

Life Safety Code (LSC) NFPA 72 requirements affecting all levels of long-term care facilities: Residential Care Facilities (RCF) I, RCF II, Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) option I, ALF option II, Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF), and Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF).

These requirements are referenced by the following state tags: 86.022 (9) (C) and 85.022 (10) (B)-NFPA 72, 1999 edition, Table 7-3.1-Requires a semiannual fire alarm inspection and lists the following elements:

These inspections must include at a minimum the visual inspections of:

- Nickel-cadmium or sealed lead acid batteries;
- Transient suppressors;
- Control Panel Trouble Signals;
- Emergency voice/alarm communications equipment;
- Remote annunciators;
- Initiating devices such as air sampling, duct detector, electromechanical releasing devices, fire extinguishing system(s) or suppression system(s) switches; fire alarm boxes, heat detectors, and smoke detectors;
- Guard tour equipment;
- Interface equipment;
- Supervised alarm notification appliances;
- Supervising station alarm systems transmitters such as DACT, DART, McCulloh, and RAT;
- Special procedures;
- Receivers for the supervising station alarm systems (DARR, McCulloh Systems, Two-way RF multiplex, RASSR, RARS, and private microwaves;
- Specific gravity for all battery types at the central station facilities;
- For [lead-acid type] discharge test (30 minutes), load voltage test, and specific gravity; [for NiCad] load voltage test; [for sealed lead-acid type] load voltage test;
- For Public fire alarm reporting system voltage test, the specific gravity when lead-acid type batteries are used.
- Initiating devices such as radiant energy fire detectors, waterflow devices (except valve tamper switches, and valve tamper switches.

All of the elements that pertain to your fire alarm system need to be itemized and specifically checked on the list. One check or “okay” will not be acceptable to meet compliance.