Fire Code requires certain types of operations or businesses that present greater risks of fire or life safety obtain an "Operational Permit" (IFC Section 105.1.2) in order to conduct an operation or a business. These permits can be issued for either a prescribed period or until revoked.

Operational permit fees are \$107.75 annually (the fee is adjusted by a cost-of-living increase – CPI/W each January) with the following exceptions:

1. Any hazardous material with multiple classifications shall be charged only once (annually)
2. No fees shall be charged for candles in a place of assembly or parade floats
3. Fees shall be waived for government agencies and non-profit organizations

Operational permits are invoiced in January of each year and are issued on an "until revoked" basis. These permits are typically issued at the conclusion of your annual inspection for the first year that a permit is required. The permit is permanent and must be readily available on the premises. At the end of any inspection, if violations exist, your permit may be revoked until all violations are cleared by the Fire Prevention Officer. Some of the most common processes or conditions in Bellevue that require an Operational Permit are listed as follows (for a complete list, including quantity/area thresholds, please see International Fire Code Section 105.6 as amended by Bellevue City Code Chapter 23.11):

- Manufacturing or storing aerosol products in excess of 500 pounds.
- Amusement buildings
- Carnivals and fairs
- Covered and Open Mall Buildings when:
  - Open-flame or flame producing equipment is used
- Liquid or gas fired equipment is displayed
- When concession equipment, displays or highly combustible materials are installed
- Storage, use or handling of compressed gases or cryogenic fluids in excess of the amounts listed in IFC Tables 105.6.8/105.6.10
- Cutting and welding
- Dry cleaning plants
- Exhibits and trade shows
- Storage, use or handling of flammable and combustible liquids above the limits specified in IFC Section 105.6.16
- Floor finishing or surfacing operations exceeding 350 s.f. (using Class I or Class II liquids).
- Hazardous materials in excess of the amounts listed in IFC Table 105.6.20.
- High-piled storage in excess of 500 square feet.
- Hot work operations
- Lumber yards and woodworking plants storing or processing of lumber exceeding 100,000 board feet
- Liquid- or gas-fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings
- LP-gas – storage and use in excess of 500-gallon water capacity
- Miscellaneous combustible storage in excess of 2,500 cubic feet
- Open flames and candles - to use open flames or candles in connection with assembly areas, dining areas of restaurants or drinking establishments.
- Organic coatings - operations producing more than 1 gallon of an organic coating in one day.
- Places of assembly.
- Use or operation of private fire hydrants.
- Pyrotechnic special effects

- Pyroxylin plastics storage or handling of more than 25 pounds (11 kg) of cellulose nitrate (pyroxylin) plastics and for the assembly or manufacture of articles involving pyroxylin plastics.
- Refrigeration equipment system regulated by Chapter 6 of the International Fire Code
- Repair garages and motor fuel-dispensing facilities
- Rooftop heliports
- Spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible

- Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts in excess of 2,500 cubic feet
- Temporary membrane structures and tents - in excess of 400 square feet
- Waste handling - for the operation of wrecking yards, junk yards and waste material-handling facilities.
- Emergency responder radio coverage system
- Positive alarm sequence accounts

For additional information please contact the Fire Prevention Division of the Bellevue Fire Department at 425-452-6872