



## FIRE DOOR - FIRE SAFETY



### **It's the LAW** **Fire Safety Equipment** **527 CMR 1 Chapter 12.4.6.18.3**

All required fire resistant rated doors or smoke barriers shall be maintained in good working order including all hardware necessary for the proper operation thereof. The use of door stops, wedges and other unapproved hold-open devices shall be prohibited. Where it is desired to keep the doors open, the head of the fire department shall require the installation of approved automatic closing devices in accordance with 780 CMR.

**If you observe a problem with a fire door - please contact the building manager!**



A building without 100% sprinkler protection is required to have a minimum of a 1 hour rated/protected access corridor leading to an emergency exit for a business occupancy, which includes laboratories.

Fire barriers include fire doors, walls, ceilings, and floors. Fire barriers play an integral role in managing a fire by interrupting the spread of smoke, other toxic gases, and the fire itself from one fire zone into another.

Fire doors protect the openings in buildings. Stairwells are protected by fire doors and play an important role in safe building evacuation. Fire doors (door, jams and hardware) must be rated, self-closing and have proper latching devices.

**Unfortunately fire doors are often held open for the convenience of employees and visitors, creating a significant fire hazard for all building occupants.**

Doors that are designed to be fire exit doors can be held open, but **ONLY** if they automatically release when building fire alarms are activated.





# FACT SHEET

Program: Fire Equipment & Systems



The door, the door frame and the door hardware all must be certified components of a rated fire door.

Fire doors are typically marked with a certification label on the edge of the door.

- Do not cover or paint the door certification label.
- Do not cut into or alter the doors. Older doors may have asbestos containing cores.

Some fire doors are held open with fusible links. These links are heat sensitive and will break during a fire activating the closing mechanism of the fire door.

**Never paint the fusible link.**



The fire door in this picture demonstrates the effectiveness of a **closed** fire door controlling smoke, heat and fire from spreading.

Note that the hallway is free of soot or damage.

Fire doors provided occupants sufficient time to safely exit the building.