NFPA 72 COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code

1. SYSTEM DESIGN & DOCUMENTATION

☐ System design drawings reviewed and approved by AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction)
☐ Equipment compatibility verified, all devices listed and compatible with control panel
☐ System layout drawings include device locations, wiring diagrams, and panel schedules
☐ Load calculations completed for all notification appliance circuits
☐ Battery calculations completed and documented
☐ Sequence of operations documented and reviewed
☐ Shop drawings submitted and approved prior to installation
☐ All equipment is listed/approved for the intended application (e.g., UL 864 / ULC S527 where applicable)

2. FIRE ALARM CONTROL PANEL (FACP)

☐ Panel listed for the application
☐ Panel installed in a clean, dry, accessible location
☐ Panel located in a continuously occupied or supervised location (as required)
☐ Panel enclosure properly secured and labeled
☐ Primary power supply on a dedicated circuit, properly labeled
☐ Secondary power (battery backup) installed and sized correctly:
    ☐ Minimum 24-hour standby capacity
    ☐ Minimum 5 minutes in full alarm after standby period (or per design/AHJ)
☐ Trouble signals audible/visible at panel and transmitted to supervising station (if applicable)
☐ Panel programmed per approved sequence of operations
☐ Panel configuration and firmware version documented

3. INITIATING DEVICES: SMOKE DETECTORS

☐ Detector type appropriate for environment (e.g., photoelectric, ionization, multi-criteria)
☐ Detector locations and spacing comply with NFPA 72 and manufacturer's instructions
☐ Detectors installed at correct height (ceiling or wall) per listing
☐ Detectors installed in all required areas (as applicable):
    ☐ Corridors
    ☐ Common spaces

☐ Mechanical/electrical rooms
☐ Elevator lobbies/shafts (where required)
☐ Return air plenums / duct locations (per NFPA 72 and NFPA 90A)

☐ Detectors not installed in unsuitable locations (unless special provisions used):
☐ Avoid within prohibited distances of supply diffusers and returns
☐ Avoid areas with excessive dust, humidity, or fumes (unless detector type is suitable)

☐ Addressable detectors have unique addresses matching as-built documentation

4. INITIATING DEVICES: HEAT DETECTORS

☐ Heat detector type appropriate for environment (fixed temperature, rate-of-rise, combination)
☐ Spacing and placement meet NFPA 72 and manufacturer's instructions
☐ Used where smoke detection is not appropriate (e.g., kitchens, garages, dusty spaces)
☐ Temperature ratings appropriate for expected ambient conditions
☐ Installed and documented on as-built drawings

5. INITIATING DEVICES: MANUAL PULL STATIONS

☐ Installed at all required exits and at additional locations per design/AHJ
☐ Mounting height meets code and accessibility requirements
☐ Typically located within 5 ft (1.5 m) of each exit door (or per local code)
☐ Visible, accessible, and unobstructed
☐ Single- or double-action type as required by AHJ
☐ Addressable pull stations have unique addresses matching documentation

6. NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES: AUDIBLE

☐ Installed throughout required occupiable areas
☐ Sound pressure levels meet minimum requirements (per NFPA 72):
☐ At least 15 dB above average ambient
☐ Or minimum sound levels in sleeping areas (if applicable)

☐ Maximum sound levels do not exceed code limits
☐ Appliances listed for fire alarm use
☐ Devices connected to supervised notification appliance circuits (NACs)
☐ For voice systems: intelligibility requirements considered in design and tested (where applicable)

7. NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES: VISIBLE (STROBES)

☐ Strobes installed where required (public areas, restrooms, corridors, etc.)
☐ Candela ratings appropriate for room size and mounting location
☐ Mounting height within prescribed range per NFPA 72 and accessibility guidelines
☐ Strobes synchronized where multiple strobes are visible from the same location
☐ Locations and ratings documented on drawings

8. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (IF APPLICABLE)

☐ Emergency voice/alarm communication system provided where required
☐ Pre-recorded and live messages configured and tested
☐ Intelligibility evaluations performed where required
☐ Two-way communication systems provided in required locations (e.g., areas of refuge, elevator lobbies)
☐ Mass notification functions (if any) coordinated with fire alarm functions

9. WIRING & PATHWAYS

☐ Wiring type and installation meet NFPA 72 and NEC/CEC requirements
☐ Circuit classes (Class A, B, etc.) documented and installed correctly
☐ Pathway survivability level meets project requirements where mandated (e.g., for EVACS)
☐ Wiring protected from physical damage and separated from non-fire alarm circuits as required
☐ Junction boxes and raceways labeled and accessible
☐ End-of-line resistors (for Class B circuits) located as designed and documented

10. POWER SUPPLIES

☐ Primary power from dedicated, properly labeled branch circuit
☐ Overcurrent protection identified and accessible only to authorized personnel
☐ Secondary power (batteries or equivalent) sized per NFPA 72:
    ☐ Standby and alarm durations documented and verified
☐ Battery type, capacity, and installation verified against calculations
☐ Generator (if used) integrated and tested per applicable requirements

11. SUPERVISING STATION / REMOTE MONITORING (IF PROVIDED)

☐ Connection to listed supervising station (or equivalent) established and tested
☐ Alarm, supervisory, and trouble signals transmitted and received within required timeframes
☐ Redundant communication paths provided where required
☐ Documentation of supervising station listing/certification on file

12. SPECIAL INTEGRATIONS (AS APPLICABLE)

☐ Elevator recall and shutdown functions tested
☐ Door releases/holders operate correctly on alarm
☐ HVAC shutdown and smoke control sequences tested
☐ Sprinkler/other suppression monitoring (flow, tamper, etc.) integrated and verified
☐ Access control system interfaces (e.g., door unlocking on alarm) tested
☐ BMS/SCADA integrations (if any) documented and verified

13. INSPECTION, TESTING & MAINTENANCE (ITM) PROGRAM

☐ Initial acceptance testing performed and documented in accordance with NFPA 72
☐ Ongoing inspection and testing schedule established (weekly/monthly/annual as required)
☐ Test records maintained for required retention period
☐ Qualified personnel identified for ongoing ITM activities
☐ Procedures in place for system impairments and temporary protection measures

14. RECORDS & DOCUMENTATION

☐ Record of completion form filled out and signed (per NFPA 72 format)
☐ As-built drawings updated and left on site
☐ Operating manuals and manufacturer documentation stored on site
☐ Inspection, testing, and maintenance records organized and accessible
☐ Sequence of operations and programming files backed up and documented

Reference Links:

NFPA 72 Code Development

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM RECORD OF COMPLETION

Maine Fire Alarm Inspection Checklist (NFPA 72) and pdf