

Hospital Occupancies

The B.C. Fire Code requires building owners and occupants to comply with the requirements on this checklist and in the *Fire Safety & You* brochure.

Includes:

- hospitals
- health care facilities
- residential care facilities

CHECKLIST: COMMON FIRE SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

- Address:** must be visible from road and lane, free from foliage, trees, etc. and in a contrasting colour.
- Compressed gases:** must be held in a secure storage area (outside).
- Emergency lighting:** may be provided by battery packs with remote and attached heads, or by emergency generators that will illuminate specified A/C fixtures or remote light heads. Must be operational, with no visible damage, with heads aimed in proper direction, and serviced and tagged annually by a certified technician.
- Exit doors:** must not be locked or blocked from either the inside or outside. Must be unlocked from the inside when the building is occupied. Must have panic hardware that releases when a force of 20 pounds or less is applied.
- Exit signs:** must be visible and remain illuminated at all times the building is occupied.
- Fire alarm systems:** must have a working A/C power-on bulb and be in good working condition with no audible or visual damage. Must have a current service tag (within the last 12 months) and up-to-date logbook.
- Fire doors:** must not be blocked or wedged open, including stairwell doors. Must have closures and no hold-open devices may be attached.
- Fire hose cabinets:** there must be clear access to cabinets and the hose must be in good repair and complete with nozzles.
- Fire hydrants:** must be accessible, free of damage and serviced within the specified date. Private hydrants require annual service, with records kept on site.
- Fire lanes:** must have an adequate clear width of six unobstructed metres from building.
- Fire Safety Plan:** must be reviewed and updated yearly.
- 'No smoking' signs:** must be posted in hazardous areas.
- Portable fire extinguishers:** must:
 - be located adjacent to corridors or aisles that provide access to exits.
 - be mounted in a visible location, accessible, and serviced and tagged at least once every 12 months by a certified technician.
 - be full and functioning (no damage, corrosion, leaks, malfunctioning parts or clogged nozzles).
 - have a minimum rating 2A-10BC.
- Sprinkler and standpipe connections:** must be capped, free of debris and accessible.
- Sprinkler systems:** must be inspected and tested by qualified personnel at least once per year. Must have a current service tag (within the last 12 months) and up-to-date logbook.
- Sprinkler valves:** must be in the open position, either locked and chained or sealed and monitored electronically. No storage is permitted within 18 inches of the bottom of sprinkler heads.