

2012 International Fire Code

908.7 Carbon monoxide alarms.

Group I or R occupancies located in a building containing a fuel-burning appliance or in a building which has an attached garage shall be equipped with single-station carbon monoxide alarms. The carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the manufacturer's instructions. An open parking garage, as defined in Chapter 2 of the *International Building Code*, or an enclosed parking garage ventilated in accordance with Section 404 of the *International Mechanical Code* shall not be considered an attached garage.

(The following information has been taken from the 2012 International Fire Code Commentary) NFPA 720 requires a CO alarm outside of each sleeping unit in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom and on every occupiable level of a dwelling, including basements. CO alarms are not required in attics or crawl spaces. When a combination CO/smoke alarm is provided, the fire alarm signal takes precedence over any other alarm signals. NFPA 720 requires the CO alarm be capable of transmitting a distinct audible signal that is different than the smoke alarm signal.

Exception: *Sleeping units* or *dwelling units* which do not themselves contain a fuel-burning appliance or have an attached garage, but which are located in a building with a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, need not be equipped with single-station carbon monoxide alarms provided that:

1. The *sleeping unit* or *dwelling unit* is located more than one story above or below any story which contains a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage;
2. The *sleeping unit* or *dwelling unit* is not connected by duct work or ventilation shafts to any room containing a fuel-burning appliance or to an attached garage; and
3. The building is equipped with a common area carbon monoxide alarm system.