



# California Plumbing Code, Part 5

## Potential code changes

# SECTION 613.0 Domestic Hot-Water Distribution Systems for Health Facilities and Clinics. [OSHDPD 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5]

**613.6** *Hot-water distribution system serving patient care areas shall be under constant mechanical recirculation to provide continuous hot water at each hot water outlet. Hot water recirculation piping shall return the recirculation loop back through the hot water source. Non-recirculated fixture branch piping shall not exceed 10 feet (3.05 meters) in length. The fixture branch piping length for a handwashing fixture installed in a public toilet room shall be limited to 2 feet (0.6096 meters). Dead-end piping (risers with no flow, branches with no fixture) shall not be installed. In renovation projects, dead-end piping shall be removed in the area of renovation. Empty risers, mains, and branches installed for future use shall be permitted.*

# DEFINITIONS SECTION 210 –H-

**Handwashing Fixture.** [OSH PD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6] Handwashing fixtures consist of faucet, trim and lavatory as described:

(1) Faucets and Trim

a. Handwashing fixtures used by medical and nursing staff, patients, and food handlers shall have fittings such that all controls can be operated without the use of hands.

i. Wrist or elbow blades shall be permitted unless otherwise noted in Table 4-2.

ii. Blade handles used for this purpose shall be at least 4 inches (102 mm) in length.

b. Sensor operated fixtures shall be capable of functioning during loss of normal power.

c. Faucets shall not be equipped with an aerator but may be equipped with a non-aerating laminar flow device. The flow rate for handwashing fixtures shall not be less than 1.0 (3.79 L) gallons per minute. Public lavatories shall not exceed 0.5 (1.90 L) gallons per minute.

d. Faucets shall be equipped with gooseneck spouts. A gooseneck spout shall be deck or fixture-mounted so the discharge point of the spout return is at least 10 inches (25.4 mm) above the bottom of the basin and 5 inches (127mm) above the fixture rim. The water shall not flow directly from the spout into the drain. The gooseneck spout shall have a 180(+/-10) degree return with a constant radius and the outlet pointing vertically down.

~~e. Faucets shall be equipped with gooseneck spouts. A gooseneck spout is a deck or fixture-mounted spout so the discharge point of the spout return is at least 5 inches (127 mm) above the fixture rim.~~

# DEFINITIONS SECTION 210 –H-

## *(2) Lavatory*

- a. Shall be designed and installed to prevent splashing outside of the lavatory.*
- b. Shall be well-fitted and sealed to prevent water leaks onto or into the cabinetry or wall spaces.*
- c. Shall be not less than 1 square foot (0.9 square meter), with a minimum dimension of 9 inches (.23 meters).*
- d. Design of lavatories and cabinetry shall not permit storage beneath the fixture basin.*
- e. Shall be constructed of nonporous material.*

# SECTION 310.0 Prohibited Fittings and Practices.

**310.11 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5]** Drainage piping over operating [rooms](#), ~~and~~ delivery rooms, [procedure rooms](#), [class 2 and 3 imaging rooms](#), [trauma rooms](#), nurseries, food preparation centers, food-serving facilities, food storage areas, compounding ante and buffer rooms, [pharmacies](#), [clean areas of central processing](#), and other sensitive areas shall be kept to a minimum and shall not be exposed. Special precautions shall be taken to protect these areas from possible leakage from necessary overhead drainage piping systems. Piping over switchboards, panel boards, and motor control centers are subject to restrictions of the California Electrical Code where applicable.

**310.12 [OSHPD 1, 3, 4 & 5]** Floor drains, waste traps, sanitary drainage cleanouts and handwashing fixtures shall not be installed in operating, [Class 3 imaging](#) and delivery rooms. Floor drains with self-priming traps may be installed in cystoscopy rooms. Floor drains shall not be installed in compounding buffer or ante rooms.

# SECTION 422.0 Minimum Number of Required Fixtures.

**422.1 Fixture Count.** Plumbing fixtures shall be provided for the type of building occupancy and in the minimum number shown in Table 422.1. The total occupant load and occupancy classification shall be determined in accordance with the *California Building Code*. Occupancy classification not shown in Table 422.1 shall be considered separately by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

**[OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5]** Plumbing fixtures shall be provided in the minimum number shown in Table 4-2. [Staff occupant load count may be based on full time equivalent staffing.](#)

**Exception: [BSC & DSA-SS]** Using occupancy classification, described as function of space, determine occupant load factor from Table 4-1 Occupant Load Factor, of this chapter.

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**422.2 Separate Facilities.** Separate toilet facilities shall be provided for each sex.

**Exceptions** ~~*[Not adopted for OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5]:*~~

(1) Residential installations.

(2) In occupancies with a total occupant load of 10 or less, including customers and employees, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall be permitted for use by both sexes. *[EXCEPTION 2 NOT ADOPTED BY OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5]*

(3) In business and mercantile occupancies with a total occupant load of 50 or less including customers and employees, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall be permitted for use by both sexes.

(4) Separate facilities shall not be required where rooms have fixtures designed for use by both sexes and the water closets are installed in privacy compartments. Urinals shall be located in a privacy compartment **[BSC & DSA-SS]**, as defined, or separate private area and be visually separated from the remainder of the room. Water closet and urinal compartments shall comply with sections 422.6 and 422.7 respectively.

*(5) [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5] For staff occupant load of 10 or less, one toilet facility shall be permitted to be used by both sexes. Toilet facilities shall not be shared between patients, staff and visitors.*

*(6) [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5] [Relocated from 422.3.1, Exception 2] For public waiting areas with an occupant load of 10 or less, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall be permitted for use by both sexes.*

**422.2.1 Single Use Facilities.** Single use toilet facilities, bathing facilities, and family or assisted use toilet facilities shall be identified with signage indicating use by either sex.

**422.2.2 Family or Assisted-Use Toilet Facilities.** Where a separate toilet facility is required for each sex, and each toilet facility is required to have only one water closet, two family or assisted-use toilet facilities shall be permitted in place of the required separate toilet facilities.

**422.3 Fixture Requirements for Special Occupancies.** Additional fixtures shall be permitted to be required where unusual environmental conditions or referenced activities are encountered. In food preparation areas, fixture requirements shall be permitted to be dictated by health codes.

**422.3.1 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6]** *Separate toilet facilities shall be provided for the use of patients, staff personnel and visitors.*

**Exceptions:**

(1) For ~~Primary Care Clinics~~ Clinics under California Building Code, Section 1226, ~~where a facility that contains no more than three examination and/or treatment rooms, the patient toilet shall be permitted to~~ have the patient toilet also serve the waiting areas.

~~(2)[Relocate to 422.2, Exception 6] For public waiting areas with an occupant load of 10 or less, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall be permitted for use by both sexes.~~



# SECTION 727.0 Emergency Sanitary Drainage.

## [OSHPPD 1]

**727.1** For new acute care hospital buildings submitted after the effective date of this code, the hospital shall have an on-site holding tank[s] to store sewage and liquid waste sufficient to operate essential hospital utilities and equipment in the acute care hospital building, to support 72 hours of continuing operation in the event of an emergency. Any general acute care hospital in operation after January 1, 2030 shall have an on-site holding tank[s] to store sewage and liquid waste sufficient to operate essential hospital utilities and equipment in the acute care hospital buildings on the campus with an SPC-3, SPC-4, SPC-4D, or SPC-5 rating, to support 72 hours of continuing operation in the event of an emergency.

[Split into new paragraph]The emergency waste holding capacity shall be based on the Water Conservation/Water Rationing Plan required in Section 615.4.1 to provide 72 hours of operation. In no event shall the campus on-site water storage capacity be less than one tank with at least 5,000 gallons capacity. See also California Building Code, Part 2, Section 1617A.1.40.

**Exception:** With the approval of the Office and the licensing agency, Hhook-ups that allow for the use of transportable means of sewage and liquid waste disposal may be provided in lieu of 72 hours of on-site storage. A minimum onsite holding tank shall be provided, sufficient to support 24 hours of operation, based on the hospital's approved Water Conservation/Water Rationing plan.~~instead of on-site storage if t~~The hospital shall haves a plan for storage of sewage and liquid waste. This plan may include the use of leak-proof bags if adequate storage of these and other bags of waste are provided. These storage facilities shall comply with the appropriate local health and environmental authorities' requirements, California Department of Public Health requirements for medical waste management, and comply with the following minimum requirements:

**(a) Location[s].** Location[s] shall be provided for waste collection and storage with sufficient space based upon the volume of projected waste and length of anticipated storage.

**(b) Enclosure[s].** Lockable room[s] or lockable screened enclosure[s] of adequate capacity to store the quantity of waste anticipated shall be provided for the washing and cleaning of containers and for the storage of sewage and waste water.

The room[s] or screened enclosure[s] shall include the following:

1. **Floor and curb.** A sealed concrete floor or other approved impervious flooring with a curb and with a drain connected to the sewer.
2. **Water.** Steam or hot water and cold water supplies in accordance with the California Plumbing Code.

# SECTION 1304.0 Medical Gas and Medical Vacuum Piping Systems.

**1304.1 General.** The installation of medical gas and medical vacuum piping systems shall comply with the requirements of this chapter.

**1304.1.1 [OSHPD 1, 1R, 2, 3, 4 & 5]** Medical gas systems for health care facilities that are regulated by OSHPD (hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers) shall be in accordance with NFPA 99, Standard for Health Care Facilities. ~~See California Fire Code Referenced Standards (Chapter 80) for applicable version of the Standard.~~ See California Building Code Table 1224.4.6.1 for location and number of station outlets for oxygen, vacuum, and medical air.

## **1305.0 System Performance.**

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**1305.3 Minimum Station Outlets and Inlets.** Station outlets and inlets for medical gas and vacuum systems shall be provided as listed in Table 1305.3. [\[OSHPD 1, 1R, 2, 3, 4 & 5\] See California Building Code Table 1224.4.6.1 for location and number of station outlets for oxygen, vacuum, and medical air.](#)

# TABLE 4-2 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5]24 MINIMUM PLUMBING FACILITIES

SPACE	HANDWASHING FIXTURE	SCRUB SINKS <sup>3</sup>	TOILETS	BATHTUBS OR SHOWERS	SERVICE SINKS <sup>1</sup>	CLINICAL SINKS
...						
<b>Staff lounge</b>						
Staff Toilet - Male	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Staff Toilet - Female	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
<b>Waiting area/room</b>						
...						
<b>Dietetic Service Space</b>					1	
...						
Dietary Staff Toilet - Male	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Dietary Staff Toilet - Female	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
...						
<b>Intensive Care Units<sup>7</sup></b>						
...						
<b>Staff lounge</b>						
Staff Toilet - Male	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Staff Toilet - Female	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
<b>Employee dressing rooms and lockers</b>						
Staff Toilet - Male	1 <sup>2</sup>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			

SPACE	HANDWASHING FIXTURE	SCRUB SINKS <sup>3</sup>	TOILETS	BATHTUBS OR SHOWERS	SERVICE SINKS <sup>1</sup>	CLINICAL SINKS
Staff Toilet - Female	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
...						
Gastrointestinal endoscopy procedure room	<sup>1</sup> <sub>33</sub>					
Outpatient observation <sup>35</sup>	1		1:6			
<u>Outpatient behavioral health observation</u>	<u>1:8 stations</u>		<u>1:6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Pediatric and Adolescent Unit toilet room	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2,26</sub>		<sup>1</sup> <sub>26</sub>			
Pharmacy						
Staff toilet - Male	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Staff toilet - Female	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Compounding area for parenteral solutions	<sup>1</sup> <sub>33</sub>					
<u>Sterile compounding anteroom</u>	<u><sup>1</sup><sub>23</sub></u>					
<u>Segregated compounding area</u>	<u><sup>1</sup><sub>23</sub></u>					
...						
<b>Radiological/Imaging Services Space</b>			<sup>1</sup> <sub>29</sub>			
...						
Staff Toilet <sup>18</sup> - Male	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Staff Toilet <sup>18</sup> - Female	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
...						
<b>Renal Dialysis Service Space</b>	1:4 stations				1	
...						
Staff lounge						
Staff Toilet - Male	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
Staff Toilet - Female	<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>		1:1-15 <sup>32</sup>			
<b>Surgical Service Space</b>		<sup>2</sup> <sub>33</sub>				
...						
<b>Rehabilitation Therapy Space</b>						
Training toilet/ <u>bath tub</u>			1	<u>1</u>		
...						
Soiled workroom or soiled holding	1					<sup>1</sup> <sub>34</sub>

SPACE	HANDWASHING FIXTURE	SCRUB SINKS <sup>3</sup>	TOILETS	BATHTUBS OR SHOWERS	SERVICE SINKS <sup>1</sup>	CLINICAL SINKS
<del>[Remove Indent]</del> <u>Cancer treatment/infusion therapy treatment</u>	1:4 stations					
<u>Central Sterile Supply</u>						
<u>Soiled work area</u>	<u>1</u>					<u>1</u>
<u>Clean work area</u>	<u>1</u>					
<b>Utility/Work Room</b>						
Clean <sup>21</sup>	1					
Soiled <sup>22</sup>	1					1 <sup>14</sup>
<u>Primary care clinic and specialty clinics</u>					<u>1</u>	
<u>Exam/treatment</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>1:15</u>			
<u>Staff</u>	<u>1<sup>2</sup></u>		<u>1:1-15</u>			
<u>Waiting area</u>	<u>1<sup>2</sup></u>		<u>1:25</u>			
<u>Alternative Birthing Clinic</u>						
<u>Birthing room</u>	<u>1</u>					
<u>Birthing room toilet room</u>	<u>1<sup>2</sup></u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>		
<u>Waiting area<sup>38</sup></u>	<u>1<sup>2</sup></u>		<u>1</u>			

<sup>1</sup> ~~Each department or nursing unit shall be served by a housekeeping room equipped with a service sink. Departments may share service closets provided the departmental services are compatible. A dedicated housekeeping room shall be provided for the following services: Surgical/Catherization, ICU, NICU, nursery, dietary, renal dialysis, and outpatient surgery. The service sink shall be located in a housekeeping room, see California Building Code Sections 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227 and 1228.~~

<sup>14</sup> ~~The clinical~~ sink may be deleted if all bedrooms in the nursing unit are provided with adjoining toilets with bedpan flushing devices.

<sup>22</sup> ~~If room is used only for temporary holding of soiled materials, clinical~~ sink and work counter may be omitted. If the flushing-rim clinical sink is eliminated, facilities for cleaning bedpans shall be provided elsewhere.

<sup>23</sup> ~~Toilet shall be equipped with a bedpan flushing attachment.~~

~~Sink shall be sized to allow scrubbing up to the elbows and provided with hands-free controls.~~

<sup>32</sup> ~~Not used.~~ Staff occupant load count may be based on the Full Time Equivalent staff count. Staff toilets shall be within 200ft of work areas unless required to be directly in the unit by the California Building Code.

<sup>38</sup> Birthing clinics with three (3) or fewer birthing rooms may serve the waiting area with a non-private patient toilet.

# HOMEWORK DUE SEPT. 30

- Send your feedback on the code changes to [hbsbsupportstaff@hcai.ca.gov](mailto:hbsbsupportstaff@hcai.ca.gov)

