



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

JB Pritzker, Governor
James A. Rivera, State Fire Marshal

MEMORANDUM

To: All Illinois Licensed Contractors, Inspectors and Municipalities with Municipal Agreements with OSFM

From: Robert Capuani, Director, Elevator Safety Division, Office of the State Fire Marshal

Re: Notification of code updates in Elevator Safety Administrative Rules; Door Lock Monitoring Frequently Asked Questions

Date: 3/28/2025

The Illinois Elevator Safety Rules are being updated and it is anticipated they will be effective before the end of 2025. Conveyances for which a permit is issued (building permit for new construction or a permit issued for the repair/modification of an existing conveyance) after the amended Rules' effective date will be required to be designed, constructed, installed, operated, inspected, tested, maintained, altered, and repaired in accordance with updated standards and recommended practices, including:

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
 - Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators (ASME A17.1 2022) (rather than 2019).
 - Elevators permitted for installation after January 1, 2026, will be required to have door lock monitoring at the time of installation. Existing elevators will have additional time to come into compliance with the door lock monitoring rules. Existing elevators must comply by January 1, 2029.
 - Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts (ASME A18.1-2023) (rather than 2017).
 - Standard for the Qualification of Elevator Inspectors (ASME QE1 1-2024) (rather than 2018).
 - Guide for Inspection of Elevators, Escalators, and Moving Walks (ASME A17.2-2023) (rather than 2017). (Recommended Practice)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
 - Automated People Mover Standards (ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21-2021) (rather than 2013).

The Illinois Elevator Safety Review Board has discussed code updates during its last three meetings and voted to approve final language on March 6, 2025.

The text of revisions is available online. The text of revisions can be found online at:

https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/index/register/volume49/register_volume49_13.pdf

The text of the currently applicable Rules can be found at:

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/041/04101000sections.html>.

Public Comments on the proposed door lock monitoring should be submitted to:

SFM.1000rulemaking@fdmail.sfm.illinois.gov

Technical or logistical questions about door lock monitoring may be addressed to:

Larry Christensen, Assistant Division Manager at Larry.Christensen@Illinois.gov or 312-814-1880.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Door Lock Monitoring Requirement

Question 1: What is door lock monitoring¹?

Door lock monitoring refers to a system that prevents an elevator from moving unless its doors are fully closed and locked. A door lock monitor is designed to monitor the position of an elevator's car doors and prevent automatic operation if any door issues are detected, such as with door wiring, door locks, door contacts or a door system bypass. A door lock monitor is intended to ensure that an elevator cannot operate in such circumstances, which would prevent the elevator doors from opening automatically and any passenger falling into the hoistway, being crushed during unexpected movement of the elevator, or otherwise being exposed to danger of injury or death.

Question 2: Which elevators require door lock monitoring?

Door lock monitoring is required by the 2022 edition ASME A17.1 *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* (ASME A17.1 (2022)). The door lock monitoring requirement in ASME A17.1 (2022) applies to all automatic passenger and freight elevators in the State of Illinois. Under proposed rules, elevators permitted for installation after January 1, 2026, will be required to have door lock monitoring at the time of installation while existing elevators will be required to have door lock monitoring by January 1, 2029. Some existing elevators have door lock monitoring in place. Check with your elevator company if you are unsure of the status of door lock monitors for your elevator(s).

Question 3: When did the Board vote to adopt ASME A17.1 (2022) including door lock monitoring for all existing automatic passenger and freight elevators?

The Board voted at its August 13, 2024 meeting to amend the administrative rules, as required by the Act. In particular, the Board voted to adopt the ASME A17.1 (2022), which includes the door lock monitoring requirement for all passenger and freight elevators, both new and existing. At the Board's November 7, 2024 meeting, the Board voted to extend the date of compliance for door lock monitoring for existing elevators to 3-years after the effective date of the 2022 code implementation. At the Board's March 6, 2025 meeting, the Board voted to approve specific language for the administrative rules.

Question 4: Why did door lock monitoring become a requirement?

To protect the elevator-riding public from risk of serious injury and death associated with open elevator doors and elevator movement. New York City led the nation in instituting door lock monitoring² after tragic incidents in 2011 and 2019 in which elevator passenger deaths occurred.

¹ Door lock monitoring is required by ASME code A17.1 (2022 edition) Section 2.26.5 – Systems to Monitor and Prevent Automatic Operation of the Elevator With Faulty Door Circuits.

² In New York City, door lock monitoring for all automatic elevators was required by January 1, 2020.

Question 5: When do elevator owners have to have door lock monitors in place to comply with the door lock monitoring requirement?

Under proposed rules, elevators permitted for installation after January 1, 2026, will be required to have door lock monitoring at the time of installation while existing elevators will be required to have door lock monitoring by January 1, 2029.

Question 6: How can existing elevators implement door lock monitoring?

Compliance can be achieved in two ways: 1) Adding an overlay; or 2) Modernizing the elevator. The approach taken will be determined by the elevator owner and may depend on factors such as the age of the equipment, usage, budget, and the owner's plans for the building.

Question 7: Who can I contact about getting door lock monitoring on my elevator?

A list of all [licensed elevator contractors](https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/elevators/elevator-contractors-inspectors-and-inspection-companies.html) is available at <https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/elevators/elevator-contractors-inspectors-and-inspection-companies.html>.