



Michigan Department of Community Health  
Health Facilities Engineering Section  
320 S. Walnut Street  
Lewis Cass Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Lansing, MI 48913

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## INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAVELING MOBILE UNITS

This information was formulated for the installation or placement of a traveling unit at a licensed health care facility. A “traveling” mobile unit is located on one site for a temporary interval and routinely relocated to another site. Adherence to the following recommendations will ensure uniformity and compliance with applicable codes.

1. Manufacturer’s drawings and specifications must be submitted for review and approval to:

Michigan Department of Labor, Energy and Economic Growth (DLEG),  
Bureau of Fire Services (517) 241-8847 - [www.michigan.gov/bfs](http://www.michigan.gov/bfs)

2. Each mobile unit shall be approved by:

Michigan Department of Labor, Energy and Economic Growth (DLEG),  
Bureau of Fire Services (517) 241-8847 - [www.michigan.gov/bfs](http://www.michigan.gov/bfs)

3. Mobile units utilizing ionizing radiation shall be registered with:

Michigan Department of Community Health  
Division of Health Facilities & Services  
Radiation Safety Section  
Ottawa Building, 1st Floor  
611 W. Ottawa - P.O. Box 30664  
Lansing, MI 48909

4. Installation should be completed in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.

5. Plans for a mobile unit installation shall be submitted for review and approval with an operational narrative to:

Michigan Department of Community Health  
Division of Health Facilities & Services - Health Facilities Engineering Section  
320 S. Walnut Street, Lewis Cass Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
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6. A mobile unit should have exits with a side hinge door. The exit should be 44" wide for patients.
7. A "traveling" mobile unit should be parked on a level surface when serving a facility.
8. Patient Access
  - a. Patient transport to the mobile unit should not be through non-patient areas of the facility.
  - b. Patients utilizing a "traveling" mobile unit should be protected from inclement weather while being transported between the facility and unit.
  - c. A smooth dry transporting surface should be maintained between the mobile unit and facility.
  - d. Where grades permit, the floor of the corridor connection should be at the docking height of the mobile unit rather than at grade.
  - e. Appropriate safety guards are to be provided on the mechanical lift (if used) to protect the patient and the staff when the mechanical lift is in use. The Department of Labor & Economic Growth - Elevator Division, must approve lifting devices in buildings.
9. The location of the unit should not impede fire or emergency access.
10. A janitor's closet for housekeeping equipment and supplies should be provided convenient to the mobile unit.
11. A barrier-free patient toilet room should be provided either as part of the connector or immediately outside the connector.
12. A Handwashing lavatory should be provided within the unit since diagnostic procedures may require the use of contrast media. Handwashing capability must be provided if invasive procedures are used.
13. The project narrative for the mobile unit should address the storage and utilization of a crash cart and oxygen.
14. A conveniently located fire extinguisher should be provided in the connector.



## 15. Electrical Connections

- a. An external electrical disconnect switch should be provided. The switch should be capable of being locked either in the on or off position.
- b. The plug connector for the power supply to the mobile unit should be in a convenient location.
- c. The plug connector should be located in an improved, well-drained area to avoid a potential electrical hazard.
- d. Emergency lighting should be provided within the mobile unit.
- e. A duplex receptacle should be available in the corridor connector.
- f. Emergency lighting should be available in the corridor connector.
- g. The mobile unit and connector should be properly grounded.
- h. Housekeeping and maintenance policies and procedures should be developed for the mobile unit.
- i. A system for communicating between the mobile unit and the hospital should be provided. A weatherproof connection should be provided.

The following are supplemental recommendations pertaining to Mobile MRI Units only:

- j. A fenced enclosure with gates should be provided where necessary to restrict access to the magnetic field.
- k. Clearly visible warning signs should be provided around the enclosure and in appropriate locations within the corridor connector.
- l. Nonmagnetic equipment should be provided in the janitor's closet for use on the mobile unit.

Please direct any comments or questions to the Division of Health Facilities & Services, Health Facilities Engineering Section at (517) 241- 3408.