



**Illuminating**  
ENGINEERING SOCIETY

**RECOMMENDED PRACTICE:**  
**LIGHTING HOSPITAL AND**  
**HEALTHCARE FACILITIES**  
AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD



**ANSI/IES RP-29-20**

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AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES  
AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**

Publication of this Recommended Practice  
has been approved by IES.  
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**Prepared by  
The IES Healthcare Committee**



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## Foreword

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This Foreword is not part of ANSI/IES RP-29-20. It is provided for informational purposes only.

This Recommended Practice (RP) does not provide general lighting information that is included in other IES documents. If the reader does not already have this information, it may be obtained as needed from the following IES Standards:

The Lighting Science Series:

- *ANSI/IES LS-1-20, Lighting Science: Nomenclature and Definitions for Illuminating Engineering*
- *ANSI/IES LS-2-20, Lighting Science: Concepts and Language of Lighting*
- *ANSI/IES LS-3-20, Lighting Science: Physics and Optics of Radiant Power*
- *ANSI/IES LS-4-20, Lighting Science: Measurement of Light – The Science of Photometry*
- *ANSI/IES LS-5-20, Lighting Science: Color*
- *ANSI/IES LS-6-20, Lighting Science: Calculation of Light and Its Effects*
- *ANSI/IES LS-7-20, Lighting Science: Vision – Eye and Brain*
- *ANSI/IES LS-8-20, Lighting Science: Vision – Perceptions and Performance*

The Lighting Practice Series:

- *ANSI/IES LP-1-20, Lighting Practice: Designing Quality Lighting for People and Buildings*
- *ANSI/IES LP-2-20, Lighting Practice: Designing Quality Lighting for People in Outdoor Environments*
- *ANSI/IES LP-3-20, Lighting Practice: Designing and Specifying Daylighting for Buildings*
- *ANSI/IES LP-4-20, Lighting Practice: Electric Light Sources – Properties, Selection, and Specification*
- *ANSI/IES LP-6-20, Lighting Control Systems – Properties, Selection, and Specification*
- *ANSI/IES LP-7-20, Lighting Practice: The Lighting Design and Construction Process*
- *ANSI/IES LP-8-20, Lighting Practice: The Commissioning Process Applied to Lighting and Control Systems*

- *ANSI/IES LP-9-20, Lighting Practice: Upgrading Lighting Systems in Commercial and Industrial Facilities*
- *ANSI/IES LP-10-20, Lighting Practice: Sustainable Lighting – An Introduction to the Environmental Impacts of Lighting*
- *ANSI/IES LP-11-20, Lighting Practice: Environmental Considerations for Outdoor Lighting*

## Part I: General Information

### 1.0 Introduction and Scope

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#### 1.1 Introduction

More than fifty years ago, the Illuminating Engineering Society recognized that healthcare facilities have unique and specialized illumination needs, resulting in the publication of the first version of this recommended practice. Since then, the only constant in both the healthcare and lighting arenas has been change. Technological advances (both within the lighting industry and within the medical equipment industry), changing regulations and guidelines, clinical breakthroughs, and philosophical shifts in healthcare delivery models have created a theme of “health for life” for ANSI/IES RP-29-20.

The mission of healthcare facilities is to save lives, enhance lives, and facilitate life’s transitions. Whether as a patient, supportive visitor, caregiver or resident, an encounter with a care environment is almost inevitable in one’s lifetime, and experiences within these settings can be intimidating or joyous, despondent or hopeful. From an operational standpoint, there are also considerations of the life and longevity of the physical infrastructure, fiscally responsible practices for owning long-term real estate, and sustainable practices. Designers working on healthcare projects have a unique opportunity to positively influence the lives of thousands of people who are in need of help, comfort, and care. The distinctly important nature of designing healthcare facilities