

1 10A NCAC 13K .1204 is proposed for reoption with substantive changes as follows:

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3 **10A NCAC 13K .1204 ADDITIONAL PATIENT CARE AREA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOSPICE**  
4 **INPATIENT UNITS**

5 (a) ~~The floor area of a single bedroom shall not be less than 100 square feet and the floor area of a room for more~~  
6 ~~than one bed shall not be less than 80 square feet per bed. The 80 square feet and 100 square feet requirements shall~~  
7 ~~be exclusive of closets, toilet rooms, vestibules or wardrobes. A facility shall meet the following requirements for~~  
8 ~~patient bedrooms:~~

- 9 (1) private bedrooms shall be provided with not less than 100 square feet of floor area;  
10 (2) semi-private bedrooms with not less than 80 square feet of floor area per bed; and  
11 (3) floor space for closets, toilet rooms, vestibules, or wardrobes shall not be included in the floor areas  
12 required by this Paragraph.

13 (b) ~~The total space set aside for dining, recreation and other common uses shall not be less than 30 square feet per~~  
14 ~~bed. Physical therapy and occupational therapy space shall not be included in this total. A facility shall meet the~~  
15 ~~following requirements for dining, recreation, and common use areas:~~

- 16 (1) floor space for dining, recreation, and common use shall not be less than 30 square feet per bed;  
17 (2) the dining, recreation, and common use areas required by this Paragraph may be combined; and  
18 (3) floor space for physical and occupational therapy shall not be included in the areas required by this  
19 Paragraph.

20 (c) ~~A toilet room shall be directly accessible from each patient room and from each central bathing area without going~~  
21 ~~through the general corridor. One toilet room may serve two patient rooms but not more than eight beds. The lavatory~~  
22 ~~may be omitted from the toilet room if one is provided for each 15 beds not individually served. There shall be a~~  
23 ~~wheelchair and stretcher accessible central bathing area for staff to bathe a patient who cannot perform this activity~~  
24 ~~independently. There shall be at least one such area per each level in a multi-level facility. A facility shall meet the~~  
25 ~~following requirements for toilet rooms, tubs, showers, and central bathing areas:~~

- 26 (1) a toilet room shall contain a toilet fixture and a sink trimmed with valves that can be operated without  
27 hands. If the sink is equipped with blade handles, the blade handles shall not be less than four inches  
28 in length. If the sink faucet depends on the building electrical service for operation, the faucet shall  
29 be connected to the essential electrical system. If the faucet has battery operated sensors, the facility  
30 shall have a maintenance policy to keep extra rechargeable or non-rechargeable batteries on  
31 premises for the faucets;  
32 (2) if a sink is provided in each bedroom, the toilet room is not required to have a sink;  
33 (3) a toilet room shall be accessible from each bedroom without going through the general corridors;  
34 (4) one toilet room may serve two bedrooms, but not more than four beds; and  
35 (5) a minimum of one central bathing area. In multi-level facilities, each patient floor shall contain a  
36 minimum of one central bathing area. Central bathing area(s) shall be provided with the following;

- 1           (A)     wheelchair and stretcher accessible for staff to bathe a patient who cannot perform this  
 2                    activity independently;
- 3           (B)     a bathtub, a manufactured walk-in bathtub, a similar manufactured bathtub designed for  
 4                    easy transfer of patients and residents into the tub, or a shower designed and equipped for  
 5                    unobstructed ease of stretcher entry and bathing on three sides. Bathtubs shall be accessible  
 6                    on three sides. Manufactured walk-in bathtubs or a similar manufactured bathtub shall be  
 7                    accessible on two sides;
- 8           (C)     a roll-in shower designed and equipped for unobstructed ease of shower chair entry and  
 9                    use. If a bathroom with a roll-in shower designed and equipped for unobstructed ease of  
 10                   shower chair entry adjoins each bedroom in the facility, the central bathing area is not  
 11                    required to have a roll-in shower;
- 12           (D)     toilet fixture and lavatory; and
- 13           (E)     an individual cubicle curtain enclosing each toilet, tub, and shower. A closed cubicle  
 14                    curtain at one of these plumbing fixtures shall not restrict access to the other plumbing  
 15                    fixtures.

16 (d) For each nursing unit ~~or fraction thereof~~ on each floor, the following shall be provided:

- 17           (1)     ~~an adequate medication preparation area with counter, sink with four inch handles, medication~~  
 18                    ~~refrigerator, eye level medication storage, cabinet storage, and double locked narcotic storage room,~~  
 19                    ~~located adjacent to the nursing station or under visual control of the nursing station; a medication~~  
 20                    ~~preparation area with:~~
- 21                    (A)     a counter;
- 22                    (B)     a double locked narcotic storage area under the visual control of nursing staff;
- 23                    (C)     a medication refrigerator;
- 24                    (D)     medication storage visible by staff standing on the floor;
- 25                    (E)     cabinet storage; and
- 26                    (F)     a sink trimmed with valves that can be operated without hands. If the sink is equipped with  
 27                    blade handles, the blade handles shall not be less than four inches in length. If the sink  
 28                    faucet depends on the building electrical service for operation, the faucet shall be connected  
 29                    to the essential electrical system. If the faucet has battery operated sensors, the facility shall  
 30                    have a maintenance policy to keep extra rechargeable or non-rechargeable batteries on  
 31                    premises for the faucets;
- 32           (2)     ~~a clean utility room with counter, sink with four inch handles, wall and under counter storage; a~~  
 33                    ~~clean utility room with:~~
- 34                    (A)     a counter;
- 35                    (B)     storage; and
- 36                    (C)     a sink trimmed with valves that can be operated without hands. If the sink is equipped with  
 37                    blade handles, the blade handles shall not be less than four inches in length. If the sink

1 faucet depends on the building electrical service for operation, the faucet shall be connected  
 2 to the essential electrical system. If the sink has battery operated sensors, the facility shall  
 3 have a maintenance policy to keep extra rechargeable or non-rechargeable batteries on  
 4 premises for the faucets;

- 5 (3) ~~a soiled utility room with counter, sink with four inch handles, wall and under counter storage, a~~  
 6 ~~flush rim clinical sink or water closet with a suitable device for cleaning bedpans and a suitable~~  
 7 ~~means for washing and sanitizing bedpans and other utensils; a soiled utility room with:~~

8 (A) a counter;

9 (B) storage; and

10 (C) a sink trimmed with valves that can be operated without hands. If the sink is equipped with  
 11 blade handles, the blade handles shall not be less than four inches in length. If the sink  
 12 faucet depends on the building electrical service for operation, the faucet shall be connected  
 13 to the essential electrical system. If the faucet has battery operated sensors, the facility shall  
 14 have a maintenance policy to keep extra rechargeable or non-rechargeable batteries on  
 15 premises for the faucets. The soiled utility room shall be equipped for the cleaning and  
 16 sanitizing of bedpans as required by 15A NCAC 18A .1312, which is incorporated by  
 17 reference including subsequent amendments and editions;

- 18 (4) a nurses' toilet and locker space for personal belongings;

- 19 (5) an audiovisual nurse-patient call system arranged to ensure that a patient's call in the facility ~~is noted~~  
 20 ~~at a staffed station;~~ notifies and directs staff to the location where the call was activated;

- 21 (6) a soiled linen storage ~~area;~~ room with a hand sanitizing dispenser. If the soiled linen storage room  
 22 is combined with the soiled utility room, a separate soiled linen storage room is not required;

- 23 (7) a clean linen storage room ~~area;~~ and provided in one or more of the following:

24 (A) a separate linen storage room;

25 (B) cabinets in the clean utility room; or

26 (C) a linen closet; and

- 27 (8) ~~at least one~~ a janitor's closet.

28 (e) Dietary and laundry each ~~must~~ shall have a separate janitor's closet.

29 (f) Stretcher and wheelchair storage shall be provided.

30 (g) ~~Bulk~~ The facility shall provide storage shall be provided at the rate of not less than five square feet of floor area  
 31 per licensed bed. This storage space shall:

32 (1) be used by patients to store personal belongings and suitcases;

33 (2) be either in the facility or within 500 feet of the facility on the same site; and

34 (3) be in addition to the other storage space required by this Rule.

35 (h) Office space shall be provided for ~~persons with administrative responsibilities for the unit.~~ business transactions.

36 Office space shall be provided for persons holding the following positions if these positions are provided:

37 (1) administrator;

- 1           (2)     director of nursing;
- 2           (3)     social services director;
- 3           (4)     activities director; and
- 4           (5)     physical therapist.

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6     *History Note:     Authority G.S. 131E-202;*  
7                     *Eff. June 1, 1991;*  
8                     *Amended Eff. February 1, ~~1996~~ 1996;*  
9                     *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.*