

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
A	Compressed Air
AAAHHC	American Association for Accreditation for Ambulatory Health Care
AAASF	American Association for Ambulatory Surgery Facilities
AAMI	Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation - An organization composed of clinical and biomedical engineers, and related professionals, to promote effective use and management of technology related to health care.
AAR/IP	After Action Report/Improvement Plan
AASS	Approved Automatic Sprinkler System
A/E	Architect/Engineer
ABHR	Alcohol Based Hand Rub
ACF	Ambulatory Care Facility
ACH	Air Changes per Hour
ACHA	American College of Healthcare Architects
ACHC	Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc.
ACHE	American College for Healthcare Executives
ACM	Asbestos Containing Material
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADAAG	American's with Disability Act Association Guideline
ADC	Adult Day Care
ADS	Acoustically Distinguishable Spaces
AEM	Alternate Equipment Maintenance
AFH	Adult Family Home (DHS 88)
AFS	Accreditation with Follow-up Survey
AHA	American Hospital Association - A membership organization of individuals and health care organizations, providing educational resources, advocacy services, institutional review, and other services.
ASHERA	Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response Act
AHFSA	Association of Health Facility Survey Agencies
AHJ	Authority Having Jurisdiction
AHU	Air Handling Unit
AIA	American Institute of Architects
AII	Airborne Infection Isolation
ALSM	Alternative Life Safety Measures
ANSI	American National Standards Institute - A national organization that gives recognition to consensus based voluntary standards established by a variety of industries.
Ante Partum	Patient care unit for mothers before delivery
AO	Accrediting Organization
AOA	American Osteopathic Association
AOA/HFAP	American Osteopathic Association/Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program
AODA	Alcohol and Drug Abuse
AORN	Association of Operation Room Nurses
APIC	Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
ARCAH	Accreditation Requirements for Critical Access Hospitals
ASC	Ambulatory Surgery Center
ASHE	American Society for Healthcare Engineering - A personal membership group of the AHA representing more than 11,000 professionals working together to optimize the health care physical environment.
ASHES	American Society for Healthcare Environmental Services - A personal membership group of the AHA that represents professionals in the environmental services industry related to healthcare.
ASHRAE	American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers - A standards setting body relating to issues revolving around indoor air quality and environmental control.
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
ASPE	American Society of Plumbing Engineers
ASPR	Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
ASSE	American Society of Safety Engineers
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
AWS	American Welding Society
AYA's	Adolescents & Young Adults (cancer design patient care unit)
BAS	Building Automation System
BCS	Building Control Systems
BBI	Basic Building Information - The Part II of The Joint Commission Statement of Conditions, required to be completed and submitted during JC survey process.
BBP	Blood Borne Pathogens
BIM	Building Information Modeling
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics
BMH	Behavioral/Mental Health
BOCA	Building Officials and Code Administrators - An organization of building code officials that publishes the National Building Code, used mainly in the Midwest and northeastern United States.
BOD	Basis of Design
BQA	Bureau of Quality Assurance (currently DQA)
BTCDDP	Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAD	Computer Aided Design
CAH	Critical Access Hospital
CAHPS	Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems
CAM	Certified Amending Motion (used by NFPA motions for voting on codes)
CAM	Comprehensive Accreditation Manual - The accreditation manuals published by The Joint Commission for a variety of types of healthcare organizations.
CAMCAH	Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Critical Access Hospitals
CAMH	Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals
CAP	Common Alerting Protocol
CASPER	Certification and the Survey Provider Enhanced Reporting
CAT	Computerized Axial Tomography
CAT1	Code Required Annual Testing of Elevators
CAT5	Code Required Every Five Year Test for Elevators
Cath Lab	Cardiac Catherization Lab
CB	Critical Branch - Emergency Electrical System
CBRF	Community Based Residential Facility (Assisted Living)
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive
CCU	Cardiac Care Unit
CDC	Center for Disease Control and Prevention
CDU	Critical Decision Unit
CE	Clinical Engineering
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CER	Capital Equipment Request
CfCs	Conditions for Coverage and Conditions for Certification
CFM	Cubic Feet Per Minute
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations (Federal Register)
CGA M-1	Compress Gas Association M-1
CHAP	Community Health Accreditation Program
CHC	Certified Healthcare Constructor
CHEST	Certified Health Care Environmental Services Technician
CHFM	Certified Healthcare Facilities Manager
CIHQ	Center for Improvement in Healthcare Quality
CHSP	Certified Healthcare Safety Professional
CI	Circuit Integrity
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CLD	Condition Level Deficiency
CLIA	Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment
CMAR	Construction Manager at Risk
CMHC	Community Mental Health Center
CMMS	Computerized Maintenance Management System

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
CMS	Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (formerly HCFA)
CMS RO	Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services Regional Office
CMT	Corrugated Medical Tubing
CNA	Certified Nursing Assistant
CNACC	Certificate in Non-Acute Care Cleaning
CNE	Chief Nurse Executive
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CO	Central Office
COI	Collection of Information
COMM	Commerce
CON	Certificate of Need
CONT01	The immediate threat to Health or Safety has been successfully abated and verified through the direct observation or other determining method.
COO	Chief Operating Officer
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
COP	Conditions of Participation
CORF	Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities
CPAD	Clinician Patient Access Device
CPD	Central Processing/Delivery
CPHP	Centers for Public Health Preparedness
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
CPSO	Certified Patient Safety Officer
CPTED	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (Security Program)
CRI	Cities Readiness Initiative
CRTS	Covid Response Tactics Sharing
CS	Central Sterilizing
CSI	Construction Specifications Institute
CSP	Certified Safety Professional
CxA	Commissioning Authority
DACS	Digital Alarm Communicator System
DACTs	Digital Alarm Communicator Transmitter
DDC	Direct Digital Control
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DHS	Wisconsin Department of Health Services (formerly DHFS)
DHFS	Department of Health and Family Services
DHHS	U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DNV	Det Norske Veritas - accreditation company
DNV GL	Det Norske Veritas GL - Healthcare
DOA	Department of Administration
DOE	Department of Energy
DOJ	Department of Justice (Head Agency for Development and Monitoring of Accessibility Standards)
DOL	Department of Labor
DON	Director of Nursing
DOT	Department of Transportation
DPU	Distinct Part Units
DQA	Division of Quality Assurance
DSA	Donation Service Area
DSHS	Department of Safety and Health Administration
DSPS	Department of Safety and Professional Services (Newly created from three former regulatory agencies in WI)
EB	Equipment Branch - Emergency electrical system
EC	Environment of Care
ECS	Emergency Communications Systems
ECU	Environmental Containment Unit
ED	Emergency Department

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
EEOC	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
EES	Essential Electrical System
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Engineering Judgment
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EMTALA	Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act
EOC	Environment of Care
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EOSC	Emergency O2 Supply Connection
EPs	Elements of Performance
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPSS	Emergency Power Supply System - An alternate source of electrical power, usually a generator
ER	Emergency Room
ERA	Emergency Response Agency
ESAR-VHP	Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals
ESC	Evidence of Standards Compliance
ESF	Emergency Support Function
eSOC	Electronic Statement of Conditions
ESRD	End stage renal disease
ETO	Ethylene Oxide - A chemical used in sterilization of medical equipment, a known carcinogen.
EUACS	Emergency Voice / Alarm Communications Systems
EVS	Environmental Services
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FACP	Fire Alarm Control Panel
FACU	Fire Alarm Control Unit
FAS	Fire Alarm System
FASHE	Fellow, American Society for Healthcare Engineering - The highest level of membership in ASHE.
FCC	Federal Communication Commission - A government agency regulating broadcasting and use of the air waves.
FDA	Food and Drug Administration - An agency of the federal government responsible for ensuring the safety of drugs, medical products, and medical devices.
FDD	Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (DHS 134)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFR	Filtering Facepiece Respirators
FGI	Facility Guidelines Institute
FM	Facilities Management
FM	Factory Mutual
FMRA	Facility Modifications Risk Assessment
FNS	Food and Nutrition Services
FORHP	Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
FQHC	Federally Qualified Health Center
FRF	Fire Rated Floor
FRI	Federal Reserve Inventories
FRR	Fire Resistance Rating - The length of time a structure or material will resist burning.
FRRR	Fire Resistance Rated Assembly
FRRS	Fire Resistance Rated Separation
FRW	Fire Rated Wall
FSA	Focused Standards Assessment (Joint Commission Risk Assessment Process between surveys)
FSES	Fire Safety Evaluation System (NFPA 101A)
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GAO	Government Accountability Office
GFCI	Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
GMP	Guaranteed Maximum Price
HAI	Healthcare-Associated Infection
HAI	Hospital Acquired Infection
HAP	Hospital Accreditation Program

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
HCAHPS	Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems
HCC	Healthcare Coalition
HCC	Healthcare Construction Certification
HCC	Hospital Command Center
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration - A federal government agency that administers Medicare and Medicaid programs. Now CMS.
HDTV	High Definition Television - Digital television.
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Air - Type of filter. 99.97%
HFAP	Health Facilities Accreditation Program
HHA	Home Health Agencies
HHS	Health and Human Services - A cabinet-level department of the federal government that oversees health-related agencies, including the Public Health Service and HCFA.
HICS	Hospital Incident Command System - A consistent response system used by healthcare and the community for any event.
HIMT	Hospital Incident Management Team
HIPAA	Healthcare Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HITF	Healthcare Interpretation Task Force
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLAL	Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council
HPP	Hospital Preparedness Program
HPSA	High Powered Speaker Arrays
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
HSC	Homeland Security Council
HSEEP	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
HSPD	Homeland Security Presidential Directive
HVA	Hazard Vulnerability Analysis
HVAC	Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
IAHSS	International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety
IAQ	Indoor air quality.
IBC	International Building Code - A non-consensus-based building code developed by all three model code organizations.
IBER	In Building Emergency Reserve
IC/IP	Infection Control/Infection Prevention
ICC	International Code Council
ICC / CHC	International Code Council's Committee on Health Care
ICES	Information Collection and Evaluation System - The system, established by an organization, of information flow into and out of the Safety of Environment of Care Committee.
ICF/ID	Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities
ICF-IID	Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities
ICP/IP	Infection Control Professional/Infection Preventionist
ICM	Inter Cycle Monitoring
ICR	Information Collection Requirements
ICRA	Infection Control Risk Assessment
ICRMR	Infection Control Risk Mitigation Recommendations
ICS	Incident Command System
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
IDG	Interdisciplinary Group
IDR	Informal Dispute Resolution
IEBC	International Existing Buildings Code
IECC	International Energy Conservation Code
IFC	International Fire Code
IFMA	International Fire Marshals Association - Formerly FMANA. An organization composed of the fire marshals of each state.
IFU	Instructions for Use
IJ	Immediate Jeopardy
ILHR	Industry, Labor and Human Relations

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
ILSM	Interim Life Safety Measures - Measures to be put into place to compensate for deficiencies in compliance with the Life Safety Code or when compliance systems are affected by construction.
IMC	International Mechanical Code
IMCU	Intermediate Care Unit
IOM	Institute of Medicine
IOMT	Internet of Medical Things
IOP / PHP	Intensive Outpatient & Partial Hospitalization Program
IPS	Isolated power system - A system with an isolating transformer or equivalent.
iROC	Integrated Reliability on Call
IT	Information Technology
ITL	Immediate Threat To Life
ITM	Inspection, Testing, & Maintenance
ITHS	Immediate Threat to Health or Safety
JCEP	Joint Commission Physical Environmental Portal
JPATS	Joint Patient Assessment and Tracking System
LA	Lab Compressed Air
LD	Labor & Delivery
LD	Leadership
LDR	Labor Deliver Recovery Room
LDRP	Labor Deliver Recovery Postpartum Room
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LQG	Large Quantity Generator
LIM	Line Isolation Monitor - A test instrument to indicate possible leakage or fault currents from either isolated conductor to ground.
LINAC	Linear Accelerator
LPHA	Local Public Health Agencies
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
LSB	Life Safety Branch
LSC	Life Safety Code
LTC	Long Term Care - Healthcare organizations with an average length of stay of more than 30 days.
LV	Lab Vacuum
LVT	Luxury Vinyl Tile
MA	Medical Compressed Air
MBAN	Medical Body Area Networks
	WMTS * - Wireless Medical Telemetry Service (ASHE is frequency coordinator for WMTS bands.)
	PLMRS * - Private Land, Mobile Radio Service
	ISM * - Industrial, Scientific and Medical
	*Wireless Medical Telemetry Spectrum Blocks
NDMS	National Disaster Medical System
Med Gas	Medical Gas (e. g. oxygen, nitrous oxide)
MEP	Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing
MERV	Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (measures filter efficiency)
MGPHO	Medical Gas Professional Healthcare Organization
MMRS	Metropolitan Medical Response System
MNS	Mass Notification Systems
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOS	Measure of Success
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRC	Medical Reserve Corps
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MRSA	Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus
MS	Medical Staff
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets (Soon to be called Safety Data Sheets per OSHA)
MV	Medical Vacuum
N	Nitrogen
NA	Nursing Assistant

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
NEC	National Electric Code - The code adopted by most states for electrical construction.
NEP	National Emphasis Program
NF	Nursing Facility
NFPA	codes relating to all areas of fire safety.
NHA	Nursing Home Administrator
NIBS	National Institute of Building Sciences
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIH	National Institute of Health
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health - A section of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that supports occupational safety and health issues.
NLTN	National Laboratory Training Network
NO	Nitrous Oxide
NOV	Notice of Violation as issued by EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)
NPSG	National Patient Safety Goal
NR	Department of Natural Resources Reference
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NRF	National Response Framework
NRP	National Response Team
NSS	National Security Staff
OB	Obstetrics
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
OFIs	Opportunities for Improvement
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
OPHPR	Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response
OPO	Organ Procurement Organization
OPR	Owner's Project Requirements
OPRI	Office of Plan Review and Inspection
OPT	Outpatient Physical Therapy
OPTN	Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network
OQA	Office of Quality Assurance
OR	Operating Room
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration - A federal agency that develops and enforces standards relating to occupational safety and health.
OX	Oxygen
PACE	Program for the All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PACU	Post Anesthesia Care Unit (Recovery)
PAHPA	Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act
PAHPRA	Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act
PASS	Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Side to Side - Use of Fire Extinguisher
PBX	Private Branch Exchange (phone system)
PCRA	Pre-Construction Risk Assessment
PCT	Patient Care Technician
PDA	Preliminary Denial of Accreditation
PDA01	An immediate threat to Health or Safety exists for patients or the public within the Hospital
PDC	Planning Design and Construction
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limits
PFI	Plan For Improvement - Part IV of The Joint Commission Statement of Conditions document that identifies an organization's deficiencies with the Life Safety Code and outlines plans to correct those deficiencies.
PFT	Priority Focus Tool
PHEP	Public Health Emergency Preparedness
PHI	Protected Health Information
PHS Act	Public Health Service Act
PI	Performance Improvement
PICRA	Proactive Infection Control Risk Assessment (for construction)

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
PIN	Policy Information Notice
PM	Preventive Maintenance
POC	Plan of Correction
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment - Equipment worn or used by a worker to reduce or prevent the risk of occupational illness or injury.
PRTF	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities
PSRA	Patient Safety Risk Assessment
PTSD	Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
QAPI	Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement
QI	Quality Improvement or Quality Initiative
QIES	Quality Improvement and Evaluation System
QRS	Quick Response Sprinklers - Automatic sprinkler heads that are designed to go off at lower temperatures than other normal response sprinklers.
RA	Risk Assessment
RACE	Remove Anyone in Danger, Activate the Alarms, Contain the Fire, Evacuate or Extinguish
RCAC	Residential Care Apartment Complex (DHS 89)
RCM	Reliability-centered Maintenance
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RCx	Retro Commissioning
Re-Cx	Re-Commissioning
RF	Radio Fluoroscopy
RFA	Regulatory Flexibility Act
RFA	Responsible Facility Authority
RFI	Request for Information
RFOD	Regional Field Operations Director
RFOS	Regional Field Operations Supervisor
RFPP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Quotation
RH	Relative Humidity
RHC	Rural Health Clinic
RMW	Regulated Medical Waste - A waste or reusable material, other than a culture or stock of an infectious substance that contains an infectious substance.
RN	Registered Nurse
RNHCI	Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institutions
RO	Regional Office
ROC	Report on Comments
ROP	Report on Proposals
RPT	Relocatable Power Tap
RTLS	Real Time Location System
RTU	Roof Top Unit
S&C	Standards and Certification
SA	State Agency
SAFER	Survey Analysis for Evaluation Risk (Matrix)
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SASHE	Senior, American Society for Healthcare Engineering - An advanced level of membership in ASHE. SASHE is achieved through professional accomplishment, service to ASHE and community involvement.
SB	Safety and Building Division (subunit of DSPS)
SCD	Scheduled Completed Date
SCFM	Standard Cubic Feet per Minute
SCU	Special Care Unit
SDGHF	Security Design Guidelines for Healthcare Facilities
SLPM	Standard Liters Per Minute
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
SDS	Same Day Surgery

TERMS	DESCRIPTION
SEPS	Stored Emergency Power Supply System - Stored energy back-up device, often used for emergency situations.
SIG	Standards Interpretation Group
SLP	Speech Language Pathology
SMDA	Safe Medical Devices Act - A federal law regulating the reporting of incidents when a medical device is related to a death or serious injury.
SMS	Mobile Phone Text Messages
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility
SNS	Strategic National Stockpile
SOC	Statement of Conditions - The Joint Commission document that guides and organization through evaluation of its compliance with the Life Safety Code and develops a plan to correct any identified deficiencies.
SOD	Statement of Deficiency
SOM	State Operations Manual written by CMS
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPD	Sterile Processing Department
SPFI	Survey-Related Plan for Improvement
SPS	Safety and Professional Services
SRA	Safety Risk Assessment
SSA	Social Security Administration
T-18	Medicare
T-19	Medicaid (Medical Assistance)
TCU	Thoracic Cardio Unit
TEFRA	Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act
TFAH	Trust for America's Health
TIA	Tentative Interim Amendments
TJC	The Joint Commission
TLW	Time Limited Waiver
TRACIE	Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange
TS	Transfer Switch
TTX	Tabletop Exercise
UA	United Association
UDC	Uniform Dwelling Code
UL	Underwriters Laboratory Inc.
ULC	Underwriters Laboratory - Canada
UMRA	Unfunded Mandates Reform Act
UNOS	United Network for Organ Sharing
UPMC	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
UPS	Uninterruptible Power Supply - Stored energy back-up device, i.e. a battery.
USACE	U S Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	US Department of Agriculture
USP 797	U. S. Pharmacopeia 797
UV	Ultraviolet
UVGI	Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation
VAC	Another Term for Medical Vacuum
VAV	Variable Air Volume
VSQG	Very Small Quantity Generator
WAGD	Waste Anesthetic Gas Disposal
WHA	Wisconsin Hospital Association
WHEA	Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association
WHO	World Health Organization