



Fairfield Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division
1200 Kentucky Street, Fairfield, CA 94533
Phone (707) 428.7375

**RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY (RCFE)
STD# 15-24 Effective Date: 01/01/2024**

SCOPE

The purpose of this document is to provide residential care facility owners and operators with the necessary requirements to insure they are planning and operating in conformance with California State Law and covers the fire and life safety requirements related to the safe operation of a home-based care facility.

SPECIFICATIONS

Fire Extinguishers:

Shall have a minimum of one (1) 2A10BC extinguisher permanently mounted between 3' to 5' off the floor in a central location.

Smoke Detectors:

907.2.11.2 Groups R-2, R-2.1, R-3, R-3.1 and R-4. Single or multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed and maintained in Groups R-2, R-2.1, R-3, R-3.1 and R-4 regardless of *occupant load* at all of the following locations:

1. On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
2. In each room used for sleeping purposes.
3. In each story within a *dwelling unit*, including *basements* but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In *dwellings* or *dwelling units* with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.
4. In a Group R-3.1 occupancy, in addition to the above, smoke alarms shall be provided throughout the habitable areas of the dwelling unit except kitchens.

Exits:



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A minimum of two exits is required. Manually operated horizontal sliding doors may be used as an exit.

All exits shall be openable from the inside without the use of a key or any special knowledge or effort.

425.8.3.2 Group R-3.1 occupancies housing no ambulatory clients. In a Group R-3.1 occupancy, bedrooms used by no ambulatory clients shall have access to at least one of the required exits which shall conform to one of the following:

1. Egress through a hallway or area into a bedroom in the immediate area which has an exit directly to the exterior and the corridor/hallway is constructed consistent with the dwelling unit interior walls. The hallway shall be separated from common areas by a solid wood door not less than $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch (35 mm) in thickness, maintained self-closing or shall be automatic closing by actuation of a smoke detector installed in accordance with Section 715.4.8 of the California Building Code.
2. Egress through a hallway which has an exit directly to the exterior. The hallway shall be separated from the rest of the house by a wall constructed consistent with the dwelling unit interior walls and opening protected by a solid wood door not less than $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch (35 mm) in thickness, maintained self-closing or shall be automatic closing by actuation of a smoke detector installed in accordance with Section 715.4.8 of the California Building Code.
3. Direct exit from the bedroom to the exterior, shall be of a size as to permit the installation of a door not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width and not less than 6 feet 8 inches (2032 mm) in height. When installed, doors shall be capable of opening at least 90 degrees and shall be so mounted that the clear width of the exit way is not less than 32 inches (813 mm).
4. Egress through an adjoining bedroom which exits to the exterior.

Exits shall not pass through kitchens, storerooms, and closets and shall not pass through more than one intervening room.

Exception: Kitchens which do not form separate rooms by construction.

All exits serving non-ambulatory clients shall have ramps conforming to the California Building Code.

Corridor widths

For ambulatory use hallways shall be unaltered from original construction.

For non-ambulatory use hallways shall be 36 inches minimum.

Electrical extension cords shall not be used in lieu of permanent wiring.



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425.8.3.3 Group R-3.1 occupancies housing only one bedridden client. In Group R-3.1 occupancies housing a bedridden client and not provided with an approved automatic fire sprinkler system, all of the following shall apply:

1. In Group R-3.1 occupancies housing a bedridden client, a direct exit to the exterior of the residence shall be provided from the client sleeping room.
2. Doors to a bedridden client's sleeping room shall be of a self-closing, positive latching 1³/₈-inch solid wood door. Such doors shall be provided with a gasket so installed as to provide a seal where the door meets the jam on both sides and across the top. Doors shall be maintained self-closing or shall be automatic closing by actuation of smoke in accordance with California Building Code Section 715.4.8.
3. Group R-3.1 occupancies housing a bedridden client, shall not have a night latch, dead bolt, security chain or any similar locking device installed on any interior door leading from a bedridden client's sleeping room to any interior area such as a corridor, hallway and or general use areas of the residence in accordance with [Chapter 10](#) of the CFC.
4. The exterior exit door to a bedridden client's sleeping room shall be operable from both the interior and exterior of the residence.
5. Every required exit doorway from a bedridden client sleeping room shall be of a size as to permit the installation of a door not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width and not less than 6 feet 8 inches (2032 mm) in height. When installed in exit doorways, exit doors shall be capable of opening at least 90 degrees and shall be so mounted that the clear width of the exit way is not less than 32 inches (813 mm).

Note: A sliding glass door can be used as an exterior exit doorway as long as it is operable from the inside and outside and the clear width of the exit way is not less than 32 inches (813 mm).

NOTE: The above list is a summary and may not include all of the requirements for your system or occupancy.