Housekeeping/Laundry/Maintenance

12-007.01B Laundry: The facility must provide laundry services. Such service may be provided by contract or on-site by the facility.

12-007.01B1 Contract: If contractual services are used, the facility must have areas for soiled linen awaiting pickup and separate areas for storage and distribution of clean linen.

12-007.01B2 On-Site: If on-site services are provided, the facility must have areas dedicated to laundry.

12-007.01B2a If the facility provides personal laundry areas, the areas must be equipped with a washer and dryer for use by residents. In new construction, the facility must provide a conveniently located sink for soaking and hand washing of laundry.

12-007.01B2b When the facility launders items for more than one resident together, the bulk laundry area must be divided into separate soiled (sort and washer areas) and clean (drying, folding, and mending areas) rooms. In new construction and new facilities, a separate soaking and hand washing sink and housekeeping room must be provided in the laundry area.

12-007.01B2c Separate clean linen supply storage areas must be conveniently located in each care and treatment location.

12-007.01C Waste Processing: The facility must provide areas to collect, contain, process, and dispose of medical and general waste produced within the facility in such a manner as to prevent the attraction of rodents, flies, and all other insects and vermin, and to minimize the transmission of infectious diseases.

12-007.01D Housekeeping Room: The facility must have a room with a service sink and space for storage of supplies and housekeeping equipment.

Corridors, Floors, and Signage

1. Areas must not interfere with residents currently residing in the facility;

2. Furniture and equipment must meet care and treatment needs;

3. Toilets must be easily accessible from all program areas; and

12-007.03M Corridors: The facility’s corridors must be wide enough to allow passage and be equipped as needed for the residents to minimize injury. All stairways and ramps must have handrails.

12-007.03N Doors: The facility’s doors must be wide enough to allow passage and be equipped for privacy, safety, and with assistive devices to minimize resident injury.
12-007.03N1 All bedroom, toilet, and bathing room doors must provide privacy yet not create seclusion or prohibit staff access for routine or emergency care.

12-007.03S Finishes: The facility must provide washable room finishes in isolation rooms, clean workrooms, and food preparation areas with smooth non-absorptive surfaces that are not physically affected by routine housekeeping cleaning solutions and methods. Acoustic lay-in ceilings, if used, must not interfere with infection control. Perforated, tegular, serrated cut, or highly textured tiles are not acceptable.

**Lighting, Noise, Temperature (HVAC), and Odors**

2. Ventilation, exhaust, heating and cooling components that are inaccessible to residents;

4. Electrical outlets protected by ground fault interrupting devices.

12-007.02E Alzheimer's, Dementia, and Related Conditions: If a facility provides a specialized area/unit for Alzheimer's, dementia, and related conditions, the area must have personalized resident bedrooms, activity areas, separate dining areas, features that support resident orientation to their surroundings, handwashing sinks, and call and security systems.

12-007.02F Outpatient Areas: Areas of the facility designated for the care and treatment of residents not residing in the facility must comply with the following standards:

12-007.04 Building Systems: Facilities must have building systems that are designed, installed, and maintained to remain operational.

12-007.04A Water and Sewer Systems: The facility must have and maintain an accessible, adequate, safe, and potable supply of water. Where an authorized public water supply of satisfactory quantity, quality, and pressure is available, the facility must be connected to it and its supply used exclusively.

12-007.04A1 The system for collection, treatment, storage, and distribution of potable water in a facility that regularly serves 25 or more individuals must be constructed, maintained, and operated in accordance with all provisions of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act and Title 179 Regulations Governing Public Water Systems.

12-007.04A2 The system for collection, treatment, storage and distribution of potable water system in a facility that serves less than 25 individuals on a regular basis must be maintained and operated as if it were a public water system in accordance with 179 NAC 2-002, 3 and 4. These facilities must report to the Department the result of all tests that indicate the water is in violation of the standards set out in 179 NAC 2-002 or 3. These facilities must construct all water wells in accordance with 178 NAC 12, Water Well Construction, Pump Installation, and Water Well Decommissioning.

12-007.04A3 The water distribution system must have an anti-siphon device and air-gaps to prevent potable water system and equipment contamination.

12-007.04A4 The facility must provide continuously circulated, filtered, and treated water systems as required for the care and treatment equipment used in the facility.
12-007.04A5 The facility must maintain a sanitary and functioning sewage system.

12-007.04B Hot Water System: The facility must maintain hot and cold water to all handwashing and bathing locations. The hot water system must have the capacity to provide continuous hot water in a temperature range as required by these regulations.

12-007.04C Heating and Cooling Systems: The facility must provide a heating and air conditioning system capable of maintaining the following:

12-007.04C1 In existing and new facilities, a temperature of at least 70 degrees Fahrenheit during heating conditions and that does not exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit during cooling conditions.

12-007.04D Ventilation System: The facility must provide ventilation that prevents the concentrations of contaminants that impair health or cause discomfort to residents and employees.

12-007.04E Electrical System: The facility must have an electrical system that has sufficient capacity to maintain care and treatment services provided. The electrical system must be properly grounded.

12-007.04E2 The facility must provide minimum illumination levels as follows:

1. General purpose areas: 5 foot candles;
2. General corridors and resident living areas: 10 foot candles;
3. Personal care and dining areas: 20 foot candles;
4. Reading and activity areas: 30 foot candles;
5. Food preparation areas: 40 foot candles;
6. Hazardous work surfaces: 50 foot candles;
7. Care and treatment locations: 70 foot candles;
8. Examination task lighting: 100 foot candles; and
9. Reduced night lighting in resident rooms where nursing services are provided and resident-used toilet and bathing rooms and corridors.

Light levels are measured at 30 inches above the floor in multiple areas in the room being evaluated and the readings are averaged.

12-007.04F Essential Power System: The facility must have an emergency power generator for any care and treatment location with electrical life support equipment.

12-007.04F1 Existing and new facilities must maintain emergency power for essential care and treatment equipment and lighting, medical gas systems, and nurse call systems.

12-007.04F3 Facilities with electrical life support equipment must provide and maintain an essential power system with an on-site fuel source. The minimum fuel source capacity must allow for non-interrupted system operation.
Amenities

12-007.03Q Emergency Telephone: The facility must provide non-coin operated telephone(s) with emergency numbers for use by residents.

Outdoor Area

12-007.03O Outdoor Areas: The facility must provide an outdoor area for resident usage. It must be equipped and situated to allow for resident safety and abilities.

New Construction: Facility-Wide

12-007.03D Floor Area: Floor area is the space with ceilings at least seven feet in height and excludes enclosed storage, toilets and bathing rooms, corridors, and halls. The space beyond the first two feet of vestibules and alcoves less than five feet in width is not included in the required floor area. In rooms with sloped ceilings, at least half of the ceiling must be at least seven feet in height. Areas less than five feet in height are not included in the required floor area.

12-007.04C2 In new construction, a temperature of at least 75 degrees Fahrenheit during heating conditions and that does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit during cooling conditions.

12-007.04C3 In new construction, central air distribution and return systems must be equipped with the following percent dust spot rated filters:

1. General areas: 30+% pre-filters; and,
2. Nursing care and treatment areas: 80+% pre-filters.

12-007.04C4 Airflow must move from clean to soiled locations. In new construction, air movement must be designed to reduce the potential of contamination of clean areas.

12-007.04C5 Openings to the heating and cooling system must not be located where subject to wet cleaning methods or body fluids.

12-007.04D1 New construction must provide a mechanical exhaust ventilation system for windowless toilets, baths, laundry rooms, housekeeping rooms, kitchens, and similar rooms at ten air changes per hour (ACH); for care and treatment areas at five ACH; and for procedure and respiratory isolation areas at 15 ACH.

12-007.04E1 New construction and new facilities must have outlets that are ground fault circuit interrupter-protected in wet areas and within six feet of sinks.

12-007.04F2 New construction must maintain emergency power for essential care and treatment equipment, lighting, nurse call systems, ventilation, heating, and medical gas systems.