



NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF FIRE PREVENTION
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Congregate Family Living Facility Requirements 7-16 Guests

A **Congregate Family Living Facility** is defined as a building or part thereof that contains sleeping rooms where residents share the entire structure and live, cook and function together as a single housekeeping unit.

Every "Congregate Family Living Facility" **must** further have originated as a private residence, shall be limited to no more than two (2) stories in height and shall not exceed two thousand five hundred (2,500) gross square feet.

All "Congregate Family Living Facilities" require smoke and carbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with the regulations and standards of Chapter 24 of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code. (See the **Congregate Family Living Facility Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements**)

There shall be approved detection in each sleeping room.

All "Congregate Family Living Facilities" with a capacity of **between seven (7) and sixteen (16) guests** shall meet the following requirements:

- 1.) A fire alarm system installed in accordance with 26.3.4.1.1 of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code shall be provided.
- 2.) Interconnected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72. (May be incorporated into the above fire alarm system). (See the **Congregate Family Living Facility Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements for specifics**)
- 3.) Solid core doors, maintaining an approximate fire rating of twenty (20) minutes, shall be installed in the existing egress system door jambs with spring-loaded hinges. The local fire authority may approve an alternative plan of action allowing historically significant doors, with an approved Class-A flame-spread finish and spring-loaded hinges, to be retained.
- 4.) Emergency lighting shall be installed in any corridors and/or stairways greater than eight feet (8') in length.
- 5.) Externally illuminated exit signs shall be installed. (Exit sign illuminated by nearby light source)
- 6.) An evacuation plan, containing alternative emergency egress routes, shall be presented to the local fire authority for approval, and upon approval shall be posted in every sleeping room.
- 7.) Any existing fire detection and/or suppression system shall be maintained as a required system.

Note:

Any building complying with the above "Congregate Family Living Facilities" guidelines, with a capacity in excess of sixteen (16) residents, shall be required comply with the requirements for a "Hotel and Dormitory" occupancy as outlined in the provisions of Chapters 28 or 29, as applicable (new or existing), of the 2018 RI Life Safety Code.