



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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INFORMATIONAL RELEASE

TO: Local Public Health Agency Administrators
Local Public Health Agency Environmental Public Health Specialists
Bureau of Environmental Health Services Environmental Public Health Specialists

FROM: Eric Hueste, Bureau of Environmental Health Services, Chief

SUBJECT: **Guidance on Inspection Procedures**

DATE: October 23, 2017

For lodging facilities in jurisdictions that do not issue occupancy permits the Bureau considers only newly constructed facilities to be new lodging establishments for the purposes of certification. As such these newly constructed facilities (i.e. facilities being or recently having been "built") must certify to the Department, through a professional engineer, architect or the general contractor responsible for construction that the establishment has been designed and erected in accordance with the 2002 Edition of a national code regarding life safety, structural, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and architectural elements of the establishment before being approved for licensure.

Lodging facilities operating in jurisdictions that do not issue occupancy permits undergoing a major renovation, per the definition in the code, must also certify to the Department, through a professional engineer, architect or the general contractor responsible for construction that the establishment, or major renovation thereof, has been completed in accordance with the 2002 Edition of a national code regarding life safety, structural, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and architectural elements of the establishment before being approved for licensure.

In jurisdictions issuing occupancy permits both new lodging facilities and facilities undergoing a major renovation must present the occupancy permit before being approved for licensure.

Upon any inspection of any lodging facility (existing, new, or being renovated) the inspector may find (or reasonably suspect) areas of non-compliance regarding life safety, structural, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and architectural elements. If these findings could present a significant risk to public health and safety then the inspector may require the owner to provide sufficient documentation, and to enlist as needed the services of a professional engineer or architect, plumber, electrician or fire and/or safety inspector to demonstrate compliance with all applicable codes of these individual components before being licensed.

Awareness should be maintained by inspectors that RSMO 315.019, substitution of city and county ordinances in lieu of Department standards, will continue to be applicable in certain situations, as provided by the law, to allow facilities to gain compliance through the proper procedures and be approved for licensure.

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