Changes to the 2018 Joint Commission Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals (CAMH)

The following represents a review of the Life Safety chapter of the new 2018 Joint Commission CAMH manual for hospitals, and any changes, modifications, or additions made compared to the 2017 manual.

Only those elements of performance that have actual changes are listed below. All references to the Life Safety code are to the 2012 edition.

**LS.01.01.01**

**EP 1**
A note was added to clarify that the hospital must comply with the 2012 Life Safety Code.

**EP 4**
A note was added that provides a website for further information on waiver and equivalency request.

**LS.01.02.01**

**EP 15**
This is a new element that specifically allows the hospital to use other Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM) that are not addressed in the previous set of elements.

**LS.02.01.10**

**EP 1**
The modifications to this element enhances the options permitted for Type I and Type II construction types. The modifications also explain sprinkler systems are required for all new buildings, and existing buildings are sprinklered based on their construction type.

**EP 2**
A reference to Chapters 18 & 19 was added.

**EP 3**
This is a new element that requires any building undergoing a change of use or a change of occupancy classification to comply with the new Chapter 43, sub-section 7 in the 2012 LSC, unless it meets the exceptions listed in 18/19.1.1.4.2.

**EP 4**
This is a new element that requires an addition made to a building to comply with Chapter 43, sub-section 8, and Chapter 18 of the 2012 LSC.

**EP 5**
This is a new element that requires buildings that are not protected with automatic sprinklers to comply with 18.4.3.2, 18.4.3.3 and 18.4.3.8 if the renovation is considered minor. However, when a non-sprinklered smoke compartment undergoes major renovation, then automatic sprinklers must be installed. The Note in this element defines the term ‘major’ renovation.

**EP 6**
This element was previously EP 3.
EP 7  
This element was previously EP 4, and has been modified to clarify building separation walls involving healthcare occupancies are two-hour fire rated.

EP 8  
This new element clarifies if multiple occupancies exist then they must comply with 18/19.1.3.2 or 18/19.1.3.4, and the most stringent occupancy requirements are followed throughout the building.

EP 9  
This element was previously EP 5.

EP 10  
This element was previously EP 6, and has been modified to clarify that it applies to existing buildings that are not high-rise structures. It also clarifies the requirements for exit stairs for new construction.

EP 11  
This element was previously EP 7, and has been modified to clarify that fire rated doors are permitted to have door-hold-open devices that release on a fire alarm signal.

EP 12  
This element was previously EP 8.

EP 13  
This element was previously EP 9.

EP 14  
This element was previously EP 10.

EP 15  
This element was previously EP 11.

**LS.02.01.20**

EP 1  
This element is modified to specifically allow elevator lobby locks, and a Note was added regarding the Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) 12-4 in the 2012 Life Safety Code. This TIA corrected a reference in 19.2.2.2.5.2 (3).

EP 2  
This element was previously EP 22, and was brought forward to become EP 2. The previous EP 2 regarding doors in the means of egress swing in the direction of egress when serving an occupancy of 50 or more, was deleted. These requirements are found in section 7.2.1.4.2 and they still exist, but would be cited under EP 42 now.

EP 3  
This is a new element that addresses horizontal sliding doors identified in section 7.2.1.14, which describes the Won-Door type of horizontal sliding doors.

EP 4  
This is a new element that allows exceptions for horizontal sliding doors if they serve an occupant load of less than 10 persons.
EP 5
This element was previously EP 3.

EP 6
This element was previously EP 4.

EP 7
This element was previously EP 5.

EP 8
This element was previously EP 6.

EP 9
This element was previously EP 7.

EP 10
This element was previously EP 8, but is modified to now clarify that the signs that are required are for new stairwells that serve three stories or more, and the signs that are required for existing stairwells that serve five stories or more. It also clarifies that the tactile requirement is only for the floor level information.

EP 11
This is a new element that identifies the capacity for egress is limited by section 7.3, which discusses occupant load factors and capacity factors.

EP 12
This element was previously EP 9, but is modified to explain that the exit discharge is required to have a level walking surface that is hard-packed and an all-weather walking surface that is free from obstructions.

EP 13
This element was previously EP 10.

EP 14
This element was previously EP 11.

EP 15
This element was previously EP 12.

EP 16
This element was previously EP 13, but is modified to clarify the requirements of every floor required to have two exits that are remotely located from each other, and each smoke compartment has distinct paths of egress that do not require re-entry into the same smoke compartment.

EP 17
This is a new element that requires every corridor to provide two distinct exits without traveling through any intervening rooms or spaces, other than corridors and lobbies.

EP 18
This element was previously EP 14.

EP 19
This element was previously EP 15.
EP 20
This is a new element that clarifies that every existing exit access door and every existing exit door is required to be of the side-hinged, swinging type. This new element also discusses the minimum door width requirements for existing conditions.

EP 21
This is a new element that clarifies that every new exit access door and every new exit door is required to be of the side-hinged, swinging type. This new element also discusses the minimum door width requirements for new construction, and psychiatric hospitals.

EP 22
This element was previously EP 16.

EP 23
This element was previously EP 17.

EP 24
This element was previously EP 18.

EP 25
This element was previously EP 19, and is modified to explain new construction limits the common path of travel to 100-feet. In previous Life Safety Code editions, the common path of travel in new construction was not limited, but is now limited to 100-feet for new construction beginning in the 2012 edition.

EP 26
This element was previously EP 20, and is modified to explain patient sleeping rooms with less than eight (8) beds may have one intervening room to reach an exit access corridor, provided the intervening room is equipped with a smoke detector. This element references section 18/19.2.5.6 which actually is written to identify patient sleeping rooms with no more than eight (8) beds. It is important to understand that this section of the Life Safety Code is not referring to suites.

EP 27
This element was previously EP 21.

EP 28
This element was previously EP 23.

EP 29
This element was previously EP 24.

EP 30
This element was previously EP 25.

EP 31
This element was previously EP 26.

EP 32
This element was previously EP 27.

EP 33
This element was previously EP 28.

EP 34
This element was previously EP 29.
EP 35
This element was previously EP 30.

EP 36
This element was previously EP 31.

EP 37
This is a new element that identifies the maximum travel distances to an exit is 150-feet for non-sprinklered buildings and is 200-feet in buildings that are fully protected with sprinklers. This element also identifies the maximum travel distance in a room to the exit access door is 50-feet.

EP 38
This element was previously EP 32.

EP 39
This element was previously EP 33, and clarifies that emergency lighting is required to last at least 1½-hours in duration.

EP 40
This element was previously EP 34, and clarifies that the illumination for ‘Exit’ signs must be served by emergency power unless the building is one story with less than 30 occupants.

EP 41
This element was previously EP 35.

EP 42
This element was previously EP 36.

LS.02.01.30
EP 2
A note was added that says doors to rooms containing flammable or combustible materials are provided with positive latching hardware and roller latches are prohibited.

EP 3
A note was added that says doors to rooms containing flammable or combustible materials are provided with positive latching hardware and roller latches are prohibited.

EP 4
This is a new element that explains laboratories that use flammable, combustible, or hazardous material in quantities considered a severe hazard must be in accordance with section 8.7, and NFPA 99-2012 requirements, which says laboratories must comply with NFPA 45. This implies that laboratories that do not contain flammable, combustible, or hazardous materials in quantities that are NOT considered a severe hazard do not have to comply with NFPA 45. According to Annex section A.19.3.2.2, a severe hazard is when the quantities of flammable, combustible, or hazardous materials are capable of a sustained fire that could burn through a 1-hour fire-rated barrier. [Note: Most laboratories in hospitals do not contain quantities of flammable, combustible, or hazardous materials to qualify as severe.]

EP 5
This element was previously EP 4, and added a note that the hospital must meet the provisions of the 2012 Life Safety Code Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) 12-2, which discusses the fire alarm requirements where residential or commercial cooking
equipment is used to prepare meals for 30 or fewer persons, open to the corridor, provided that specific conditions are met.

EP 6
This element was previously EP 5, and includes additional information regarding restrictions concerning the storage and handling of alcohol-based hand rub dispensers and replacement cartridges.

EP 7
This element was previously EP 6.

EP 8
This element was previously EP 7.

EP 9
This element was previously EP 8.

EP 10
This element was previously EP 9.

EP 11
This element was previously EP 10.

EP 12
This element was previously EP 11, and clarifies that it applies to new buildings.

EP 13
This element was previously EP 12.

EP 14
This element was previously EP 13.

EP 15
This element was previously EP 14.

EP 16
This element was previously EP 15.

EP 17
This element was previously EP 16.

EP 18
This element was previously EP 17.

EP 19
This element was previously EP 18.

EP 20
This element was previously EP 19.

EP 21
This element was previously EP 20.

EP 22
This element was previously EP 21.
EP 23
This element was previously EP 22.

EP 24
This element was previously EP 23.

EP 25
This element was previously EP 24, and clarifies this applies to new buildings constructed after July 5, 2016.

EP 26
This element was previously EP 25.

LS.02.01.34
EP 1
This is a new element that discusses the need to install fire alarm systems and components in accordance with NFPA 72-2010 (National Fire Alarm Code) and NFPA 70-2011 (National Electric Code).

EP 2
This element is modified to explain in areas that are not constantly attended, a smoke detector is required wherever there is a fire alarm control unit, which includes Notification Appliance Circuit (NAC) panels.

EP 3
This is a new element that discusses the need to install manual fire alarm pull stations (aka manual alarm boxes) in the path of egress near an exit, or at nurse stations in patient sleeping areas, or other continuously attended locations. Visibility, accessibility and travel distance limitations must be maintained.

EP 4
This is a new element that discusses fire alarm occupant notification requirements in new construction. Positive Alarm Sequence is permitted in all buildings that are fully protected with sprinklers. Audible alarm notification devices are not required in critical care areas. Zoning for annunciation of the alarm is permitted by zones no larger than 22,500 square feet. [Note: Positive Alarm Sequence is a special feature of fire alarm control panels that allows a 3-minute delay in annunciation of the alarm of selected fire detection devices. This feature must be operated by trained individuals.]

EP 5
This is a new element that discusses fire alarm occupant notification requirements in existing construction. Positive Alarm Sequence is permitted in all buildings that are fully protected with sprinklers. Audible alarm notification devices are not required in critical care areas. [Note: Positive Alarm Sequence is a special feature of fire alarm control panels that allows a 3-minute delay in annunciation of the alarm of selected fire detection devices. This feature must be operated by trained individuals.]

EP 6
This is a new element that states the activation of the required fire alarm control functions occurs automatically and is provided with an alternate power supply in accordance with NFPA 72-2010.

EP 7
This element was previously EP 1.
EP 8
This is a new element that requires smoke detection systems in spaces open to the corridors in accordance with section 18/19.3.6.1 of the 2012 LSC.

LS.02.01.35 No Changes

LS.02.01.40 No Changes

LS.02.01.50
EP 1
This is a new element that requires gas-fired equipment to comply with NFPA 54-2012, and all electrical wiring and equipment to comply with NFOPA 70-2011. It also clarifies that existing equipment may continue to remain in service provided there are no life-threatening hazards.

EP 2
This is a new element requires HVAC equipment to comply with section 9.2 of the 2012 LSC and must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications.

EP 3
This is a new element that requires heating devices to be designed and installed so combustible materials cannot be ignited by the device. It also requires safety features to stop the flow of fuel and shut-down the equipment if it experiences excessive temperature or ignition failure.

EP 4
This is a new element that explains all suspended unit heaters is permitted, as long as it is not locate din the means of egress or in patient rooms, and is located high enough to be out of reach of people, and has a safety feature to stop fuel and shut down the equipment if get’s too hot or has ignition failure.

EP 5
This element was previously EP 1, and is modified to limit fire-places to the direct-vent type.

EP 6
This is a new element that explains solid fuel-burning fireplaces are permitted in areas other than patient sleeping rooms, provided the area is separated by 1-hour fire-rated barriers from sleeping rooms; fireplaces complies with section 9.2.2 of the 2012 LSC; fireplace enclosure resists breakage up to 650 degrees F, and has heat-tempered glass; and the area where the fireplace is located has a carbon monoxide detector.

EP 7
This element was previously EP 2, and is modified to apply to all elevators.

EP 8
This is a new element that requires escalators, dumbwaiters, and moving walks to comply with section 9.4 of the 2012 LSC. In addition existing escalators, dumbwaiters, and moving walks conform with the requirements of ASME/ANSI A17.1 and ASME/ANSI A17.3, safety codes for new and existing elevators.

EP 9
This element was previously EP 3.
This element was previously EP 4.

EP 11
This element was previously EP 5.

EP 12
This element was previously EP 6.

EP 13
This element was previously EP 7.

EP 14
This element was previously EP 8.

**LS.02.01.70**

**EP 3**
This is a new element that requires draperies, curtains, and loosely hanging fabric to comply with section 10.3.1 of the 2012 LSC, with some exceptions.

**EP 4**
This is a new element that requires upholstered furniture purchased on or after July 5, 2016 (the date the new 2012 LSC was adopted) to meet Class I or have a char length and heat release rating in accordance with section 10.3.3 in buildings that are not fully protected with sprinklers. Also mattresses purchased on or after July 5, 2016 must meet sections 10.3.2.2 and 10.3.4 for char length and heat release ratings in buildings that are not fully protected with sprinklers.

**EP 5**
This element was previously EP 3.

**EP 6**
This element was previously EP 4.

**EP 7**
This is a new element that requires newly installed engineered smoke control systems must be tested in accordance with NFPA 92-2012. Existing engineered smoke control systems are tested in accordance with established engineering principles.

**EP 8**
This element was previously EP 5.

**EP 9**
This element was previously EP 6.