ATTIC FURNACE
2016 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE
SECTIONS 904.10 THROUGH 904.10

The following are general requirements for an attic furnace based on the 2016 CA Mechanical Code. This handout is intended to provide only general information, for further information contact the Building & Safety Division.

CMC Section 304.4 Appliances in Attics and Under-Floor Spaces.
An attic or under-floor space in which an appliance is installed shall be accessible through an opening and passageway not less than the largest component of the applicant, and not less than 22 inches by 30 inches (559 mm by 762 mm).

304.4.1 Length of Passageway.
Where the height of the passageway is less than 6 feet (1829 mm), the distance from the passageway access to the appliance shall not exceed 20 feet (6096 mm) measured along the center line of the passageway. [NFPA 54:9.5.1.1]

304.2 Width of Passageway.
The passageway shall be unobstructed and shall have solid flooring not less than 24 inches (610 mm) wide from the entrance opening to the appliance. [NFPA 54:9.5.1.2]

304.4.3 Work Platform.
A level working platform or grade surface not less than 30 inches (762 mm) by 30 inches (762 mm) shall be provided in front of the service side of the appliance. [NFPA 54:9.5.2]

Exception: A working platform need not be provided where the furnace is capable of being serviced from the required access opening. The furnace service side shall not exceed 12 inches (305 mm) from the access opening.

304.4.4 Lighting and Convenience Outlet.
A permanent 120-volt receptacle outlet and lighting fixture shall be installed near the appliance. The switch controlling the lighting fixture shall be located at the entrance to the passageway. [NFPA 54:9.5.3]

904.10 Furnace (Upright and Horizontal).
Upright furnaces shall be permitted to be installed in an attic, furred, or under-floor space exceeding 5 feet (1524 mm) in height, provided the required listings and furnace and duct clearances are observed. Horizontal furnaces shall be permitted to be installed in an attic, furred, or under-floor space, provided the required listings and furnace and duct clearances are observed.