

EMERGENCY LIGHTING & EXIT SIGN TESTING



The International Fire Code requires that emergency lighting units be able to provide illumination for 90 minutes after power failure, and at a level sufficiently bright enough to allow persons to see their way to exits, or to safely shut down processes and machinery, etc.

The Pflugerville Fire Department requires that testing of emergency lighting systems shall be conducted as follows, in accordance with the 2015 International Fire Code Section 604.6:

1. **Activation test.** An activation test of the emergency lighting equipment shall be completed monthly. The activation test shall ensure the emergency lighting activates automatically upon normal electrical disconnect and stays sufficiently illuminated for not less than 30 seconds.
 - a. This is accomplished by performing the “**push-button test.**” Push the “test” button on the unit. If the device does not light, or the lamps are dim, or if it fails to light at full brilliance for 30 seconds, then the unit should be serviced, repaired, or replaced.
2. **Power test.** For battery-powered (back-up) emergency lighting, a power test of the emergency lighting equipment shall be completed annually. The power test shall operate the emergency lighting for not less than 90 minutes and shall remain sufficiently illuminated for duration of the test.
3. **Activation/Power test records.** Records of tests shall be maintained. The record shall include the location of emergency lighting tested, whether the unit passed or failed, the date of the test and the person completing the test. These records shall be kept by the owner for inspection by the authority having jurisdiction. A sample of such a form follows on the next page.

