

**Attachment "E" FIRE SAFETY**  
**Within 9 CSR 10-7120 Physical Plant and Safety**

**(8) Fire Safety.** The organization shall maintain fire safety equipment and practices to protect all occupants.

(A) Portable ABC type fire extinguishers shall be located on each floor used by individuals being served so that no one will have to travel more than one hundred feet (100') from any point to reach the nearest extinguisher. Additional fire extinguishers shall be provided, where applicable, for the kitchen, laundry and furnace areas.

(B) Fire extinguishers shall be clearly visible and maintained with a charge.

(C) There shall be at least two (2) means of exit on each floor used by individuals being served, which are independent of and remote from one another.

1. Outside fire escape stairs may constitute one (1) means of exit in existing buildings. Fire escape ladders shall not constitute one (1) of the required means of exit.
2. The means of exit shall be free of any item that would obstruct the exit route.
3. Outside stairways shall be substantially constructed to support people during evacuation. Newly constructed fire exits shall meet requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) *Life Safety Code*.
4. Outside stairways shall be reasonably protected against blockage by a fire. This may be accomplished by physical separation, distance, arrangement of the stairs, and protection of openings exposing the stairs or other means acceptable to the fire authority.
5. Outside stairways at facilities with three (3) or more stories shall be constructed of noncombustible material, such as iron or steel.

(D) Unless otherwise determined by the fire inspector based on a facility's overall size and use, the requirement of two (2) or more means of exit on each floor shall be waived for those sites that meet each of the following conditions:

1. Do not offer overnight sleeping accommodations;
2. Do not cook meals on a regular basis; and
3. Do not provide services on-site to twenty (20) or more individuals at a given time as a usual and customary pattern of service delivery.

(E) The requirement for two (2) means of exit from the second floor shall be waived for a residential facility if it serves no more than four (4) individuals and each of those individuals—

1. Is able to hear and see;
2. Is able to recognize a fire alarm as a sign of danger;
3. Is ambulatory and able to evacuate the home without assistance in an emergency; and
4. Has staff available in the event that assistance is needed.

(F) Ceiling height shall be at least seven feet ten inches (7'10") in all rooms used by persons served except as follows:

1. Hallways and bathrooms shall have a ceiling height of at least seven feet six inches (7'6"); and
2. Existing facilities inspected and approved by the department during a certification site survey prior to the effective date of this rule may request an exception from this ceiling height requirement.

(G) Combustible supplies and equipment, such as oil base paint, paint thinner and gasoline, shall be separated from other parts of the building in accordance with stipulations of the fire authority.

(H) The use of wood, gas or electric fireplaces shall not be permitted unless they are installed in compliance with the NFPA codes and the facility has prior approval of the department.

(I) The *Life Safety Code* of the NFPA shall prevail in the interpretation of these fire safety standards.

(J) Fire protection equipment required shall be installed in accordance with NFPA codes.

(K) The facility shall be smoke-free, unless otherwise stipulated in program specific rules.

**(10)(D) In all residential facilities, fire safety precautions shall include—**

1. An adequate fire detection and notification system which detects smoke, fumes and/or heat, and which sounds an alarm which can be heard throughout the facility above the noise of normal activities, radios and televisions;
2. Bedroom walls and doors that are smoke resistant. Transfer grilles are prohibited;
3. A range hood and extinguishing system for a commercial stove or deep fryer. The extinguishing system shall include automatic cutoff of fuel supply and exhaust system in case of fire; and
4. An annual inspection in accordance with the *Life Safety Code* of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA);

**(10)(E) Residential facilities with more than four (4) individuals shall provide—**

1. Smoke detectors powered by the electrical system with an emergency power backup. These detectors shall activate the alarm system. They shall be installed on all floors, including basements. Detectors shall be installed in living rooms or lounges. Heat detectors may be used in utility rooms, furnace rooms and unoccupied basements and attics;
2. Smoke detectors in each sleeping room. Those detectors may be battery operated and are not required to initiate the building fire alarm system;
3. At least one (1) manual fire alarm station per floor arranged to continuously sound the smoke detection alarm system or other continuously sounding manual alarms acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction. The requirement of at least one (1) manual fire alarm station per floor may be waived where there is an alarm station at a central control point under continuous supervision of a responsible employee;
4. An alarm which is audible in all areas. There shall be an annual inspection of the alarm system by a competent authority;
5. A primary means of egress which is a protected vertical opening. Protected vertical openings shall have doors that are self-closing or automatic closing upon detection of smoke. Doors shall be at least one and one half inches (1 1/2") in existing facilities and one and three-fourths inches (1 3/4") in new construction, of solid bonded wood core construction or other construction of equal or greater fire resistance;
6. Emergency lighting of the means of egress; and
7. Readily visible, approved exit signs, except at doors leading directly from rooms to an exit corridor and except at doors leading obviously to the outside from the entrance floor. Every exit sign shall be visible in both the normal and emergency lighting mode;

**(10)(F) In residential facilities with more than twenty (20) individuals—**

1. Neither of the required exits shall be through a kitchen;
2. No floor below the level of exit discharge, used only for storage, heating equipment or purposes other than residential occupancy shall have unprotected openings to floors used for residential purposes;
3. Doors between bedrooms and corridors shall be one and one-half inches (1 1/2") in existing facilities, and one and three fourths inches (1 3/4") in new construction, solid bonded wood core construction or other construction of equal or greater fire resistance;
4. Unprotected openings shall be prohibited in interior corridors serving as exit access from bedrooms; and
5. A primary means of egress which is an enclosed vertical opening. This vertical opening shall be enclosed with twenty (20) minute fire barriers and doors that are self closing or automatic closing upon detection of smoke.