

Title 15 - Mississippi Department of Health

Part III – Office of Health Protection

Subpart 70 – General Sanitation

CHAPTER 04 REGULATION GOVERNING SANITATION OF HOTELS AND MOTELS

100 Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to set forth standards of general sanitation for all hotels as defined in this Regulation.

101 Authority

These regulations are promulgated under the authority of Section 41-49-1 through 41-49-9, MS Code of 1972, Annotated.

102 Definitions

102.01 **Hotel/Motel.** The term hotel or motel shall mean and include any hotel, inn, motel, tourist court, apartment house, rooming house or other place where sleeping accommodations are furnished or offered for pay, if four (4) or more rooms are available therein for transient guests, excluding nursing homes or institutions for the aged or infirm as described in Section 43-11-1 (MS Code) and personal care homes as defined in Section 43-45-5(1) (MS Code).

103 Conditions of Building

103.01 **Building Interior.** Walls, ceilings, floors, carpets, furniture, and equipment of all rooms in any such hotel/motel including halls and stairs, shall be kept clean and in good repair.

103.02 **Building Exterior.** All roofs and outside walls, doors and windows shall be maintained in good repair.

103.03 **Heating and Cooling System.** The heating system shall be properly installed and maintained in good repair and shall be capable of maintaining a temperature of at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit in each sleeping room whenever occupied. The cooling system, if any, shall be properly installed and maintained in good repair.

103.04 **Ventilation**

1. Sleeping and toilet rooms shall have sufficient ventilation to keep them free from steam condensation, excessive heat vapors, smoke, fumes or noxious odors.

2. Rooms or units without a mechanical cooling system shall have an operable screened window (sixteen mesh screen) for natural ventilation or a transom exhausting 20 cfm of air.

103.05 **Lighting.** Natural and artificial lighting for general cleaning purposes and safety of guests shall be at least 10 footcandles in guest rooms, stairways, hallways, and storage areas. Lighting in reading areas of guest rooms shall be at least 30 footcandles.

103.06 **Toilet and Bathing Facilities**

1. Each hotel/motel shall be provided with adequate and conveniently located toilet and bathing facilities. Except for hotels constructed before the effective date of this regulation, toilet and bathing facilities shall be provided for each sleeping room. Toilets and bathing facilities, including rooms and fixtures, shall be of sanitary design, easily cleanable, kept in good repair, and shall be cleaned and disinfected daily. Toilet tissue shall be provided, and new soap shall be provided after each guest occupancy. Easily cleanable receptacles shall be provided for waste materials.
2. Anti-slip tubs, adequate slip strips, appliques, or slip-proof mats shall be provided in each bathing facility and shall be kept clean and in good repair.
3. Each hotel/motel shall provide adequate, conveniently located hand-washing facilities at each toilet and bathroom including a lavatory or lavatories equipped with hot and cold or tempered running water, hand-cleansing soap and towels. Individual single-service towels or a hot-air hand-drying device shall be provided in restrooms in public areas. Such facilities shall be kept clean and in good repair.

104 **Linen, Beds, and Bedding**

104.01 Blankets, sheets, pillows, pillow cases, towels, wash cloths, and bath mats shall be provided, and laundered, stored and distributed in a sanitary manner. All body contact linen shall be changed when there is a new occupant. Soiled linens shall be so handled and stored as not to come in contact with clean linens.

1. Beds and mattresses shall be clean and in good repair. Washable mattress pads or covers shall be used on all mattresses and shall be kept clean.
2. Each bed shall be provided with a minimum of 2 sheets, 1 pillow, 1 pillow case, and sufficient blankets or coverings for warmth. A minimum of 1 towel and 1 washcloth per person shall be provided.

105 Water and Sewage

105.01 Enough potable water for the needs of the hotel/motel shall be provided from a source meeting all requirements of the Health Authority. The potable water system shall be installed to preclude the possibility of backflow. There shall be no cross connections between the potable water supply and any unsafe or questionable water supply, or any source of pollution through which the potable water might become contaminated.

1. All sewage, including liquid waste, shall be disposed of by a public sewerage system or by a sewage disposal system meeting all requirements of the Mississippi State Department of Health Regulation Governing Individual Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems and/or regulations of the Mississippi Department of Natural Resources.

106 Food, Ice, Glasses

106.01 All food services operated in conjunction with a hotel/motel must be permitted under the Mississippi State Department of Health Regulation Governing Food Service Sanitation. If a Bed and Breakfast Inn in a private home meeting the definition of a hotel/motel under this regulation serves only non-potentially hazardous foods such as breads, coffee, fruits, juices, etc., a Food Service Sanitation permit is not required.

1. All ice shall be purchased from a source complying with the Mississippi State Department of Health Regulation Governing the Manufacture, Storage, and Handling of Ice or produced and stored at the hotel/motel in a clean and sanitary manner. Multi-use ice buckets shall be collected from the rooms and sanitized for each new guest.
2. Multi-use glasses shall be collected daily, washed, rinsed, sanitized, and wrapped in a sanitary manner before being replaced in the room. Single service drinking cups shall be individually wrapped or dispensed in a sanitary manner.

107 Communicable Disease

107.01 Personnel. No person having a contagious or infectious disease shall be employed in or frequent any hotel/motel until such person shall submit to the employer evidence satisfactory to the health officer of freedom of contagion.

107.02 No person having open, oozing or weeping lesions of the skin on any exposed part of the body shall be employed unless such lesion(s) are completely covered by adequate bandages or other appropriate dressing(s). Employees shall wear clean outer garments and conform to good hygienic practices.

107.03 Rooms. It shall be the duty of every person keeping, managing, or operating a hotel/motel to see that every room which has been occupied by any person

known to the keeper, manager, or operator to have had communicable disease at the time of such occupancy, together with its contents, shall be thoroughly disinfected in a manner prescribed by the health officer before permitting such room to be occupied by any other person.

108 **Fire Escape**

Every hotel/motel shall comply with the requirements of the NFPA - Life Safety Code regarding fire exits and fire safety.

109 **Refuse and Vector Control**

109.01 Refuse shall be stored, collected and disposed of in a manner which prevents the breeding of flies and other vermin. Containers shall be cleaned at such frequency as to prevent a nuisance or odor.

1. All outside premises shall be maintained free of litter and unnecessary articles, and shall be well drained.
2. Openings to the outside shall be effectively protected against the entrance of insects and rodents.
3. Effective measures intended to control the presence of rodents and insects on the premises shall be utilized. Pesticides shall be properly stored and identified, and shall be used only in such manner as will not constitute a hazard to employees or guests.