

FGI Guidelines for Healthcare: 2022 vs 2026 Codes, Room Sizes, and Compliance

THE DIRECT ANSWER

FGI documents are not a building code by themselves. They become enforceable when a state licensing authority, building official, CMS-related survey path, or Joint Commission surveyor applies an adopted edition. Many active projects and licenses still reference 2018 or 2022 Guidelines. The 2026 cycle separates FGI Codes for Planning and Design (minimum requirements written for adoption) from FGI Handbooks for Planning and Design (advisory guidance and commentary). Purchase or subscribe through official FGI channels at fgicodes.org —do not rely on unofficial PDFs.

FGI 2026: CODES VERSUS HANDBOOKS

- For decades, the Facility Guidelines Institute published the FGI Guidelines as combined documents: minimum requirements plus extensive appendix commentary in one binding.

FGI CODES FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN

- The 2026 FGI Codes contain minimum planning and design requirements for hospitals, outpatient facilities, and residential care and support settings. These are the provisions intended for adoption into state codes, agency rules, and project specifications.

FIELD QUESTION

Are FGI documents building code by themselves?

No. FGI publishes consensus planning and design requirements; they become enforceable only when an authority having jurisdiction, state licensure rule, or applicable accreditation crosswalk adopts a specific edition. Until adoption, treat FGI as the reference your designers use—not automatic law.

From Healthcare Facility Hub - free, like everything on the site. The full article is at the link below.

Caution: codes, editions, and targets vary by facility and authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). Figures marked as common practice are facility targets, not code requirements. Confirm against your AHJ and the current code text before acting.

healthcarefacilityhub.org/fgi-guidelines-healthcare-facility-design-2026-edition-compliance/

Free field sheet from Healthcare Facility Hub. The live page is the current version - this sheet was generated October 2026. Scan the code to open the full article.

