

Summary of Modifications/Changes in this Update

This Summary of Changes is for information only.
It is not a part of the referenced document, and should not be used for project documentation.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

July 1, 2023, revised November 1, 2024

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

July 1, 2023

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. The referenced version of IBC has been updated to IBC 2021.
2. The referenced version of ASCE 7 has been updated to ASCE/SEI 7-22, per the Advisory Committee's 2022 recommendation.
3. Renamed Facility Occupancy Category to Facility Criticality Designation.
4. Sections 2.3 and 4.1 clarify that exempt existing buildings are not exempt from nonstructural seismic requirements of Section 4.0 when permanent components/equipment are added or relocated.
5. Section 2.4 includes a correction to be consistent with RP8 for seismicity triggers for existing buildings and removes a redundant exemption for leased facilities.
6. Section 2.7 adds Ancillary facilities for approval of alternative retrofit procedures.
7. Section 3.2 incorporates recommended changes from the Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of VA Facilities.
8. Section 5.1 clarifies field shear wave velocity measurements are used to evaluate the site class.
9. Updates to Critical, Essential, and Ancillary facilities in Section 7.0.
10. Miscellaneous errata corrected throughout.

11. November 1, 2024 revision: Update the following industry codes and standards to the latest versions: IBC 2024, AISC 341-22, ASCE 41-23, and RP 10-22.
12. November 1, 2024 revision: Removed duplicate Canteen-Cafeteria from Table 7 Facilities with Varying FCDs (covered in Table 6 Ancillary Facilities) to align with the Physical Security and Resiliency Design Manual.
13. November 1, 2024 revision: Replaced “Emergency Generator” with “Generator” in Table 7 Facilities with Varying FCDs to align with the Physical Security and Resiliency Design Manual.
14. November 1, 2024 revision: Revise seismic design requirements for Water Towers to follow IBC Risk Categories and requirements, based on discussions during the Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of VA Facilities May 21-22, 2024 meeting.
15. November 1, 2024 revision: Moves CLCs from Essential to Critical to be consistent with IBC 2024’s move of Group I-2 Condition 1 buildings (nursing homes) from Risk Category III to Risk Category IV (per [IBC Chapter 16 11/1/2023 Errata](#))
16. November 1, 2024 revision: Elevates the FCD of Community Living Centers to Critical to align with the IBC 2024 Risk Category IV designation for nursing homes.
17. November 1, 2024 revision: Removed Spinal Cord Injury – Inpatient from Table 7 as it was redundant with it also listed in Table 8 and patients with long-term needs are moved to CLCs.
18. November 1, 2024 revision: minor edits to clarify the nonstructural seismic requirements of Section 4 applies to new and existing buildings, and removal of Seismic Design Categories from Section 4.1 since that is already covered in ASCE 7 Chapter 13.

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July 1, 2023

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

November 1, 2019, Revised May 1, 2020

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

May 1, 2020

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

November 1, 2019

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Referenced national codes and standards changed to most recent date-specific versions;
2. Definitions of Critical, Essential, and Ancillary facilities have been clarified in Sections 1.4 and 7.0;
3. Section 2.5 corrects an error in the October 1, 2016 edition of H-18-8 that inadvertently excluded Ancillary facilities from the requirement to use nonlinear procedures for retrofit; and
4. Outdated exemptions for nonstructural components and equipment were removed and the Importance Factor for all nonstructural components is set to 1.5 for Critical facilities in Seismic Design Categories C, D, E, and F.
5. May 1, 2020 revision: Clarified that H-18-8 Existing Facilities Performance Objectives in Section 2.6 apply for all tiers of ASCE 41 evaluation and retrofit.
6. May 1, 2020 revision: Added Facility Occupancy Categories for Medical Records Storage in standalone central storage facilities in Table 4 and within other facilities in Table 7.
7. May 1, 2020 revision: Clarified that while the default Facility Occupancy Category for Warehouses is Ancillary, VA Medical Centers should consider upgrading to Essential based on factors such as the facility that it supports, contents, and importance to mission.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

November 1, 2019

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

October 1, 2016

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Referenced national codes and standards changed to most recent date-specific versions;
2. Definitions of Critical, Essential, and Ancillary facilities have been clarified in Sections 1.4 and 7.0;
3. Section 2.5 corrects an error in the October 1, 2016 edition of H-18-8 that inadvertently excluded Ancillary facilities from the requirement to use nonlinear procedures for retrofit; and
4. Outdated exemptions for nonstructural components and equipment were removed and the Importance Factor for all nonstructural components is set to 1.5 for Critical facilities in Seismic Design Categories C, D, E, and F.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

October 1, 2016

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

August 1, 2013

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Referenced national codes and standards changed to most recent date-specific versions;
2. Evaluation and retrofit of existing buildings updated to align with RP 8 and ASCE 41-13; and
3. Redundant exemptions were removed.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION (new)

August 1, 2013

TITLE OF DOCUMENT (new title if applicable):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

February 1, 2011

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

H-18-8, VA Seismic Design Requirements

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Reference if ASCE 398 changed to FEMA 396;
2. Modified definition of Ancillary Facilities; and
3. Modified Sec. 3.7 to preclude non-structural elements.