



## Nassau County Fire Commission

### Office of the Fire Marshal

1194 Prospect Avenue

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[nassaucountyny.gov/firemarshal](http://nassaucountyny.gov/firemarshal)

## Emergency Lighting Test Information

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**Emergency lighting / generator tests are conducted to ensure, in the event of a power outage, that all occupants of the building can safely exit the building. The following information is both, how the test is conducted and other information on what to expect during the test.**

1. Emergency Lighting Tests shall provide emergency lighting for a period of not less than 90 minutes. Storage batteries, unit equipment or an on-site generator may be used.
2. The Emergency Lighting / Emergency Generator Test shall be conducted in a manner as to simulate a power failure therefore enabling the emergency power system to activate. Some deviation from this, ie: electrically sensitive equipment that cannot be shut down, will allow for other electric shutdown simulation to activate emergency power system. If computer sensitive equipment will prohibit the proper shutdown simulation, it is suggested to have someone qualified (ie: computer technician) available on site at the time of inspection to shut down or isolate sensitive equipment.
3. Emergency Lighting / Emergency Generator Tests shall be **witnessed** by the Nassau County Fire Marshal. No equipment will be operated by the Fire Marshal to activate emergency power. If a power system failure is unable to be simulated at time of test, test will be marked as failed. Resubmission of fees and application shall be required and test rescheduled. **(An electrician may be utilized by location for this purpose if so desired).**
4. Emergency lighting shall be provided in required assembly spaces, storage areas, stairways, aisles, hallways, exit corridors and other means of egress, including interior and exterior open spaces to or through which exits may lead. Emergency lighting provided outside the building shall provide adequate lighting to a public way or a distance away from the building considered to be safe; whichever is closer to the building.
5. Exit signs shall be illuminated under emergency power, internally illuminated units shall remain illuminated for the 90-minute duration of the test. Exit signs that are not internally illuminated shall be illuminated by an alternative source to properly illuminate the exit sign during a power failure.
6. Emergency lighting shall also be provided in electrical rooms to adequately illuminate electrical circuit panels and related equipment.
7. If an on-site generator is used to provide emergency lighting it shall be capable of picking up the emergency lighting load within 10 seconds. Where the generator is not able to supply power within the required time frame (Example: Turbine type generator) an auxiliary power source must provide

adequate power for the emergency lighting system until such time that the generator is fully operational.

8. If a generator is used as emergency power a battery-operated emergency lighting unit shall be provided at the transfer switch location and generator site. If the generator is housed within an enclosure a battery powered emergency light shall be provided within the enclosure.
9. It is suggested that a full operational test be conducted of the emergency lighting system by location personnel prior to (approximately 2-3 weeks) the scheduled test as to affirm that all units are fully operational and operate for the required duration of time and properly illuminate all required spaces. During that time if deficiencies are noted they should be repaired and/or additional lighting should be added prior to the scheduled test. Areas that are not properly illuminated and or defective equipment that does not provide lighting for the required duration of time may result in the test being marked as failed. Test failures require that all deficiencies be repaired and/or additional lighting be added, and new fees be submitted for a re-test of the system.
10. At the time of the emergency lighting test all locations will be subject to a full fire safety inspection including the inspection of all building safety systems, exits and the maintenance of exit ways and building or system permits. These systems may include but are not limited to the building fire alarm, sprinkler system, kitchen systems, fire extinguisher service, etc. During this time all necessary paperwork and violation orders may be issued for noted violations.
11. During the emergency lighting test, location personnel on site shall have access to **ALL** areas of the building to allow for proper inspection of the emergency lighting system and for the inspection of all building fire protection systems and controls.