



CITY OF RIVERSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN: 2022-035

APPROVED BY: C. Kodat, Fire Marshal, 1/1/2023

REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE LICENSED FACILITIES WITH MORE THAN SIX NON-AMBULATORIES/ OR BEDRIDDEN CLIENTS R-2.1 OCCUPANCY

There are requirements set forth by California Code of Regulations (CCR), 2022 California Fire Code (CFC), 2022 California Residential Code (CRC) and 2022 California Building Code (CBC). The above referenced sections from the California Building Code (CBC) are defined as follows:

R-2.1 Occupancy Definition:

Buildings, structures, or parts thereof housing clients, 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. This occupancy may contain more than six non-ambulatory and/or bedridden clients.

The City of Riverside Fire Department will approve your license only when the following requirements have been met:

Construction:

- R-2.1 occupancies are not permitted in non-fire resistance-rated construction, (CBC, Section 435.4.1 and Health and Safety Code, Sec. 13131.5) and shall be constructed in accordance with CBC, Table 506.2.
- R-2.1 occupancies licensed as a Residential Care Facility (RCF) with individual floor areas over 6,000 square feet per floor, shall be provided with smoke barriers, constructed in accordance with Section 709, regardless of the number of clients. (CBC, Section 435.5.1)
- R-2.1 occupancies where smoke partitions are required, framing shall be covered with noncombustible materials having an approved thermal barrier with an index of not less than 15 in accordance with FM 4880, UL 1040, NFPA 286 or UL 1715. (CBC, Sec. 435.5.2)
- At least two means of egress shall be provided from each smoke compartment created by smoke barriers. Means of egress may pass through adjacent compartments provided it does not return through the smoke compartment from which means of egress originated. (CBC, Section 435.5.3)

Exits:

- R-2.1 occupancies shall have a minimum of two exits. (CBC, Section 435.8.2.1)
- R-2.1 occupancies corridors shall have 60 inches on floors housing non-ambulatory clients and 44 inches on floors housing only ambulatory clients. (CBC, Section 435.8.4.2)
- R-2.1 occupancies provided with fire sprinklers throughout, and which are required to have rated corridors, door closers need not be installed on doors to client sleeping rooms. (CBC, Section 435.8.4.1)
- R-2.1 having smoke barriers, cross-corridor doors in corridors 6 feet or less in width shall have, as a minimum, a door 36 inches in width. (CBC, Section 435.8.4.3)
- For delayed egress locking systems, see CBC Section 1010.2.13.1.

Stairways:

R-2.1 occupancies housing more than six non-ambulatory clients above the first floor shall be provided with two vertical exit enclosures. (CBC, Section 435.8.6.1)

Fire Protection:

- In R-2.1 occupancies, an automatic sprinkler system (NFPA 13R) shall be installed per Section 903. (CBC, Section 435.7.1 and 903.3.1.2)
- In R-2.1 occupancies, an approved fire alarm system and smoke alarms shall be installed as required in CBC Sections 907.2.9.1 and 907.2.9.2. Licensed Group R-2.1 occupancies housing more than six non-ambulatory, elderly clients shall be provided with an approved manual and automatic fire alarm system. (CBC, Section 907.2.9, 907.2.9.4 and 435.7.2) See **CBC Section 907.2.9.4 for exceptions.**
- In R-2.1 occupancies, single- or multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed and maintained regardless of occupant load, see CBC Section 907.2.11.2 for exact locations.
- R-2.1 occupancies shall be provided with a visible alarm notification appliance in accordance with CBC Table 907.5.2.3.2, activated by both the in-room smoke alarm and the building fire alarm system.
- In Group R-2.1, hearing impaired clients in protective social care facilities shall be provided with notification appliances for the hearing impaired installed in accordance with NFPA 72. (CBC, Section 435.7.4 and 907.5.2.3.4)
- All Group R occupancies shall be provided with carbon monoxide alarms when the dwelling unit contains a fuel-fired appliance or fireplace OR the dwelling unit has an attached garage with an opening that communicates with the dwelling unit. (CRC, Section R315.2.1)
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034. Combination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034 and UL 217. (CRC, Section R315.1.1)

See CRC, Section R315 for all exceptions

Fences and Gates:

Grounds of a Residential Care Facility for the Elderly serving Alzheimer clients may be fenced and gates therein equipped with locks, provided safe dispersal areas located not less than 50 feet from the buildings. Dispersal areas shall be sized to provide an area not less than 3 square feet per occupant. (CBC, Section 435.8.8)

Temporarily bedridden clients:

Clients, who become temporarily bedridden as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1569.72, as enforced by the Department of Social Services, may continue to be housed on any story in Group R-2.1 classified as Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE). Fire Department shall be notified within 48 hours. (CBC, Section 435.10)

Decorative Materials/Interior Finishes:

- All drapes, hangings, curtains, drops and all other decorative material, including Christmas trees, that would tend to increase the fire and panic hazard shall be made from a nonflammable material, or shall be treated and maintained in a flame-retardant condition by means of a flame-retardant solution or process approved by the State Fire Marshal, as set forth in California Code or Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 8. Title 19 Section 3.08
- Interior finishes shall comply with the 2022 California Fire Code, Chapter 8

If you have any questions, please contact the City of Riverside Fire Prevention Division.