

Fire Drills and Fire & Life Safety Training

CBC Survey “Tips” Series

CBC News Hour

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Expectations

- SOQ expects every facility to be conducting fire drills and fire and life safety training for staff and residents according to the current OARs.
- Survey will review facility fire drill and F&LS records and issue citations for non-compliance.

Fire Drills

- The purpose of conducting fire drills:
 - To ensure staff know what to do in the event of a fire;
 - To ensure residents know what to do in the event of a fire; and
 - To identify residents who will not comply or need extensive assistance to evacuate.
- Remember: the role of the local fire department is to fight the fire. It is the responsibility of the facility to try to the best of its ability to evacuate its residents.

Fire Drills: Expectations

- The facility is expected to:
 - Conduct a fire drill for each of its licensed units at least every other month;
 - Alternate shifts;
 - Simulate fires in different locations of the building with different exit routes; and
 - Relocate residents.

Fire & Life Safety Training for Staff

- F&LS training should be provided to staff on alternating months.
- Topics can relate to fire drills or responses to other common emergencies such as:
 - Power outages;
 - Gas or water leak;
 - High winds, damage to building;
 - Forest fires and evacuation preparedness.

Fire & Life Safety Training for Staff

- F&LS training is not counted toward the annual training hours required under 411-054-0070.
- There are no minimum requirements for how long the F&LS training needs to be.
- Ensure you keep documentation of the topics provided and the staff who attended.
- The facility should have a plan to provided make-up training for staff who miss scheduled F&LS training.

Fire & Life Safety Training for Residents

- Residents must be instructed about the facility's fire and life safety procedures.
- This requirement applies to all residents in an ALF, RCF and MCC.
- Training must be provided within 24 hours of admission.
- Re-training must be provided at least annually.
- The content of the training must be documented.

Training for Residents in an MCC

- The OARs acknowledge that some residents may have difficulty understanding and/or retaining the information.

“This requirement does not apply to residents whose mental capability does not allow for following such instruction.”

- However, a facility cannot make a blanket determination that all of its residents lack the mental capability and then just not make any effort to provide instruction.

Training for Residents in an MCC

- The facility should still document that instruction was provided and then document as to the resident's ability to understand the information.
- The resident's ability to understand can be incorporated into the service plan in regard to assistance needed to evacuate in the event of an emergency.

Training for Residents in an MCC

- Remember: for individuals with memory deficits, providing only verbal instruction may not be effective.
 - **Consider providing guided instruction and/or modeling.**
- Also, individuals with memory deficits often benefit from repetition. In other words, “Practice.”
 - **Consider incorporating F&LS practice into the weekly schedule of activities to improve recall.**

Thanks for your attention!

- The OARs regarding fire drills and fire and life safety instruction can be found at:
 - 411-054-0090 (1)
 - 411-054-0090 (5)

