

Standards Revisions Related to the Life Safety Code for Behavioral Health Care Accreditation Programs

The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online E-dition®), certified organizations and paid subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical The Joint Commission Perspectives®. To begin your subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit <http://www.jcrinc.com>.

Standard EC.02.03.05

The organization maintains fire safety equipment and fire safety building features.

Note: This standard does not require organizations to have the types of fire safety equipment and building features described in the elements of performance of this standard. However, if these types of equipment or features exist within the building, then the following maintenance, testing, and inspection requirements apply.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.03.05

25. The organization has annual inspection and testing of door assemblies by individuals who can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the operating components of the door being tested. Testing begins with a pre-test visual inspection; testing includes both sides of the opening. Note: For additional guidance on testing of door assemblies, see NFPA 101-2012: 7.2.1.5.10.1; 7.2.1.5.11; 7.2.1.15; NFPA 80-2010: 4.8.4; 5.2.1; 5.2.3; 5.2.4; 5.2.6; 5.2.7; 6.3.1.7; NFPA 105-2010: 5.2.1. ⓓ
25. The organization has annual inspection and testing of **fire door assemblies** by individuals who can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the operating components of the door being tested. Testing begins with a pre-test visual inspection; testing includes both sides of the opening. ⓓ
- Note 1: Nonrated doors, including corridor doors to patient care rooms and smoke barrier doors, are not subject to the annual inspection and testing requirements of either NFPA 80 or NFPA 105.**
- Note 2: For additional guidance on testing of door assemblies, see NFPA 101-2012: 7.2.1.5.10.1; 7.2.1.5.11; 7.2.1.15; NFPA 80-2010: 4.8.4; 5.2.1; 5.2.3; 5.2.4; 5.2.6; 5.2.7; 6.3.1.7; NFPA 105-2010: 5.2.1.**

Key: ⓓ indicates that documentation is required; **R** indicates an identified risk area

Standard LS.02.01.30

The organization provides and maintains building features to protect individuals from the hazards of fire and smoke.

Note: This standard applies to behavioral health care settings that provide sleeping arrangements as a required part of their care, treatment, or services and that lock doors to prohibit individuals served from leaving the building or space.

Element(s) of Performance for LS.02.01.30

13. In existing buildings, all corridor doors are constructed of 1 3/4-inch or thicker solid bonded wood core or constructed to resist fire for not less than 20 minutes, and the doors do not have ventilating louvers or transfer grills (with the exception of bathrooms, toilets, and sink closets that do not contain flammable or combustible materials). Positive latching hardware is required. Roller latches are prohibited.

Note: For existing doors, it is acceptable to use a device that keeps the door closed when a force of five pounds is applied to the edge of the door. (For full text, refer to NFPA 101-2012: 19.3.6.3.1; 19.3.6.3.2; 19.3.6.3.5; 19.3.6.3.6)

13. In existing buildings, all corridor doors are constructed to resist the passage of smoke and constructed of 1 3/4-inch or thicker solid bonded wood core or constructed of material that resists fire for not less than 20 minutes, and the doors do not have ventilating louvers or transfer grills (with the exception of bathrooms, toilets, and sink closets that do not contain flammable or combustible materials). Positive latching hardware is required. Roller latches are prohibited. (For full text, refer to NFPA 101-2012: 19.3.6.3.1; 19.3.6.3.2; 19.3.6.3.5)