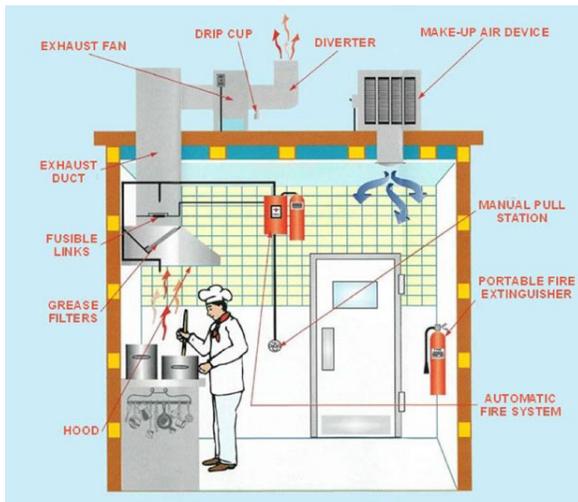


UL 300 compliant systems were 1st required in 1994 primarily in response to an industry shift away from cooking with animal fats to cooking with vegetable oil along with use of cooking equipment that is significantly more insulated. The combined changes create a fire risk that didn't previously exist and cannot be adequately contained by prior generations of fire suppression systems.

The following will determine if an existing kitchen hood suppression system must be upgraded to a UL 300 compliant system:

- If vegetable oil is used as the cooking media
- If cooking equipment has been repositioned
- If cooking equipment has been upgraded/replaced
- If suppression system cannot be repaired



**Question:** I have one quote for \$1200 and another for \$4500. Both quotes claim their work will bring my hood fire extinguishing system up to code. What steps should I take to ensure the work complies with UL 300?

**Answer:** Try to obtain at least 3 proposals from licensed contractors to perform the work. Make sure that they include permit fees, plans submittal and an acceptance test.

**Question:** How long do I have to accomplish this work?

**Answer:** Provided the suppression system is operational, the upgrade must be completed no later than 6 months from notification. Based on conditions, a shorter time frame may be required.

**Question:** What regulation requires upgrade to a UL 300 Fire Suppression System?

**Answer:** International Fire Code Section 904.12.6.1

Where changes in the cooking media, positioning of cooking equipment or replacement of cooking equipment occur in existing commercial cooking systems, the automatic fire extinguishing system shall be required to comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 904.12 through 904.12.4.

**Question:** Does IFC 904.12.6.1 require an upgrade to existing non-compliant hoods when a UL 300 system is being installed?

**Answer:** Yes, however that does not necessarily mean the hood has to be replaced. It may be possible to modify the hood to bring it into compliance.

Additional Information? See Public Information Sheet F-51 Commercial Cooking  
[https://fire.bellevuewa.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_4779004/File/pdf/Fire/F-51\\_CommercialCooking.pdf](https://fire.bellevuewa.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_4779004/File/pdf/Fire/F-51_CommercialCooking.pdf)