This form is to be completed by a land surveyor, engineer, or architect who is authorized by state law to certify elevation information when the elevation information for zones A1-A30, AE, AH, A (with BFE), V1-V30, VE, and V (with BFE) is required. In the case of zone AO, the building official, the property owner, or the owner's representative should complete the information in Section I and may also complete the certification. Community officials who are authorized by local law or ordinance to provide floodplain management information may also complete this form.

SECTION I BUILDING ELEVATION INFORMATION

1. Using the Flood Insurance Manual or the NFIP Flood Insurance Application—Part 2 Worksheet, indicate the proper diagram number.

2. FIRZ Zones A1-A30, AE, AH, and A (with BFE). The top of the reference level floor from the selected diagram is at an elevation of________ feet NGVD (or other datum—see #5).

3. FIRZ Zones V1-V30, VE, and V (with BFE). The bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the reference level floor from the selected diagram is at an elevation of________ feet NGVD (or other datum—see #5).

4. FIRZ Zone AO. The floor used as the reference level from the selected diagram is 20 feet above highest natural grade next to the building (also enter in line 6). This value must be equal to or greater than the AO Zone flood depth number listed below. If no flood depth number is available, is the building’s lowest floor (or reference level) elevated in accordance with the community’s floodplain management ordinances? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

5. Indicate the elevation datum system used in determining the above reference level elevations: ☐ NGVD ☐ Other (describe on back)

6. Indicate the elevation datum system used on the FIRM for base flood elevations: ☐ NGVD ☐ Other (describe on back)

7. Is the reference level based on actual construction? ☐ Yes ☐ No* 

* A “No” answer is only valid if the building does not have the reference level floor in place. Fill in the elevation based on construction drawings and do not complete question #8. If “No” is checked, this certification will be valid only for buildings in the course of construction. After construction of the reference level floor is completed, a post-construction elevation certificate will be required for continued flood insurance coverage.

8. Provide the following measurements using the natural grade next to the building (round to the nearest foot).

   a. The reference level is:

   b. The garage floor (if applicable) is:

SECTION II FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP INFORMATION

Provide the following from the proper FIRM (see Instructions on back—Date of FIRM) and accompanying insurance application:

SECTION III CERTIFICATION

This certification is to be signed by a land surveyor, engineer, or architect who is authorized by state law to certify elevation information when the elevation information for zones A1-A30, AE, AH, A (with BFE), V1-V30, VE, and V (with BFE) is required. In the case of zone AO, the building official, the property owner, or the owner’s representative can sign the certification. Community officials who are authorized by local law or ordinance to provide floodplain management information, may also sign the certification. I certify that the information on this certificate represents my best efforts to interpret the data available. I understand that any false statement may be punishable by fine or imprisonment under 18 U.S. Code, Section 1001.

The insurance agent should attach the original copy of the completed form to the flood insurance policy application. The second copy should be supplied to the policyholder and the third copy retained by the agent. The fourth copy is for the local community permit office, if required.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE ELEVATION CERTIFICATE

The Flood Insurance Manual and the Flood Insurance Application—Part 2 Worksheet contains a series of diagrams that are to be used to determine the reference level for the specific structure in question. The diagrams are available through local insurance agents or the National Flood Insurance Program.

"Natural grade" is defined as the "grade unaffected by construction techniques such as fill, landscaping, or berming."

A reference level is shown in each of the worksheet diagrams of the various building types. For property locations in zones A1-A30, AE, AH, and A (with BFE): Line 2 of the Elevation Certificate indicates that the elevation should be measured from the top of the reference level floor. For property locations in zones V1-V30, VE, and V (with BFE), Line 3 of the Elevation Certificate indicates that the elevation should be measured from the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the reference level floor."

* The insured will determine the measurements using the "top of floor" from the Flood Insurance-Part 2 Worksheet diagrams.

The diagram, right, demonstrates the differences between the point that elevations should be measured from in A zones and V zones.

Elevations for all A zones should be measured from the top of the reference level floor.

Elevations for all V zones should be measured from the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the reference level floor.

The reference level elevation may be reported to the same level of precision used to report base flood elevation on the FIRM (e.g., if the base flood elevation is shown to the nearest half foot, the reference level may be reported to the nearest half foot).

Base flood elevations are shown on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for zones A1-A30, AH, AE, V1-V30, and VE. Base flood elevations may also be on file with the community for zones A and V for all subdivisions and other new developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is the lesser, if the start of construction was after December 31, 1974.

Base flood depth numbers are shown on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for zone AO. These depth numbers should be used to compare with the height of the reference level floor above highest natural grade in Line 8 of the Elevation Certificate.

Elevation reference marks other than those shown on the FIRM may be used for reference level elevation determinations. In areas experiencing ground subsidence, the most recently adjusted reference mark elevations available must be used for elevation determinations. If a reference mark not shown on the FIRM is used, identify the reference mark used in the comment section.

Date of FIRM used in Section II of the Elevation Certificate can be either the date of the FIRM in effect when the certification is being provided or the date of the FIRM that was in effect at the time the building was constructed.

COMMENTS:

NOTE TO INSURANCE AGENTS AND COMMUNITY OFFICIALS: In all A zones, the reference level is the top of the lowest floor and in V zones the reference level is the bottom of the slab/horizontal support. Agents should refer to the flood insurance manual for instruction on lowest floor definition.