

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-647-0000**

Window Replacement – Design Pressure Rating

Code: 2012 NC Residential Code
Section: R4502

Date: October 8, 2015

Code: 2018 Building Code
Section: 1709.5

Code: 2012 NC Existing Building Code
Section: 602.2

Question:

Does a replacement window have to meet the applicable requirements for design pressure (DP) rating?

Answer:

- a) When replacing only a glazing panel and not an entire window in a double hung or casement type unit:
No. The replacement glazing panel shall have no less of a DP rating than that which was existing. The glazing panel is considered repair and can be repaired with a like material.
- b) When replacing only a window sash and not an entire window:
No. The replacement glazing panel shall have no less of a DP rating than that which was existing. The sash is considered repair and can be repaired with a like material.
- c) When replacing a window unit but not removing the existing window frame:
No. The replacement glazing panel shall have no less of a DP rating than that which was existing. The replacement window unit is considered a repair if the replacement unit is not designed to provide a complete finished unit in a rough opening; and the original window frame is not removed from the rough opening; and the replacement unit is made to fit into the original frame.
- d) When replacing a window and the existing window frame:
Yes. The window unit is considered new construction and must meet the requirements for new construction.
- e) When replacing a store front glazing panel in an existing window frame:
Yes. The glazing panel is considered new construction and must meet the requirements for new construction.

Keywords: