LICENSED TO PROTECT

California Fire Protection and Backflow Compliance Calendar

The recurring inspection and testing duties for commercial and apartment buildings in California. The duty sits on the building owner; the manager tracks it. Local fire departments and water purveyors can require more than this state floor. Last checked November 23, 2026.

WHEN	WHAT	WHO DOES IT
Monthly	Fire extinguishers: visual check of every unit (in place, charged, pin and seal intact). Emergency lights: 30 second battery test; exit sign lighting checked within every 30 days.	Owner, occupant, or their agent; building staff
Every 6 months	Kitchen hood suppression system serviced, and again right after any activation. Certificate of inspection goes to the fire code official.	Qualified service company
Annual	Backflow prevention assemblies field tested (also after installation, repair, or relocation). Fire extinguishers: full maintenance. Emergency lights: 90 minute battery test. Fire alarms: testing on the NFPA 72 schedule, most components yearly; detector sensitivity within 1 year of installation, then every second year. Fire and smoke doors inspected, documented. Hood fusible links replaced. Private fire hydrants and mains: annual inspection report where the fire department requires one.	Certified backflow tester; OSFM licensed extinguisher company; alarm and fire protection service companies
On the NFPA 25 schedule	Sprinkler systems, standpipes, and fire department connections: inspection, testing, and maintenance on the frequencies NFPA 25 sets, which California Title 19 adopts.	CSLB C-16 Fire Protection contractor or State Fire Marshal AES licensed company
6 year / 5 or 12 year	Stored pressure dry chemical extinguishers: internal maintenance every 6 years. Hydrostatic testing every 5 or 12 years depending on extinguisher type.	OSFM licensed extinguisher company
At a new tenancy	Smoke alarms working when the tenancy starts; owner tests, maintains, and fixes alarms a tenant reports. Carbon monoxide devices required in units with fuel burning appliances, a fireplace, or an attached garage. State law sets no fixed test interval for this item.	Building owner

Backflow, county by county

The annual test is state law under the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook. Your water purveyor sets the due date and takes the report, and can shut off water for a missed test. Since July 1, 2026 the tester must hold a certification from a State Water Board recognized organization (ABPA, ASSE 5110, or CA-NV AWWA). Los Angeles: LADWP and County Waterworks Districts run annual programs. Orange: Irvine Ranch Water District and Anaheim Public Utilities, a certified tester on the purveyor’s approved list. San Diego: City of San Diego (city approved list), Helix and Otay water districts. Riverside: Western Water and Riverside Public Utilities; the county registers testers. San Bernardino: San Bernardino Municipal Water Department, West Valley Water District, Fontana Water Company.

Finding the companies

Licensed to Protect is a directory of CSLB C-16 fire protection companies in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties, with license status and expiry read from the state list. We do not inspect, test, or service anything ourselves. County pages and the full calendar with sources: **licensedtoprotect.com/resources/compliance-calendar/**

Sources: California Code of Regulations Title 19, sections 574.1, 575.1, 904; California Fire Code sections 901.6.1, 904.13.5.2, 904.13.5.3, 507.5.2, 901.6; NFPA 25, NFPA 72, NFPA 80, NFPA 101 as adopted or referenced by the state; State Water Resources Control Board, Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (April 2026), sections 3.3.3 and 3.4.1; Health and Safety Code sections 13113.7, 13195.5, 17926; Title 8, section 6151. Your fire department and water purveyor are the authorities for a specific building.

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