Prepublication Requirements

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Life Safety (LS) Chapter EP Updates

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®), accredited 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.

Please note: Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

APPLICABLE TO THE AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2022

Life Safety (LS) Chapter

LS.03.01.35

The organization provides and maintains equipment for extinguishing fires.

Note 1: This standard applies to sites of care where four or more patients at the same time are provided either anesthesia or outpatient services that render patients incapable of saving themselves in an emergency in the organization.

Note 2: This standard applies to all ambulatory surgical centers seeking accreditation for Medicare certification purposes, regardless of the number of patients rendered incapable.

Note 3: In leased facilities, the elements of performance of this standard apply only to the space in which the accredited organization is located; all exits from the space to the outside at grade level; and any Life Safety Code building systems that support the space (for example, fire alarm system, automatic sprinkler system).

Element(s) of Performance for LS.03.01.35

7. At least six spare sprinkler heads that correspond to the types and temperature rating of the organization’s sprinkler heads, with associated wrenches, are kept in a cabinet that will not exceed 100°F. (For full text, refer to NFPA 101-2012: 9.7.1.1; NFPA 13-2010: 6.2.9; 6.2.9.1; 6.2.9.3; 6.2.9.6)

Note: If the organization has more than 300 sprinklers, the minimum spare sprinkler head requirement incrementally increases. (For full text, refer to NFPA 13-2010: 6.2.9.5)

Key: ☐ indicates that documentation is required; ☑ indicates an identified risk area;
7. The travel distance from any point to the nearest portable fire extinguisher is 75 feet or less. Portable fire extinguishers have appropriate signage, are installed in a cabinet or secured on a hanger made for the extinguisher, and are at least four inches off the floor. Those fire extinguishers that are 40 pounds or less are installed so the top is not more than 5 feet above the floor. (For full text, refer to NFPA 101-2012: 20/21.3.5.3; 9.7.4.1; NFPA 10-2010: 6.1.3; 6.2.1)

10. The travel distance from any point to the nearest portable fire extinguisher is 75 feet or less. Portable fire extinguishers have appropriate signage, are installed in a cabinet or secured on a hanger made for the extinguisher, and are at least four inches off the floor. Those fire extinguishers that are 40 pounds or less are installed so the top is not more than 5 feet above the floor. (For full text, refer to NFPA 101-2012: 20/21.3.5.3; 9.7.4.1; NFPA 10-2010: 6.1.3; 6.2.1)
