



# FIRE DEPARTMENT PREVENTION BUREAU

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## Merced County Fire Department R-3.1 Occupancy Requirements

**(Residential 24 hour care 6 or fewer Non-Ambulatory, See 2019 CA Codes)**

### Minimum Construction:

Type V-1 Hour construction. Max of 42,000sq. ft. –3 stories. Non-ambulatory clients to be limited to the first two stories.  
**CBC Section 435.4.1 & Table's 504.3, 504.4, 506.2**

### Smoke Barriers:

a. Required where individual floor area exceeds 6,000 sq. ft. Area of a single smoke compartment shall not exceed 22,50 sq. ft. and travel distance to an exit or smoke barrier wall shall not exceed 200 feet. **CBC Sec. 435.5.1**

**Exception:** One story facilities housing more than six non-ambulatory elderly where the buildings have direct exits from each dwelling unit. **H & S code, section 13131.5. (a)(#4)**

b. Smoke barrier framing to be covered with non-combustible material with thermal barrier index of not less than 15.  
**CBC 435.2**

### Automatic Fire Sprinkler Protection:

Fire sprinkler System in accordance with NFPA 13. **CBC Sec. 903.2.8**

### Smoke Alarms:

Required in each sleeping area and in the corridor or area giving access to each separate sleeping area.

#### Exception:

Smoke alarms not required in sleeping rooms when the sleeping rooms are protected by smoke detectors which are part of an automatic smoke detection system. **CBC Sec. 435.7.3 and 907.2.11.2**

### Carbon Monoxide Alarms:

Required in R-2.1's which have dwelling units or sleeping units which have fuel-burning appliances installed within the unit. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be connected to the building wiring and have battery back-up. Where there is more than one alarm within the unit, all alarms shall be interconnected so that when one alarm is activated all alarms within the unit shall sound. **CBC Sec. 420.1**

### Fire Alarm:

a. A complete automatic and manual fire alarm system shall be provided in accordance with CBC section 907.2.9.4. This requirement is in addition to the smoke alarms required by **CBC 435.7.3**

**Exception:** Buildings housing non-ambulatory clients only on the first floor and protected throughout by all of the following:

1. An approved supervised automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13. Activation of sprinkler system shall sound the building fire alarm system.
2. A manual fire alarm system.
3. Smoke alarms as required by **CBC Sec. 907.2.11.**

b. Strobes shall be provided in public areas, common use areas, sleeping rooms and protective care facilities housing hearing impaired clients. **CBC Section 907.5.2.3, 907.5.2.3.1 & 907.5.2.3.4.**

**Exits:**

Two exits required. **CBC Sec. 435.8.2.1**

**Corridor Construction:**

Hallways / corridors serving 7 or more shall be 1-hour fire resistive with door openings protected by 20-minute fire rated assemblies. Doors to be maintained self-closing or automatic-closing by activation of a smoke detector. Glazed openings to be labeled  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour fire rated assemblies. **Table 1020.1**

**Exception:** In sprinklered buildings, rated corridor doors to client rooms do not require self-closers. **(See CBC Sec. 435.8.4.1)**

**Corridor Width:**

60 inches on floors housing non-ambulatory clients and 44 inches on floors housing only ambulatory clients **CBC Sec. 435.8.4.2.**

**Intervening Rooms:**

Corridors shall not be interrupted by intervening rooms. **CBC Sec. 1020.6**

**Exit Enclosure:**

Two enclosed exit stairways remotely located shall be required if 7 or more non-ambulatory clients are located above the first floor. **CBC Sec. 465.8.6.1.**

**Delayed Egress:**

Allowed if conforming to requirements of **CBC Sec. 1010.1.9.7.**

**Bedridden Clients:**

Allowed for facilities licensed after Jan 1, 2008 See definition in **CBC Section 310,1.**

**Exit Signs:**

Required as per **CBC Section 1013.7**

**Floor Level Exit Signs:**

Required as per **CBC Section 1013.7**

**Exception:** where exit path marking is provided.

**Exit Path Marking:**

Required as per CBC Section 1013.8

**Exception:** Where floor level exit signs are provided.

**Tactile Exit Signs:**

Required as per CBC Section 1013.4

**Emergency Lighting:**

Required as per CBC Section 1008.2

**Exception:** Client sleeping rooms.

**Fire extinguishers:**

Required as per CFC Section 906.1

**Exit ramps:**

Required as per CBC Section 1003.5