

Life Safety Code & Basic Care

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Licensing Rules

- North Dakota Administrative Code
Chapter 33-03-24.1

Licensing Rules for Basic Care Facilities in North Dakota

- Section 33-03-24.1-10 Fire safety



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (1)
- Life Safety Code
 - 1988 edition
 - Chapter 21, Residential Board and Care Occupancy
 - Slow evacuation capability
 - Or a greater level of fire safety



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (2)
- Fire drills
 - Monthly
 - Twelve (12) per year
 - Alternating with all workshifts
 - Complete evacuation once per year



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (3)
- Fire evacuation plans
 - Posted in a conspicuous place



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (4)
- Fire drill records
 - Dates, times, duration
 - Names of staff and residents
 - Description of drill
 - Escape path
 - Call to fire department



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (5)
- New admissions
 - Fire drill walk-through within five (5) days



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (6)
- Variation
 - Waivers must be approved by the department



Licensing Rules

- 33-03-24.1-10 (7)
- Greater level of fire safety
 - Meet the fire drill requirements of that occupancy classification
 - Eight (8) licensed basic care facilities are located in health care occupancies.



Life Safety Code

- The requirements of Chapter 21 are based on two main concepts:

a) Larger buildings, which are more difficult to evacuate, require more built-in fire protection than smaller buildings.



Life Safety Code

- The requirements of Chapter 21 are based on two main concepts:
 - a) People who are more difficult to evacuate require more built-in building fire protection than people who are easier to evacuate.
 - b) People who are more difficult to evacuate require more built-in building fire protection than people who are easier to evacuate.



Life Safety Code

- Section 21-2
- Small facilities
 - Sleeping accommodations for not more than 16 residents.
 - **Five (5) licensed basic care facilities are small facilities.**



Life Safety Code

- Section 21-3
- Large Facilities
 - Sleeping accommodations for more than 16 residents.
 - Thirty-four (34) licensed basic care facilities are large facilities.



Life Safety Code

- Section 21-4
- Suitability of an apartment building to house a board and care occupancy.



Life Safety Code

- Residential Board and Care Occupancy

- Definition:

- A building used to provide lodging, boarding, and personal care services for four (4) or more residents.



Life Safety Code

- Residential Board and Care Occupancy

- Example:

A group housing arrangement for physically or mentally handicapped persons who normally may attend school or church in the community, or otherwise use community facilities.



Life Safety Code

- Residential Board and Care Occupancy

- Example:

A group housing arrangement for physically or mentally handicapped persons who are undergoing training in preparation for independent living, paid employment or other activities.



Life Safety Code

- Residential Board and Care Occupancy

- Example:

A group housing arrangement for the elderly that provides personal care services but that does not provide nursing care.



Life Safety Code

- Residential Board and Care Occupancy

- Example:

Facilities for social rehabilitation, alcoholism, drug abuse, or mental health problems that contain a group housing arrangement and personal care.



Life Safety Code

- **Evacuation capability**
- The ability of the occupants, residents, and staff as a group to either evacuate the building or relocate from the point of occupancy to a point of safety.



Life Safety Code

- Evacuation capability
- Prompt E-Score ≤ 1.5

Equivalent to the capability of the general population.



Life Safety Code

- Evacuation capability

- Slow E-Score $>1.5 \leq 5.0$

Capability of the group to move to a point of safety in a timely manner, with some residents requiring assistance from staff.



Life Safety Code

- Evacuation capability
- Impractical E-Score >5.0

A group, even with staff assistance, that cannot reliably move to a point of safety in a timely manner.



Life Safety Code

- Minimum construction requirements
- This chapter requires evacuation only to a point of safety, and therefore, the residents will frequently remain inside the building during a fire emergency.



Life Safety Code

- The width of corridors shall not be less than 44 inches. Corridors must be maintained free and clear of impediments to exiting.
- Not less than two exits shall be accessible from every floor.



Life Safety Code

- From any corridor door, exits shall be accessible in at least two directions.
- Any room, or suite of rooms, in excess of 2,000 square feet shall be provided with at least two exit doors remote from each other.



Life Safety Code

- It shall not be necessary to travel more than 100 feet from the door of any room to reach the nearest exit.
- Travel within a room or suite or living unit to a corridor door shall not exceed 75 feet.



Life Safety Code

- The means of egress shall be lighted. Lights must be provided in all corridors and exits.



Life Safety Code

- Emergency lighting shall be provided in all buildings with more than 25 rooms.
- Battery powered emergency lighting units must be tested monthly for 30 seconds and annually for 90 minutes.



Life Safety Code

- Means of egress shall be marked with exit signs.
- Both bulbs must be functional to provide the necessary back up in times of need.



Life Safety Code

- Vertical openings such as stairways, elevator hoistways, dumbwaiters, shafts, etc. shall be enclosed with fire rated construction and self-closing fire doors.



Life Safety Code

- Hazardous areas shall be separated from other areas by 1 hour fire rated construction with self-closing fire doors or equipped with a sprinkler system.



Life Safety Code

- Interior wall and ceiling finish shall be Class A or Class B.
- Interior floor finish shall be Class I or Class II.



Life Safety Code

- A manual fire alarm system shall be provided.
- Initiation of the fire alarm system:
 - Manual means
 - Automatic sprinkler system
 - Smoke detection system



Life Safety Code

- An annunciator panel connected to the fire alarm system shall be provided.
- Occupant notification shall be provided automatically, without delay.
- Fire department notification by telephone or other means.



Life Safety Code

- Each sleeping room shall be provided with a single station smoke detector connected to the electrical service.
- Exception for existing facilities having an existing corridor smoke detection system.



Life Safety Code

- All corridors and common spaces shall be provided with smoke detectors connected to the fire alarm system and audible in all sleeping areas.
- Detectors may be omitted from common spaces in buildings protected by a sprinkler system.



Life Safety Code

- Where an automatic sprinkler is installed, it must comply with NFPA 13, NFPA 13D or NFPA 13R.
- Sprinklers may be omitted in closets not over 24 square feet and bathrooms not over 55 square feet.



Life Safety Code

- Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided near hazardous areas.
- Portable extinguishers must be checked monthly and serviced annually.



Life Safety Code

- Sleeping rooms and other rooms shall be separated from corridors and other common areas by fire barriers.
- These corridor walls must have a fire rating of not less than 1 hour.



Life Safety Code

- In existing buildings the corridor wall shall have a fire rating of not less than 20 minutes.
- With a sprinkler system, no fire rating is required – corridor wall must resist the passage of smoke.



Life Safety Code

- Doors in the corridor walls must have a fire rating of 20 minutes.
- Existing 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch solid bonded wood core doors are acceptable.
- With a sprinkler system, no fire rating is required – doors must resist the passage of smoke.



Life Safety Code

- There shall be no louvers, transfer grilles, operable transoms, or other air passages penetrating the corridor walls and doors except properly installed heating and utility installations.



Life Safety Code

- Doors in corridor walls shall be self-closing or automatic closing.
- Doors in walls separating sleeping rooms from corridors shall be automatic closing.



Life Safety Code

- Doors to sleeping rooms that have occupant control locks restricted to the occupants or staff may be self-closing.
- With a sprinkler system, doors, other than doors to hazardous areas, vertical openings, and exit enclosures are not required to be self-closing or automatic closing.



Life Safety Code

- Corridor doors must close and latch.
- Doors cannot be held open by chocks, wastebaskets, bricks, blocks, beds, etc.
- No gaps between the door and frame.



Life Safety Code

- Every sleeping room floor shall be divided into at least two smoke compartments.
- The maximum travel distance from a sleeping room corridor door to a smoke barrier shall not exceed 150 feet.



Life Safety Code

- With a sprinkler system, smoke barriers are not required.
- Smoke barriers are not required where the aggregate corridor length on each floor is not more than 150 feet.



Evacuation Capability

- The Evacuation Difficulty Score has been designed to minimize speculation about how residents might perform in an actual fire emergency by basing ratings on already observed performance.



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- I. Risk of Resistance
 - Minimal Risk
 - Risk of Mild Resistance
 - Risk of Strong Resistance



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- II. Impaired Mobility
 - Self-Starting
 - Slow
 - Needs Limited Assistance
 - Needs Full Assistance or Very Slow



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- III. Impaired Consciousness
 - No Significant Risk
 - Partially Impaired
 - Totally Impaired



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- IV. Need for Extra Help
 - Needs at Most One Staff
 - Needs Limited Assistance from 2 Staff
 - Needs Full Assistance from 2 Staff



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- V. Response to Instructions
 - Follows Instructions
 - Requires Supervision
 - Requires Considerable Attention/May Not Respond



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- VI. Waking Response to Alarm
 - Response Probable
 - Response Not Probable



Evacuation Capability

- Worksheet for Rating Residents
- VII. Response to Fire Drills
 - Initiates and Completes Evacuation Promptly
 - Chooses and Completes Back-up Strategy
 - Stays at Designated Location



Evacuation Capability

- Staff Shift Score
- Staff Availability
 - Standby or Asleep
 - Immediately Available
 - Immediately Available & Close By



Evacuation Capability

- Staff Shift Score
- Alarm Effectiveness
 - Assured
 - Not Assured



Evacuation Capability

- Calculation of E-Score

Resident Vertical Distance
Score Total X from Bedrooms to Exits

Staff Shift Score

