



2012 Life Safety Code Update

Section for Long-Term Care Regulation



2012 Life Safety Code

- CMS plans on adopting 2012 Life Safety Code, but adoption is not expected for 18-24 months
- Until adoption of the code, CMS is allowing facilities to comply with four provisions of the 2012 code
 - Facilities must contact SLCR prior to implementing provisions
- At the time of the annual survey, facilities must request a waiver to comply with the new provisions
 - Each request must be evaluated separately
 - Facility does not have to show "unreasonable hardship" to obtain a waiver
 - CMS will have final approval of all waivers



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Provision 1
Residential Cooking Areas
Parameters– list is not all inclusive

- Within a smoke compartment, preparing meals for 30 or fewer persons
- One area allowed to be open to the corridor
- Smoke compartment must be limited to 30 beds and must be separated from other portions of the facility by a smoke barrier
- Cooktop or range is equipped with a range hood/fire suppression system with a manual pull station
- Smoke detectors or alarms not located within 20 feet from cooktop or range
- Cooking space cannot be a sleeping room
- Must have a mechanism to turn off power and fuel source or keep isolated from residents when not in use

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Provision 2
Corridors
Parameters – list is not all inclusive

- Wheeled equipment
 - Allowed as long as presence doesn't reduce corridor to less than 5 feet
 - Evacuation plan must include responsibility to move equipment during an emergency
- Fixed Furnishings
 - Securely attached to floor/wall
 - Cannot reduce corridor width to less than 6 feet
 - Grouping cannot exceed 50 sq. feet
 - Groupings must be separated by 10 feet
 - Groupings can only be on one side of the corridor

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Provision 3
Fireplaces
Direct-Vent Fireplaces

Parameters – list is not all inclusive

- Allowed in smoke compartment
- Cannot be in a sleeping room
- Smoke compartment must be sprinklered in accordance with NFPA 13
- Adjustment can only be made by staff
- Must have a glass front or metal screen
- Must have carbon monoxide detection in room

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Provision 3
Fireplaces
Solid-Fuel Fireplaces
Parameters– list is not all inclusive

- Area containing fireplace must be separated by 1 hour rating from sleeping rooms
- Must have carbon monoxide detection in room

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Provision 4

Personalization of Resident Rooms

Parameters – list is not all inclusive

- Allow personal belongings on up to 50% of surface area in resident rooms
- Room must house four or fewer residents
- Resident room door function cannot be impacted
