Sprinkler Testing Requirements
Critical Access Hospital Accreditation Program

Standard EC.02.03.05
The critical access hospital maintains fire safety equipment and fire safety building features.
Note: This standard does not require critical access hospitals to have the types of fire safety equipment and building features described below. However, if these types of equipment or features exist within the building, then the following maintenance, testing, and inspection requirements apply.

Revised Element of Performance for EC.02.03.05

1. At least quarterly, the critical access hospital tests supervisory signal devices (except valve tamper switches). The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).

2. At least quarterly, the critical access hospital tests water-flow devices. Every 6 months, the critical access hospital tests valve tamper switches. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Sections 2-3.3 and 3-3.3) and NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).

3. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests duct detectors, electromechanical releasing devices, heat detectors, manual fire alarm boxes, and smoke detectors. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).

4. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests visual and audible fire alarms, including speakers. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).

5. Every quarter, the critical access hospital tests fire alarm equipment for notifying off-site fire responders. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).

6. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every week, the critical access hospital tests fire pumps under no-flow conditions. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition.

7. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 6 months, the critical access hospital tests water-storage tank high- and low-water level alarms. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 6-3.5).

8. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every month during cold weather, the critical access hospital tests water-storage tank temperature alarms. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 6-3).
9. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests main drains at system low point or at all system risers. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 9-2.6).

10. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every quarter, the critical access hospital inspects all fire department water supply connections. The completion dates of the inspections are documented.
    Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 9-7.1).

11. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests fire pumps under flow. The completion date of the tests is documented.
    Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition.

12. Every 5 years, the critical access hospital conducts water-flow tests for standpipe systems. The completion date of the tests is documented.
    Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition.

13. Every 6 months, the critical access hospital inspects any automatic fire-extinguishing systems in a kitchen. The completion of the inspections is documented.
    Note 1: Discharge of the fire-extinguishing systems is not required.
    Note 2: For additional guidance on performing inspections, see NFPA 96, 1998 edition.

14. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests carbon dioxide and other gaseous automatic fire-extinguishing systems. The completion date of the tests is documented.
    Note: Discharge of the fire-extinguishing systems is not required.

15. At least monthly, the critical access hospital inspects portable fire extinguishers. The completion dates of the inspections are documented.
    Note 1: There are many ways to document the inspections, such as using bar-coding equipment, using check marks on a tag, or using an inventory.
    Note 2: Inspections involve a visual check for the presence and correct type of extinguisher, broken parts, full charge, and ease of access.
    Note 3: For additional guidance on inspection of fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 1998 edition (Sections 1-6, 4-3, and 4-4).

16. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital performs maintenance on portable fire extinguishers. The completion date of the maintenance is documented.
    Note 1: There are many ways to document the maintenance, such as using bar-coding equipment, using check marks on a tag, or using an inventory.
    Note 2: For additional guidance on maintaining fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 1998 edition (Sections 1-6, 4-3, and 4-4).

17. The critical access hospital conducts hydrostatic tests on standpipe occupant hoses 5 years after installation and every 3 years thereafter. The completion date of the tests is documented.
    Note: For additional guidance on hydrostatic testing, see NFPA 1962, 1998 edition (Section 2-3), and NFPA 25, 1998 edition.

18. The critical access hospital operates fire and smoke dampers 1 year after installation and then at least every 6 years to verify that they fully close. The completion date of the tests is documented.
    Note 1: The initial test that must occur 1 year after installation applies only to dampers installed on and after January 1, 2008.
    Note 2: For additional guidance, see NFPA 80 Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives, 2007 edition (Section 19.4.1.1) and NFPA 105, 2007 edition (Section 6.5.2).
19. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests automatic smoke-detection shutdown devices for air-handling equipment. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 90A, Standard for the Installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilation Systems, 1999 edition (Section 4-4.1).

20. Every 12 months, the critical access hospital tests sliding and rolling fire doors for proper operation and full closure. The completion date of the tests is documented.
   Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 80, 1999 edition (Section 15-3.4).

25. Documentation of maintenance, testing, and inspection activities for fire alarm and water-based fire protection systems includes the following:
   - Name of the activity
   - Date of the activity
   - Required frequency of the activity
   - Name and contact information, including affiliation, of the person who performed the activity
   - NFPA standard(s) referenced for the activity
   - Results of the activity
   Note: For additional guidance on documenting activities, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 2-1.3) and NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Section 7-5.2).