



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
Health Facilities and Emergency Medical Services Division

6 CCR 1011-1

STANDARDS FOR HOSPITALS AND HEALTH FACILITIES
(Promulgated by the State Board Of Health)

CHAPTER XI
CONVALESCENT CENTERS

Last amended 1/20/10, effective 3/2/10

CHAPTER XI - CONVALESCENT CENTERS

6 CCR 1011-1 Chap 11

DEFINITIONS

Convalescent Center – Convalescent center means a health facility planned, organized, operated, and maintained to offer facilities and services to inpatients requiring restorative care and treatment, and that is either an integral patient care unit of a general hospital or a facility physically separated from, but maintaining an affiliation with, all services in a general hospital.

Convalescence is considered to be period of recovery after injury or illness, either mental or physical, and/or following excessive strain on psychological process which produce exhaustion or fatigue. It is a gradual process which may be interrupted by relapses or for necessary therapy. In some cases the recovery may be only partial, but in any event, important mental and physical improvements in the patient, regardless of the injury or disease, is required criterion of convalescence. Thus a license for a Convalescence Center will be used only when a facility demonstrates that their services and condition of patients are such that there is some promise of full or partial recovery to a former state of well-being and that the facility has arrangements and programs to promote this return.

Plan Review – the review by the Department, or its designee, of new construction, previously unlicensed space, or remodeling to ensure compliance by the facility with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code and with this Chapter XI. Plan review consists of the analysis of construction plans/documents and onsite inspections, where warranted. For the purposes of the National Fire Protection Association requirements, the Department is the authority having jurisdiction for state licensure.

Structural Element – for the purposes of plan review, means an element relating to load bearing or to the scheme (layout) of a building as opposed to a screening or ornamental element. Structural elements of a building include but are not limited to: floor joists, rafters, wall and partition studs, supporting columns and foundations.

1.1 LICENSE

All Convalescent Centers shall be licensed in accordance with the requirements specified in Chapter II.

1.2 APPLICABILITY OF OTHER SECTIONS

Convalescent Centers shall conform to all applicable sections of Chapter IV, General Hospital, with regard to area and operational requirements, environmental sanitation, physical plant maintenance, safety, food service, and patient care units and services.

1.3 FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The facilities and services shall include provision for prompt transfer of patients between the General Hospital and the Convalescent Center, utilization of the General Hospital's diagnostic and treatment facilities, and sharing of knowledge and skills between personnel in the General Hospital and Convalescent Center.

1.4 INTEGRATION WITH GENERAL HOSPITAL

When the Convalescent Center and the General Hospital have separate and distinct governing boards or authorities, an integrated affiliation shall be established by written agreement.

1.5 WRITTEN AGREEMENT

The written agreement shall include names of the owner or corporate officers authorized to sign the agreement, and accurate, clear statements which reflect that the operations provide: 1) Continuity and evaluation of patient care; 2) Emergency care of patients; 3) Administrative and medical staff organization and integration; 4) Review and appraisal of the quality and appropriateness of medical care including the frequency with which patients are to be seen by their physicians; and 5) Procedural policies.

1.6 GENERAL BUILDING AND LIFE SAFETY CODE REQUIREMENTS

1.6.1 COMPLIANCE WITH THE LIFE SAFETY CODE. Facilities shall be compliant with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101, Life Safety Code (2000), which is hereby incorporated by reference. Such incorporation by reference, as provided for in 6 CCR 1011-1, Chapter II, excludes later amendments to or editions of referenced material.

- (1) Facilities licensed before July 1, 2009 shall meet Chapter 19, Existing Health Care Occupancies, NFPA 101 (2000).
- (2) Facilities licensed on or after July 1, 2009 or portions of facilities that undergo remodeling on or after July 1, 2009 shall meet Chapter 18, New Health Care Occupancies, NFPA 101 (2000). In addition, if the remodel represents a modification of more than 50 percent, or more than 4,500 square feet of the smoke compartment, the entire smoke compartment shall be renovated to meet Chapter 18, NFPA 101 (2000).
- (3) Notwithstanding NFPA 101 Life Safety Code provisions to the contrary:
 - (a) when differing fire safety standards are imposed by federal, state or local jurisdictions, the most stringent standard shall apply.
 - (b) any story containing an exterior door or an exterior window that opens to grade level shall be counted as a story.
 - (c) licensed facilities shall be separated from unlicensed contiguous occupancies by an occupancy separation with a fire resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.

1.6.2 PLAN REVIEW AND PLAN REVIEW FEES. Plan review and plan review fees are required as listed below. If the facility has been approved by the Department to use more than one building for the direct care of patients on its campus, each building is subject to the applicable base fee plus square footage costs. Fees are nonrefundable and shall be submitted prior to the Department initiating a plan review for a facility.

- (1) Initial Licensure, Additions, Relocations
 - (a) Plan review is applicable to the following, and includes new facility construction and new occupancy of existing structures:
 - (i) applications for an initial license, when such initial license is not a change of ownership and the application is submitted on or after July 1, 2009.
 - (ii) additions of previously uninspected or unlicensed square footage to an existing occupancy and the building permit for such addition is issued on or after July 1, 2009 or if no permit is required by the local jurisdiction, construction began on or after July 1, 2009.

(iii) relocations of a currently licensed facility in whole or in part to another physical plant, where the occupancy date occurs on or after July 1, 2009.

(b) Initial licensure, addition, and relocation plan review fees: base fee of \$2,500, plus square footage costs as shown in the table below.

Square Footage	Cost per Square Foot	Explanatory Note
0-25,000 sq ft	\$0.10	This is the cost for the first 25,000 sq ft of any plan submitted.
25,001+ sq ft	\$0.01	This cost is applicable to the additional square footage over 25,000 sq ft.

(2) Remodeling

(a) Plan review is applicable to remodeling for which the application for the building permit from the local authority having jurisdiction is dated on or after July 1, 2009, or if no permit is required by the local jurisdiction, construction began on or after July 1, 2009. Remodeling includes, but is not limited to:

- (i) alteration, in patient sleeping areas, of a structural element subject to Life Safety Code standards, such as egress door widths and smoke or fire resisting walls.
- (ii) relocation, removal or installation of walls that results in alteration of 25% or more of the existing habitable square footage or 50% or more of a smoke compartment.
- (iii) conversion of existing space not previously used for providing patient services, including storage space, to resident sleeping areas.
- (iv) changes to egress components, specifically the alteration of a structural element, relocation, or addition of an egress component. Examples of egress components include, but are not limited to, corridors, stairwells, exit enclosures, and points of refuge.
- (v) installation of any new sprinkler systems or the addition, removal or relocation of 20 or more sprinkler heads.
- (vi) installation of any new fire alarm system, or addition, removal or relocation of 20 or more fire alarm system appliances including, but not limited to, pull stations, detectors and notification devices.
- (vii) installation, removal or renovation of any kitchen hood suppression system.
- (viii) essential electrical system: replacement or addition of a generator or transfer switch.

(b) Remodeling plan review fees: base fee of \$2,000, plus square footage costs as shown in the table below.

Square Footage	Cost per Square Foot	Explanatory Note
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0-20,000 sq ft	\$0.08	This is the cost for the first 20,000 sq ft of any plan submitted.
20,001+ sq ft	\$0.01	This cost is applicable to the additional square footage over 20,000 sq ft.

- 1.6.3 The "Guidelines of Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities" (2006 Edition), American Institute of Architects (AIA), may be used by the Department in resolving health, building, and life safety issues for construction initiated or systems installed on or after July 1, 2009. AIA Guidelines are hereby incorporated by reference. Such incorporation by reference, as provided for in 6 CCR 1011-1, Chapter II, excludes later amendments to or editions of referenced material.