



## Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Fire Prevention Division Information Sheet



Effective Date: February 1, 2011

CLV Ordinance #6124

*The items listed are basic information only. Codes are subject to change. Additional requirements may apply.*

### Adult Group Care

Home for individual residential care means a home in which a natural person furnishes food, shelter, assistance and limited supervision, for compensation, to not more than two persons with mental retardation or with disabilities or who are aged or infirm, unless the persons receiving those services are related within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity to the person providing those services. The term does not include:

1. A halfway house for recovering alcohol and drug abusers; or
2. A home in which supported living arrangement services are provided by a provider of supported living arrangement services during any period in which the provider of supported living arrangement services is engaged in providing supported living arrangement services.

#### **NRS 449.0105**

1. Except for a residential facility with less than 11 beds, before a residential facility is constructed or an existing facility is remodeled, the facility must:
  - (a) Submit the plan for construction or remodeling to the entity designated to review such plans by the Health Division.
  - (b) Notify the Bureau of a tentative date for the completion of the construction or remodeling
  - (c) Obtain approval of the plan from the Health Division.
2. The plan for construction or remodeling must include a description of the materials that will be used to complete the project.
3. Before issuing a license to operate a residential facility, the Bureau shall inspect the facility to ensure that it complies with:
  - (a) The provisions of [NAC 449.156](#) to [449.27706](#), inclusive; and
  - (b) The applicable zoning ordinances and regulations.
4. An applicant for a license to operate a residential facility must submit to the Bureau with his application evidence that the applicant and the facility are in compliance with the provisions of [NRS 449.001](#) to [449.240](#), inclusive, and [NAC 449.156](#) to [449.27706](#), inclusive.
5. The Bureau shall not perform the inspection required pursuant to subsection 3 until the applicant has submitted to the Bureau the application required pursuant to [NRS 449.040](#), the fee required pursuant to [NAC 449.016](#) and the evidence required pursuant to subsection 4.

#### **NAC 449.179**



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### **Automatic sprinkler systems.**

1. After January 14, 1997, the division shall withhold the issuance of an initial license to operate a residential facility that does not have an automatic sprinkler system which complies with the provisions of [chapter 477](#) of NRS and any local ordinances relating to the installation of automatic sprinkler systems.
2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a residential facility with less than seven residents that is issued a license on or before January 14, 1997, shall install an automatic sprinkler system that complies with the provisions of [chapter 477](#) of NRS and any local ordinances relating to the installation of automatic sprinkler systems if:
  - (a) The ownership of the facility is transferred to a new owner;
  - (b) The number of beds in the facility is increased;
  - (c) The facility is currently authorized to admit or retain category 1 residents only and wishes to apply for authorization to admit or retain category 2 residents; or
  - (d) The facility is not currently authorized to admit or retain residents who suffer from Alzheimer's disease or other related dementia and the facility wishes to apply for authorization to admit or retain such residents.
3. A residential facility with less than seven residents that was issued its initial license on or before January 14, 1997, may not admit or retain a category 2 resident, unless an automatic sprinkler system that complies with the provisions of [chapter 477](#) of NRS and any local ordinances relating to the installation of automatic sprinkler systems is installed in the facility. Not more than one resident who is confined to a wheelchair or who is required to use a walker may be admitted to such a facility at any time unless such an automatic sprinkler system is installed in the facility.
4. An automatic sprinkler system that has been installed in a residential facility must be inspected:
  - (a) Not less than once each calendar quarter by a person who understands the manner in which the system operates and the manner in which it should be maintained; and
  - (b) Not less than once each calendar year by a person who is licensed to inspect such a system pursuant to the provisions of [chapter 477](#) of NAC. **NAC 449.211**

### **Bedroom doors.**

1. A bedroom door in a residential facility which is equipped with a lock must open with a single motion from the inside unless the lock provides security for the facility and can be operated without a key or any special knowledge.
2. A bedroom door must not be equipped with a deadbolt lock or chain stop unless the door opens directly to the outside of the facility. The doors of a bedroom and the doors of the closets in the bedroom may be equipped with locks for use by residents if:
  - (a) The doors may be unlocked with a single motion from inside the bedroom or closet without the use of a key; and



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(b) The doors of the bedroom may be unlocked from outside the room and the keys are readily available at all times. **NAC 449.220**

### **Requirements and precautions regarding safety from fire.**

1. The administrator of a residential facility shall ensure that the facility complies with the regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to [chapter 477](#) of NRS and all local ordinances relating to safety from fire. The facility must be approved for residency by the State Fire Marshal.
2. A residential facility shall have a plan for the evacuation of residents in case of fire or other emergency. The plan must be:
  - (a) Understood by all employees;
  - (b) Posted in a common area of the facility; and
  - (c) Discussed with each resident at the time of his admission.
3. A drill for evacuation must be performed monthly on an irregular schedule, and a written record of each drill must be kept on file at the facility for not less than 12 months after the drill.
4. Portable fire extinguishers must be inspected, recharged and tagged at least once each year by a person certified by the State Fire Marshal to conduct such inspections.
5. A portable heater or space heater must not be used in a residential facility unless the heater:
  - (a) Is located 2 feet or more from any combustible material;
  - (b) Is plugged directly into a wall socket;
  - (c) Turns off automatically if tipped over; and
  - (d) Has no exposed heating elements.
6. A fireplace must be equipped with glass doors or a metal screen to prevent ashes or burning wood from falling outside the fireplace.
7. The administrator shall ensure that a written policy on smoking is developed and carried out by the facility. The policy must be:
  - (a) Developed with the purpose of preventing a fire caused by smoking in the facility; and
  - (b) Posted in a common area of the facility.
8. The windows and doors of a residential facility must not be covered with security bars.
9. Smoke detectors must be maintained in proper operating condition at all times and must be tested monthly. The results of the tests conducted pursuant to this subsection must be recorded and maintained at the facility.
10. An exit door in a residential facility must not be equipped with a lock that requires a key to open it from the inside unless approved by the State Fire Marshal or his designee. **NAC449.229**

**Operator of residential facility for groups: Posting of license and rates for services.** A person who operates a residential facility for groups shall:

1. Post his license to operate the residential facility for groups; and
2. Post the rates for services provided by the residential facility for groups, in a conspicuous place in the residential facility for groups. **NRS 449.095**



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### Identification of occupancy.

A category 1 resident is a resident who, without the assistance of any other person, is physically and mentally capable of moving himself from the room in which he sleeps to outside the facility in 4 minutes or less. **NAC 449.1591**

A category 2 resident is a resident who, without the assistance of any other person, is not physically or mentally capable of moving himself from the room in which he sleeps to outside the facility in 4 minutes or less. **NAC 449.1595**

Occupancy	Number & Classification of Residents	Sprinkler System Required	Fire Alarm Required
R-2	Up to 2 residents.	NO	Linked Smoke Detectors only
R-3	3 to 5 residents with a mixed occupancy of Category 1 or Category 2 as categorized by State Health.	YES	Manual Fire Alarm
R-4	6 to 16 residents categorized by State Health as Category 1 only	YES	Automatic Fire Alarm
I-1	17 residents or more categorized by State Health as Category 1 only	YES	Automatic Fire Alarm
I-2	More than 5 residents categorized by State Health as Category 2	YES	Automatic Fire Alarm

1. Institutional buildings are those used for:
  - (a) Purposes such as medical or other treatment or care of persons suffering from a physical or mental illness, disease or infirmity;
  - (b) The care of infants, convalescents or aged persons; and
  - (c) Penal or corrective purposes.
2. Institutional buildings provide sleeping facilities for the occupants and are occupied by persons who are incapable of caring for themselves because of age, physical or mental disability or because of security measures not under the occupants' control.



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3. Institutional facilities are classified into three groups for the purpose of identification:
  - (a) Medical facilities;
  - (b) Custodial care facilities, which include, without limitation, residential and group facilities;and
  - (c) Restrained care facilities.
4. The permissible occupancy of an institutional building must be determined according to the standards approved by the State Fire Marshal. **NAC 477.555**

In all medical facilities, custodial care facilities and restrained care facilities, a device for detection of the products of combustion, other than by detecting heat, must be installed pursuant to section 12.3.4.5 of pamphlet 101 in the 1997 edition of the *National Fire Codes*, published by the N.F.P.A. **NAC 477.560**

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[www.lasvegasnevada.gov/LawsCodes/fire\\_code.asp](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/LawsCodes/fire_code.asp)