




# 2020

## Environment of Care<sup>®</sup> Essentials for Health Care

A light blue wireframe architectural drawing of a building interior, showing a complex network of lines representing walls, columns, and structural elements. The drawing is semi-transparent and serves as a background for the lower portion of the cover.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
ENVIRONMENT OF CARE  
EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT  
LIFE SAFETY

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**FIGURE 2. A Sample Matrix Page**

EC.02.02.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 19			X	X Deemed				

Procedures for the proper routine storage and prompt disposal of trash.

**Standard EC.02.03.01**

	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
Applies to	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The [organization] manages fire risks.

### Elements of Performance for EC.02.03.01

EC.02.03.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 1	R	X	R	R	X	X	R	X

The [organization] minimizes the potential for harm from fire, smoke, and other products of combustion.  
**Note:** For additional guidance on business occupancy requirements, see NFPA 101-2012. [OBS]

EC.02.03.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 3					X			

When a laboratory is part of an accredited organization, it works with the accredited organization to establish mutual responsibilities for fire safety activities.  
 When the laboratory is located in an accredited organization's building(s), compliance with the Life Safety Code for the laboratory is the responsibility of the accredited organization. The laboratory must, however, request information on any Life Safety Code deficiencies that might compromise

EC.02.03.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 4	R	X	X	X	X		R	

The [organization] maintains free and unobstructed access to all exits.  
**Note:** This requirement applies to all buildings classified as business occupancy. The "Life Safety" (LS) chapter addresses the requirements for all other occupancy types. [AHC, BHC, CAH, HAP, OME]  
 For additional guidance on business occupancy requirements, see NFPA 101-2012. [OBS]

EC.02.03.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 5		X						

In buildings housing three or fewer individuals served, the organization provides doors for sleeping rooms of the individuals served.  
 \* The "Life Safety" (LS) chapter contains sleeping room requirements for buildings housing four or more individuals served.

EC.02.03.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 6		X						

In buildings housing three or fewer individuals served, the organization provides at least two of the following from the individual's sleeping room:

- An operable, exterior window large enough for emergency escape
- A door leading directly to the outside
- Access to another means of escape such as an unenclosed stairway

**Chapter 1 | 2020 Environment of Care Matrix** 15

This sample page illustrates how a particular standard (EM.03.01.01) and its EPs apply across the eight accreditation programs and identifies any differences in text from one program to another.

# Environment of Care Standards and EPs

## Standard EC.01.01.01

	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
Applies to	X	X	X	X	X	X		

The [organization] plans activities [to/that] minimize risks in the environment of care.

**Note [1]:** One or more persons can be assigned to manage risks associated with the management plans described in this standard. [AHC, BHC, CAH, HAP, LAB, NCC]

**Note 2:** The [organization] complies with the 2012 edition of NFPA 99: Health Care Facilities Code. Chapters 7, 8, 12, and 13 of the Health Care Facilities Code do not apply. [AHC deemed ASCs, CAH, HAP deemed]

**Note 3:** For further information on waiver and equivalency requests, see <https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/patient-safety-topics/the-physical-environment/life-safety-code-information-and-resources/> and NFPA 99-2012: 1.4. [AHC, CAH, HAP]

### Elements of Performance for EC.01.01.01

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 1	X	X	R	R	X	X		

Leaders identify an individual(s) to manage risk, coordinate risk reduction activities in the physical environment, collect deficiency information, and disseminate summaries of actions and results. [AHC, CAH, HAP]

Leaders identify an individual(s) to manage risk, coordinate risk reduction activities in the environment of care, collect information on deficiencies, and disseminate summaries of actions and results. [BHC, NCC]

Laboratory leaders identify an individual(s) to manage risk, coordinate risk reduction activities in the environment of care, collect information on deficiencies, and disseminate summaries of actions and results. [LAB]

**Note [1/2]:** Deficiencies include injuries, problems, or use errors. [AHC, BHC, CAH, HAP, LAB, NCC]

**Note [1/2]:** This information is disseminated to individuals with responsibility for the issues being addressed. [BHC, LAB, NCC]

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 3	X		X	X				

The [organization] has a library of information regarding inspection, testing, and maintenance of its equipment and systems.

**Note:** This library includes manuals, procedures provided by manufacturers, technical bulletins, and other information.

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 4	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ		

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: The environmental safety of [patients and] everyone [else] who enters the [organization's] facilities. [AHC, CAH, HAP]

The [organization] has a written plan for providing a safe environment for everyone who enters the [organization's] facilities. [BHC, LAB, NCC]

**Note:** Facilities include both leased and owned spaces. [BHC]

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 5	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ			

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: The security of everyone who enters the [organization's] facilities. [AHC, CAH, HAP]

The [organization] has a written plan for providing a secure environment for everyone who enters the [organization's] facilities. [BHC, LAB]

**Note:** Facilities include both leased and owned spaces. [BHC]

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 6	Ⓧ		Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ			

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: Hazardous materials and waste.

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 7	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ			

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: Fire safety.

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 8	Ⓧ		Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ			

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: Medical equipment. [AHC, CAH, HAP]

The laboratory has a written plan for managing the following: Laboratory equipment. [LAB]

EC.01.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 9	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ	Ⓧ			

The [organization] has a written plan for managing the following: Utility systems.

## Standard EC.02.01.01

	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
Applies to	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The [organization] manages safety and security risks.

**Note 1:** The organization complies with the 2012 edition of NFPA 99: Health Care Facilities Code. Chapters 7, 8, 12, and 13 of the Health Care Facilities Code do not apply. [OME deemed hospices]

**Note 2:** For further information on waiver and equivalency requests, see <https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/patient-safety-topics/the-physical-environment/life-safety-code-information-and-resources/> and NFPA 99-2012: 1.4. [OME]

## Elements of Performance for EC.02.01.01

EC.02.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 1	Ⓧ	Ⓧ R	Ⓧ R	Ⓧ R	X	Ⓧ	X	Ⓧ

The [organization] implements its process to identify safety and security risks associated with the environment of care that could affect [patients/patients, residents/individuals served], staff, and other people coming to the [organization's] facilities. [AHC, BHC, CAH, HAP, NCC]

The [organization] identifies safety and security risks associated with the environment of care that could affect patients, staff, and other people coming to the [organization's] facilities. [LAB, OBS]

The organization implements its process to identify safety and security risks associated with the environment of care that could affect all patients, all staff, and people coming to the organization's facilities. [OME]

**Note:** Risks are identified from internal sources such as ongoing monitoring of the environment, results of root cause analyses, results of proactive risk assessments of high-risk processes, and from credible external sources such as Sentinel Event Alerts. [AHC, BHC, CAH, HAP, LAB, NCC, OBS, OME]

EC.02.01.01	AHC	BHC	CAH	HAP	LAB	NCC	OBS	OME
EP 2								X

The organization identifies potential safety and security risks in the patient's home.