

Summary of Modifications/Changes in this Update

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

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

November 1, 2019, revised 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DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):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 Outdated exemptions for nonstructural components and equipment were removed and the Importance Factor for all nonstructural components is set to 1.5 for Critical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.