

## Generator Requirements

### **NFPA 99 Health Care Facilities Code-2012 edition**

NFPA 99 treats emergency generators as part of an essential electrical system (EES), which is defined as, “A system comprised of alternate sources of power and all connected distribution systems and ancillary equipment, designed to ensure continuity of electrical power to designated areas and functions of a health care facility during disruption of normal power sources, and also to minimize disruption within internal wiring systems. [See NFPA 99(12), Chapter 3, *definitions*].

### **Certification requirements**

Emergency generators that are installed shall be tested and maintained in accordance with NFPA 110, *Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems*.

Chapter 3 of NFPA 101 references the 2010 edition of NFPA 110.

[See: 42 CFR 483.70 and NFPA 101(12)]

Provisions dealing with maintenance and testing of emergency generators can be found in NFPA 99(12), Sec 6.4.4 this section starts out by referencing NFPA 110, but also deals with such issues as:

- Testing Criteria
- Test conditions
- Test Personnel
- Maintenance and testing of circuitry
- Maintenance of batteries
- Record Keeping

Each facility should have a copy of these standards. They can be ordered from NFPA at 1-800-344-3555 or [www.nfpacatalog.org](http://www.nfpacatalog.org).

NFPA 110, on the other hand, treats emergency generators as part of an emergency power supply system (EPSS).

a. There are two important definitions to keep in mind:

- *Emergency Power Supply (EPS)*: “The source of electric power of the required capacity and quality for an emergency power supply system (EPSS)”.
- *Emergency Power Supply System (EPSS)*: “A complete functioning system of an EPS coupled to a system that can consist of conductors, disconnecting means, and overcurrent protective devices, transfer switches, and all control, supervisory, and support devices up to and including the load terminals of the transfer equipment needed for the system to operate as a safe and reliable source of electrical power.”

[Reference: NFPA 101, 2012 Edition; NFPA 99, 2012 Edition; NFPA 110, 2010 Edition; 42 CFR 483.70; NFPA catalog]