



# Sioux Falls Fire Rescue

Fire Prevention Division  
224 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Phone 605-367-8093  
Fax 605-367-8138

## Fire and Life-Safety Checklist: Assisted Living & Group Home Occupancies (I-1)

The following Fire Code requirements are specific for **Assisted Living & Group Home** occupancies and should be used as a *supplement* to the "**Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist**".

### **DEFINITION**

**Institutional - Group I-1.** This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or parts thereof housing more than 16 persons, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other reasons, live in a supervised residential environment that provides personal care services. The occupants are capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical assistance from staff.

### **Fire Safety and Evacuation Plans**

- An approved fire safety and evacuation plan shall be prepared and maintained.
- Where a fire safety and evacuation plan is required Evacuation Drills shall be conducted six times per year (2 times per year on each shift) *408.5.4*; drills shall involve the actual evacuation of residents [who are capable of assisting in their own evacuation] to an assembly point. *408.5.5*

**TABLE 405.2 - FIRE AND EVACUATION DRILL FREQUENCY AND PARTICIPATION**

GROUP OR CCUPANCY	FREQUENCY	PARTICIPATION
Group I	Quarterly on each shift	Employees <sup>b</sup>

b. Fire and evacuation drills in residential care assisted living facilities shall include complete evacuation of the premises in accordance with Section [408.10.5](#). Where occupants receive habilitation or rehabilitation training, fire prevention and fire safety practices shall be included as part of the training program.

### **Fire Department Access**

- 3ft clear unobstructed access to fire hydrants and fire protection equipment shall be maintained at all times
- Fire Department key box shall be installed on all buildings equipped with fire protection systems. [See *Key Box* section in "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]
- Rooms containing controls for fire detection, suppression or control elements (i.e. air-conditioning systems, sprinkler risers and valves) shall be identified for the use of the fire department. Approved signs shall be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and readily visible. *509.1*
- Where the fire department connection (FDC) is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the FDC shall be indicated by an approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" at least 6 inches high and words in letters at least 2 inches high or an arrow to indicate the location. All such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.
  - Does the FDC have the required caps in place?

### **Decorative items**

- The hanging and displaying of decorative materials from acoustical ceiling systems that are part of a fire-resistance-rated floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assembly shall be prohibited. 703.3
- Natural cut trees are not allowed. 806.1.1

### **Commercial Kitchen Hood Systems** [See also ..."Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- Class K extinguishers shall be located within 30 feet of commercial cooking equipment involving solid fuels or vegetable or animal oils and fats; or if equipped with deep fat fryers (one Class K portable fire extinguisher of a minimum 1.5 gallon capacity is required for every 4 fryers (maximum cooking medium capacity of the fryers = 80 pounds each)).

### **Fire Alarm Systems** [See also... "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- An *approved* fire alarm system shall be installed in all Assisted Living and Group Home occupancies.

### **Exiting – Doors, Signs & Aisles** [See also... "Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist"]

- Fire doors cannot be propped open.
- Doors with delayed egress locks must release upon fire alarm/fire sprinkler activation or loss of power. 1008.1.9.7

See "**Commercial Business Fire and Life-Safety Checklist**" for additional information on the following:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguishers                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Safety                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Kitchen Hood Systems    | <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Sprinklers                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Lanes/Fire Hydrants/Fire Department Connections   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Alarms                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Key Boxes (Emergency Fire Department Access Key Boxes) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exiting – Doors, Signs and Aisles  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exit Signs                         |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Lighting/Egress Lighting |   |

*If you have additional questions concerning fire inspections, please contact us at 367-8093.*