

106.FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY.

Buildings on the premises used as facilities shall meet all the requirements of local, state and national codes concerning fire and life safety standards that are applicable to health care facilities. (1-1-88)

01. General Requirements. General requirements for the fire and life safety standards for a health care facility are: (1-1-88)

a. The facility shall be structurally sound, maintained and equipped to assure the safety of patients/ residents, employees and the public. (1-1-88)

b. Where natural or man-made hazards are present on the premises, the facility shall provide suitable fences, guards, and/or railings to isolate the hazard from the patient's/resident's environment. (1-1-88)

02. Life Safety Code Requirements. The facility shall meet such provisions of the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association (26th ed., 1985) as are applicable to a health care facility except:(1-1-88)

a. As modified herein, the facility shall comply with the standards for "Health Care Occupancies" contained in Chapters 12 and 13, and applicable provisions of Chapters 1 through 7, Chapter 31, and Appendices A, B, and C of the Life Safety Code; or (1-1-88)

b. Existing facilities licensed prior to the effective date of these rules and minimum standards and in compliance with a previous edition of the Life Safety Code may continue to comply with the edition in force at that time. (1-1-88)

03. Smoking. Because smoking has been acknowledged to be a potential fire hazard, a continuous effort shall be made to reduce such a hazard in the facility. Written rules governing smoking shall be adopted and available to all facility personnel, patients/residents and the public. These rules shall include at least the following: (1-1-88)

a. That smoking is prohibited in any area where flammable liquids, gases or oxygen are in use or stored. These areas shall be posted with "No Smoking" signs. (1-1-88)

b. That patients/residents are not permitted to smoke in bed unless under direct supervision of a staff member. (1-1-88)

c. That unsupervised smoking by patients/residents not mentally or physically responsible is prohibited. This includes patients/residents affected by medication. (1-1-88)

d. That designated areas shall be assigned for employee, patient/resident and public smoking.(1-1-88)

e. That noncombustible ashtrays of a safe design shall be provided in all areas where smoking is permitted. (1-1-88)

f. That metal containers with self-closing, tight-fitting lids, or their equivalent, shall be provided in all areas where smoking is permitted. (1-1-88)

g. Nothing in Section 106 requires that smoking be permitted in facilities whose admission policies prohibit smoking. (12-31-91)

04. Emergency Plans for Protection and Evacuation of Patients/Residents. In cooperation with the local fire authority, the administrator shall develop a written plan for employee response for protection of patients/ residents in case of an emergency. The plan shall include at least the following: (1-1-88)

- a.** Specific procedures to follow in all potential emergencies (i.e., fire, flooding, bomb threat, explosion, natural disasters). (1-1-88)
- b.** A basic diagram of the building showing the location of emergency protection equipment and exits. The diagram shall be conspicuously posted throughout the facility. (1-1-88)
- c.** Written evidence of an arrangement for temporary housing of patients/residents who must be moved in the event of an emergency. (1-1-88)

05. Orientation, Training and Drills. All employees shall be instructed in basic fire and life safety procedures. (1-1-88)

- a.** All new employees shall be instructed in basic facility fire and life safety procedures during their orientation period. Documentation that such orientation has been completed shall be maintained on file in the facility. (1-1-88)
- b.** Fire and/or safety classes shall be made available on a quarterly basis. The facility shall make an effort to encourage all staff to attend the classes. Classes shall not be conducted in lieu of drills. (1-1-88)
- c.** A minimum of one (1) fire drill per shift per quarter shall be held. The drills shall be unannounced, shall include transmission of a fire alarm signal (may be silent during the late night/early morning) and shall be conducted at irregular intervals during the day and night. At least one (1) drill per year shall include at least a partial evacuation of the building. A basic written record of each drill shall be maintained and include at least the following: (1-1-88)
 - i.** Date and time of drill; (1-1-88)
 - ii.** Brief description of the drill, including problems encountered; (1-1-88)
 - iii.** Recommendations for improvement (if any); and (1-1-88)
 - iv.** Signature of employees supervising the drill together with the names of all employees participating in the drill. (1-1-88)

06. Report of Fire. A separate report of each fire incident occurring within the facility shall be submitted to the licensing agency within thirty (30) days of the occurrence. The reporting form "Facility Fire Incident Report" will be issued by the licensing agency to secure specific data concerning date, origin, extent of damage, method of extinguishment and injuries (if any). (1-1-88)

07. Maintenance of Equipment. The facility shall establish routine test, check and maintenance procedures for all equipment. (1-1-88)

a. The use of any defective equipment on the premises of any facility is prohibited. (1-1-88)

b. The administrator shall have all equipment inspected for safe condition and function prior to use by any patient/resident, employee or visitor. (1-1-88)

c. The administrator shall show written evidence of a preventive maintenance program for all equipment directly related to the health and safety of the patient/resident. (1-1-88)

d. The fire alarm system and any smoke detection system shall be test/checked at least monthly by an individual knowledgeable in the system's function and operation. (1-1-88)

e. Automatic fire extinguishing system, where provided, shall be inspected/tested quarterly in accordance with N.F.P.A. Std. 13 (1983 ed.). The inspections shall be conducted by a person knowledgeable in the care and maintenance of sprinkler systems. The applicable inspection report shall be completed and maintained on file. (1-1-88)

f. Portable fire extinguishers shall be maintained/serviced in accordance with the applicable provisions of N.F.P.A. Std. 10 (1981 ed.). All extinguishers shall be checked monthly by a facility employee who will date and initial each tag at the time of each check. (1-1-88)

g. Each pressure vessel shall have a certificate of annual inspection which shall be posted adjacent to the vessel. (1-1-88)

h. All range hoods and filters shall be cleaned at least weekly. (1-1-88)

i. Duct work for ventilation hoods shall be cleaned at least annually. (1-1-88)

08. Medical Gas Storage, Handling, Usage. The handling, storage and usage of all medical gases shall be in accordance with N.F.P.A. Std. 99 (1984 ed.). (1-1-88)

09. Emergency Utility Controls. Responsible employees on each shift shall be instructed in the location and operation of switches, valves and controls in the facility. (1-1-88)

10. Storage, Heating Appliances, Hazardous Substances. (7-1-93)

a. Attics and crawl spaces shall not be used for storage of any materials. (1-1-88)

b. Rooms housing heating appliances shall not be used for storage of combustible materials. (1-1-88)

c. All fuel-fired heating devices shall have an easily accessible, plainly marked, functional remote fuel shut-off valve. (1-1-88)

d. All ranges shall be provided with hoods, mechanical ventilation and removable filters.
(1-1-88)