

WAC 51-11R-40210 Section R402.1—General.

R402.1 General. The *building thermal envelope* shall meet the requirements of Sections R402.1.1 through R402.1.6.

EXCEPTION: The following buildings, or portions thereof, separated from the remainder of the building by *building thermal envelope* assemblies complying with this code shall be exempt from the *building thermal envelope* provisions of this code.

1. Those with a peak design rate of energy usage less than 3.4 Btu/h ft² (10.7 W/m²) or 1.0 watt/ft² of floor area for space conditioning purposes.
2. Those that do not contain *conditioned space*.
3. Greenhouses isolated from any conditioned space and not intended for occupancy.

R402.1.1 Vapor retarder. Wall assemblies in the *building thermal envelope* shall comply with the vapor retarder requirements of Section R702.7 of the *International Residential Code* or Section 1404.3 of the *International Building Code*, as applicable.

R402.1.2 Insulation and fenestration criteria. The *building thermal envelope* shall meet the requirements of Table R402.1.2 based on the climate zone specified in Chapter 3. Assemblies shall have a U-factor equal to or less than that specified in Table R402.1.2. Fenestration shall have a U-factor equal to or less than specified in Table R402.1.2.

R402.1.3 R-value alternative. Assemblies with R-value of insulation materials equal to or greater than that specified in Table R402.1.3 shall be an alternative to the U-factor in Table R402.1.2.

R402.1.4 R-value computation. *Cavity insulation* alone shall be used to determine compliance with the *cavity insulation* R-value requirement in Table R402.1.3. Where *cavity insulation* is installed in multiple layers, the R-values of the *cavity insulation* layers shall be summed to determine compliance with the *cavity insulation* R-value requirements. The manufacturer's settled R-value shall be used for blown insulation. *Continuous insulation* (ci) alone shall be used to determine compliance with the continuous insulation R-value requirements in Table R402.1.3. Where *continuous insulation* is installed in multiple layers, the R-values of the *continuous insulation* layers shall be summed to determine compliance with the *continuous insulation* R-value requirements. Computed R-values shall not include an R-value for other building materials or air films. Where insulated siding is used for the purpose of complying with the continuous insulation requirements of Table R402.1.3, the manufacturer's labeled R-value for insulated siding shall be reduced by R-0.6.

R402.1.5 Total UA alternative. If the proposed *building thermal envelope* UA is less than or equal to the target UA, the building shall be considered in compliance with Table R402.1.2. The proposed UA shall be calculated in accordance with Equation 2. The target UA shall be calculated in accordance with Equation 1. U-factors shall be determined as specified in Section R402.1.6. In addition to UA compliance, the maximum fenestration U-factors of Section R402.5 shall be met.

R402.1.6 U-factor reference and calculations. The U-factors for typical construction assemblies are included in Appendix A in chapter 51-11C WAC. These values shall be used for all calculations. Where proposed construction assemblies are not represented in Appendix A, values shall be calculated in accordance with the ASHRAE *Handbook of Fundamentals* using the framing factors listed in Appendix A where applicable and shall include the thermal bridging effects of framing materials. The SHGC requirements shall be met in addition to UA compliance.

Fenestration *U*-factors shall comply with Section R303.1.3, Fenestration product rating.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27A.020, 19.27A.045, 19.27A.160, and chapter 19.27A RCW. WSR 24-03-084, § 51-11R-40210, filed 1/16/24, effective 3/15/24; WSR 23-02-060, 23-12-102, and 23-20-022, § 51-11R-40210, filed 1/3/23, 6/7/23, and 9/25/23, effective 3/15/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27A.020, 19.27A.045, 19.27A.160 and chapter 19.27 RCW. WSR 20-01-047, § 51-11R-40210, filed 12/9/19, effective 7/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27A.025, 19.27A.045, 19.27A.160, and 19.27.074. WSR 17-10-063, § 51-11R-40210, filed 5/2/17, effective 6/2/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27A.020, 19.27A.045, 19.27A.160, and 19.27.074. WSR 16-02-127, § 51-11R-40210, filed 1/6/16, effective 7/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27A.020, 19.27A.045 and chapters 19.27 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 13-04-055, § 51-11R-40210, filed 2/1/13, effective 7/1/13.]