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Building Standards/Life Safety Code
Division of Health Facilities
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Division of Health Facilities

- State Licensing:

Hospitals

Nursing Facilities

Basic Care Facilities

Home Health Agencies

Hospice Programs

Electrologists

Division of Health Facilities

■ Federal Certification - Medicare/Medicaid:

Hospitals

Nursing Facilities

Home Health Agencies

Hospice Programs

Renal Dialysis Units

CLIA Laboratories

Rural Health Clinics

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally
Retarded

Division of Health Facilities

- Plans Review:

Alterations affecting fire safety or structural integrity of the building, changes in service areas or services provided within a service area, changes in bed capacity, or any other change governed by the standards.

Division of Health Facilities

- Plans Review:

Plans and specifications must be submitted for all construction, remodeling, and installations.

Start of construction prior to approval by the department of the final plans and specifications is not permitted.

Division of Health Facilities

- Construction Standards:

Hospitals

Nursing Facilities

Basic Care Facilities

www.health.state.nd.us/hf/

Division of Health Facilities

- Construction Standards:

ND Administrative Code

1992-93 AIA Guidelines

Life Safety Code

ADAAG

State Plumbing Code

State Electrical Code

2000 Life Safety Code

- Published by National Fire Protection Association – NFPA Standard 101
- To order: 1-800-344-3555
www.nfpacatalog.org
- Adopted by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

2000 Life Safety Code

- 18 – New Health Care
- 19 – Existing Health Care
- 20 – New Ambulatory Health Care
- 21 – Existing Ambulatory Health Care
- 32 – New Residential Board and Care
- 33 – Existing Residential Board and Care

Renovations, Alterations, and Modernizations

■ 18.1.1.4.5

Where major renovations, alterations, or modernizations are made in a nonsprinklered facility, the automatic sprinkler requirements of Chapter 18 shall apply to a smoke compartment undergoing the renovation, alteration, or modernization.

Door Locking

- 18.2.2.2.4

Exception No. 1: Door-locking arrangements without delayed egress shall be permitted in health care occupancies.

Exception No. 2: Delayed-egress locks shall be permitted, provided that not more than one such device is located in any egress path.

Means of Egress

■ 18.2.2.2.9

Horizontal sliding doors that are not automatic-closing shall be limited to a single leaf and shall have a latch or other mechanism that ensures that doors will not rebound into a partially open position if forcefully closed in an emergency.

Means of Egress

- 18.2.2.8 Fire Escape Ladders.
- 18.2.2.9 Alternating Tread Devices.
- 18.2.2.10 Areas of Refuge.

Means of Egress

■ 18.2.3.5

The minimum clear width for doors in the means of egress shall be not less than 41.5 in. wide.

Exception No. 4: For a pair of doors, one of the doors must have a 32 in. clear opening, with an astragal. The inactive leaf must have automatic positive latching.

Means of Egress

■ 18.2.5.1

Exception No. 3: Exit access from a special nursing suite may pass through one intervening room where the arrangement allows for visual supervision by nursing personnel.

Exception No. 4: Exit access from a suite of rooms, other than patient sleeping rooms, may pass through not more than two adjacent rooms to reach the corridor.

Means of Egress

- 18.2.5.5

Intervening rooms shall not be hazardous areas.

Means of Egress

■ 18.2.5.8

Suites of rooms, other than patient sleeping rooms, shall be permitted to have one intervening room if the travel distance within the suite to the exit access door does not exceed 100 ft and two intervening rooms where the travel distance within the suite to the exit access door does not exceed 50 ft.

Hazardous Areas

■ 18.3.2.1

Boiler and fuel-fired heater rooms – 1 hour

Central/bulk laundries larger than 100 sq ft
– 1 hour

Combustible storage larger than 50 sq ft –
self-closing/positive latching door

Combustible storage larger than 100 sq ft –
1 hour

NFPA 99

- 18.3.2.3 Anesthetizing Locations.
- 18.3.2.4 Medical Gas.

Shall be protected in accordance with
NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*.

Interior Floor Finish

■ 18.3.3.3

Due to the presence of an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system, no interior floor finish requirements shall apply.

Emergency Forces Notification

- 18.3.4.3.2

Exception: Smoke detection equipped with reconfirmation shall not be required to automatically notify the fire department unless the alarm condition is reconfirmed after a period not exceeding 120 seconds.

Smoke Detection

- 18.3.4.5.3 Nursing Homes.

An approved automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in corridors throughout smoke compartments containing sleeping rooms and in spaces open to corridors.

Sprinkler Systems

■ 18.3.5.1

Buildings containing health care facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system.

■ 18.3.5.2

Listed quick-response or listed residential sprinklers shall be used throughout smoke compartments containing patient sleeping rooms.

Corridor Walls

■ 18.3.6.2

Corridor walls shall form a barrier to limit the transfer of smoke. Such walls shall be permitted to terminate at the ceiling where the ceiling is constructed to limit the transfer of smoke. No fire resistance rating is required for corridor walls.

Corridor Walls

■ A.18.3.6.2

An architectural, exposed, suspended-grid acoustical tile ceiling with penetrating items such as sprinkler piping and sprinklers; ducted HVAC supply and return-air diffusers; speakers; and recessed lighting fixtures is capable of limiting the transfer of smoke.

Corridor Doors

- 18.3.6.3.2

Doors shall be provided with positive latching hardware. Roller latches shall be prohibited.

Corridor Doors

- 18-3.6.3.1

Doors protecting corridor openings shall be constructed to resist the passage of smoke.

- A.18.3.6.3.1

Gasketing of doors should not be necessary to achieve resistance to the passage of smoke if the door is relatively tight-fitting.

Corridor Doors

- 18.3.6.3.3

Hold-open devices that release when the door is pushed or pulled shall be permitted.

Corridor Doors

- A.18.3.6.3.3

Doors should not be blocked open by furniture, door stops, chocks, tie-backs, drop-down or plunger-type devices, or other devices that necessitate manual unlatching or releasing action to close. Examples of hold-open devices that release when the door is pushed or pulled are friction catches or magnetic catches.

Corridor Doors

- 18.3.6.3.5

Nonrated, factory- or field-applied protective plates extending not more than 48 in. above the bottom of the door shall be permitted.

Corridor Wall Openings

■ 18.3.6.5

In other than smoke compartments containing patient bedrooms, miscellaneous openings such as mail slots, pharmacy pass-through windows, laboratory pass-through windows, and cashier pass-through windows shall be permitted to be installed in vision panels or doors without special protection, provided that the aggregate area of openings per room does not exceed 80 sq in, and the openings are installed at or below half the distance from the floor to the room ceiling.

Smoke Barriers

- 18-3.7.3

Exception No. 2: Dampers shall not be required in duct penetrations of smoke barriers in fully ducted heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems.

Furnishings

- 18.7.5.2

Newly introduced upholstered furniture shall meet the criteria in 10.3.2(2) and 10.3.3.

- 18.7.5.3

Newly introduced mattresses shall meet the criteria in 10.3.2(3) and 10.3.4.

Furnishings

■ 18.7.5.5

Soiled linen or trash collection receptacles shall not exceed 32 gal in capacity. The average density of container capacity in a room or space shall not exceed 0.5 gal/sq ft. A capacity of 32 gal shall not be exceeded within any 64 sq ft area. Mobile soiled linen or trash collection receptacles with capacities greater than 32 gal shall be located in a room protected as a hazardous area when not attended.

Exception: Container size and density shall not be limited in hazardous areas.

Construction

■ 18.7.9.1

Construction, repair, and improvement operations shall comply with 4.6.10.

Means of egress and fire safety features are maintained.

Escape facilities for construction workers.

No hazardous operations.

Construction

■ 18.7.9.2

The means of egress in any area undergoing construction, repair, or improvements shall be inspected daily for compliance with 7.1.10.1 and shall also comply with NFPA 241, *Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations*.