



STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Thomas M. Miller, M.D.
State Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 22, 2016
TO: Technical Services Staff
FROM: Victor Hunt, Director *VCH*
Office of Facilities Management
SUBJECT: Code Adoption Transition in 2017

Amendments to the rules for plan submission, Chapter 420-5-22, Submission of Plans and Specifications for Health Care Facilities, were adopted by the State Board of Health on December 14, 2016. Sunday, January 29, 2017, is the effective date of the amendments, which include the adoption of newer editions of codes and standards, namely:

2015 International Building Code
2012 NFPA National Fire Codes
2014 Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospitals and Outpatient Facilities.

The transition to the new codes and standards will be as follows:

1. Projects having the first submittal received by Technical Services prior to January 29, 2017, will be reviewed under the previously adopted codes and standards. Any of these projects may be reviewed under the newly adopted codes and standards if the architect gives such written request to Technical Services.
2. Projects having the first submittal received by Technical Services after January 29, 2017, will be reviewed under the newly adopted codes and standards.
3. All project reviews conducted on or after July 3, 2017, regardless of when previous submittals were received by Technical Services, will be based on the newly adopted codes and standards.

Inspections will be based on the codes and standards used during the plan review process.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) adopted the 2012 NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, and 2012 NFPA 96, *Health Care Facilities Code*, with an effective date of July 5, 2016. Project submittals from facilities that are certified through the CMS process must comply with the 2012 editions for projects that have plan approval on or after July 5, 2016.