Elevation Requirements

The lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated to or above the base flood elevation plus 12 inches or the structure shall be dry floodproofed in accordance with Section 48-26(B).

In areas of shallow flooding (Zone AO), if not dry floodproofed, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least as high above the highest adjacent grade as the depth number specified in feet on the Flood Insurance Rate Map plus 12 inches, or at least 18 inches if a depth number is not specified; adequate drainage paths shall be provided to guide floodwaters around and away from the structure.

Enclosures below the lowest floor, if not dry floodproofed, shall meet the requirements of Section 48-25(B).

Dry Floodproofing Requirements

Dry floodproofed structures, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall:

Be designed to be dry floodproofed such that the structure is watertight with walls and floors substantially impermeable to the passage of water to the level of the base flood elevation plus 12 inches. In areas of shallow flooding (Zone AO), the structure shall be dry floodproofed at least as high above the highest adjacent grade as the depth number specified in feet on the Flood Insurance Rate Map plus 12 inches, or at least 18 inches if a depth number is not specified.

Have structural components capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy.

Be certified by a licensed professional engineer or licensed professional architect with a Floodproofing Certificate, that the design and methods of construction meet the requirements of this section. Refer to FEMA Technical Bulletin #3 -Non-Residential Floodproofing -Requirements and Certification for guidance.