

TITLE: SMOKE ALARM
VERSION: V3.0
DATE PUBLISHED: 08/11/23

DEFINITION: A self-contained device that detects the presence of smoke, typically as an indicator of fire, and provides a visual or audio signal as an alert.

PURPOSE: To detect the presence of smoke and provide alert.

COMMON COMPONENTS: Plastic shell, Base, Battery, Light, Speaker, Test button, Electronic circuit; Battery backup

LOCATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unit	Bedrooms, hallways, kitchens, stairwells.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inside	Hallways, kitchens, stairwells, common areas.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside	None

MORE INFORMATION:

- Smoke alarm should be installed high on walls or ceilings.
 - If mounted on the ceiling, then it must be greater than 4 inches from the wall.
 - If mounted on the wall, then the top edge of the smoke alarm cannot be closer than 4 inches or greater than 12 inches from the ceiling.
- Smoke alarm should be installed at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance.
- Smoke alarm should not:
 - Be installed near windows, doors, or ducts where drafts might interfere with their operation.
 - Be painted or have decorative stickers or other decorations present.
- The unit must include at least one battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector, in proper working condition, in the following locations:
 - On each level of the unit;
 - Inside each bedroom;
 - Within 21 feet of any door to a bedroom measured along a path of travel; and
 - Where a smoke detector installed outside a bedroom is separated from an adjacent living area by a door, a smoke detector must also be installed on the living area side of the door.

DEFICIENCY 1: Smoke alarm is not installed where required.

LOCATION: Unit – Affirmative Habitability Requirement Inside – Affirmative Habitability Requirement

DEFICIENCY 2: Smoke alarm is obstructed.

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY 3: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY I — UNIT: SMOKE ALARM IS NOT INSTALLED WHERE REQUIRED.

AFFIRMATIVE HABITABILITY REQUIREMENT

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is not installed inside each bedroom.
 AND
 Smoke alarm is not installed outside the bedroom(s).
 AND
 Smoke alarm is not installed on each level.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Observe each location where a smoke alarm is required.
 - Verify a smoke alarm is present.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - None

More Information: - A smoke alarm installed within a hallway in the immediate vicinity of multiple bedrooms meets the requirement of "outside the bedroom(s)" under this standard.
 - A smoke alarm installed outside a bedroom may meet the requirement of "on each level" under this standard.
 - If a smoke alarm is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but is now not present or is incomplete) from a non-required area, then it should not be evaluated under this standard.
 - If another hazard is present, then it should be evaluated under the respective standard (e.g., an exposed conductor should be evaluated under the Electrical — Conductor, Outlet, and Switch standard).

DEFICIENCY I — INSIDE:

SMOKE ALARM IS NOT INSTALLED WHERE REQUIRED.

AFFIRMATIVE HABITABILITY REQUIREMENT

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is not installed inside each classroom.
 AND
 Smoke alarm is not installed outside the classroom(s).
 AND
 Smoke alarm is not installed on each level.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Observe each location where a smoke alarm is required.
 - Verify a smoke alarm is present.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - None

More Information: - A smoke alarm installed within a hallway in the immediate vicinity of multiple classrooms meets the requirement of "outside the classroom(s)" under this standard.
 - A smoke alarm is required on each level.
 - A smoke alarm installed outside a classroom may meet the requirement of "on each level" under this standard.
 - If a smoke alarm is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but is now not present or is incomplete) from a non-required area, then it should not be evaluated under this standard.
 - If another hazard is present, then it should be evaluated under the respective Standard (e.g., an exposed conductor should be evaluated under the Electrical — Conductor, Outlet, and Switch standard).

DEFICIENCY 2 — UNIT: SMOKE ALARM IS OBSTRUCTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is obstructed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look for presence of a smoke alarm.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - Determine if the smoke alarm is covered by a foreign object (e.g., plastic bag, shower cap, zip tie, paint, tape).

MORE INFORMATION: - A combination smoke and CO alarm should be evaluated under both the Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Smoke Alarm standards.

DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: SMOKE ALARM IS OBSTRUCTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is obstructed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look for presence of a smoke alarm.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - Determine if the smoke alarm is covered by a foreign object (e.g., plastic bag, shower cap, zip tie, paint, tape).

MORE INFORMATION: - A combination smoke and CO alarm should be evaluated under both the Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Smoke Alarm standards.

DEFICIENCY 3 — UNIT: SMOKE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AN AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look at the smoke alarm to find a test button.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - If no test button is present, then ask the POA for a smoke alarm maintenance certificate.

ACTION: - Press the test button and determine if the light on the smoke alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.
- Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the smoke alarm at an audible level to alert the resident.

MORE INFORMATION: - If the alarm does not cease after testing, then evaluate the condition under this deficiency.

DEFICIENCY 3 — INSIDE: SMOKE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AN AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look at the smoke alarm to find a test button.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - If no test button is present, then ask the POA for a smoke alarm maintenance certificate.

ACTION: - Press the test button and determine if the light on the smoke alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.
- Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the smoke alarm at an audible level to alert the resident.

MORE INFORMATION: - If the alarm does not cease after testing, then evaluate the condition under this deficiency.
