



Health Care Facilities Policies (Life Safety Code)

All health care facilities are required to have written policies to address the following requirements of NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, 2012 edition.

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM OUT OF SERVICE

Section 18/19.3.5.1; 9.7.6; NFPA 25, Section 15.5.2 Before authorization is given for preplanned water-based fire protection system impairments, the impairment coordinator shall verify that the following procedures have been implemented: the extent and duration of the impairment has been determined, areas or buildings involved are inspected and risks are determined, recommendations are submitted to management or designated representative, and the fire department and other authorities having jurisdiction have been notified. Where a required automatic sprinkler system is out of service for more than 10 hours in a 24-hour period, the facility shall arrange for one of the following until the sprinkler system has been returned to service:

- (1) Evacuation of the building or portion of the building affected by the system out of service
- (2) An approved fire watch
- (3) Establishment of a temporary water supply
- (4) Establishment and implementation of an approved program to eliminate potential ignition sources and limit the amount of fuel available to the fire

If your facility has an automatic sprinkler system and it must be turned off for more than 10 hours, you must notify the Division of Life Safety and Construction and implement a fire watch. Note that personnel conducting the fire watch during this period can have no other assigned duties.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM OUT OF SERVICE

Section 9.6.1.6 Where a required fire alarm system is out of service for more than 4 hours in a 24-hour period, the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified, and the building shall be evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.

If your fire alarm system must be turned off for more than 4 hours, you must notify the Division of Life Safety and Construction and implement a fire watch. Note that personnel conducting the fire watch during this period can have no other assigned duties.

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FIRE SAFETY PLAN

Section 18/19.7.2.2 A written health care occupancy fire safety plan shall provide for all of the following:

- (1) Use of alarms
- (2) Transmission of alarm to fire department
- (3) Emergency phone call to fire department
- (4) Response to alarms
- (5) Isolation of fire
- (6) Evacuation of immediate area
- (7) Evacuation of smoke compartment
- (8) Preparation of floors and building for evacuation
- (9) Extinguishment of fire