

(i) Standard: Evacuation drills.

(1) The facility must hold evacuation drills

W440

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at least quarterly for each shift of personnel

Guidance §483.470(i)(1)

Life Safety Code NFPA 101, 2000 Edition (LSC):

Chapter 32/33 code: Clients have to participate in an evacuation drill each shift at least quarterly.

Chapter 18/19 code: There must be an evacuation drill on each shift at least quarterly. This drill is designed to train staff on evacuation procedures.

Review facility records to verify that evacuations drills are held each shift at least once in each 3month period.

Refer to (S&C 10-26-LSC)

W441

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and under varied conditions to—

Guidance §483.470(i)(1)

Life Safety Code NFPA 101, 2000 Edition (LSC):

Chapter 32/33: Expects that all clients living in that unit are capable of self-evacuation during an emergency. This self evacuation should be practiced under varying conditions including various times of the day or night and in various weather conditions.

Chapter 18/19: Requires drills which simulate emergency situations which familiarize facility staff with emergency actions they may be required to perform. The general emphasis of these sections of the code is upon training of the staff and not upon providing practice for the client. Drills should be practiced under varying conditions including various times of the day or night and in various weather conditions.

W442

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(i) Ensure that all personnel on all shifts are trained to perform assigned tasks;

Guidance §483.470(i)(1)(i)

For facilities under Chapter 18/19 of the LSC

Staff should be able to verbalize the proper procedures to be followed during emergency drills. Staff training records should document that all staff have received training on emergency drills and evacuations.

W443

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(ii) Ensure that all personnel on all shifts are familiar with the use of the facility's fire protection features; and

Guidance §483.470(i)(1)(ii)

Staff on all shifts are able to express familiarity with the use of fire extinguisher, alarms, and any other safety features in the facility.

W444

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(iii) Evaluate the effectiveness of emergency and disaster plans and procedures.

Guidance §483.470(i)(1)(iii)

See also W448. The plan(s) must be revised as needed and must be based upon analysis completed under W448.

(2) The facility must--

W445

(Rev. 135, Issued: 02-27-15, Effective: 04-27-15, Implementation: 04-27-15)

(i) Actually evacuate clients during at least one drill each year on each shift;

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(i)

All clients totally evacuate the building at least once per year per shift, regardless of the occupancy chapter under which the building falls.

All facilities, regardless of their size require actual evacuation. "Actually evacuate", as used in this standard, applies to all clients. The drills are conducted not only to rehearse the clients and staff for a fire emergency (see §483.470(i)(2)(v)), but for other

disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, etc. Such disasters would require the entire occupancy to be evacuated, and, therefore, the actual evacuation must be practiced, as required.

W446

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(ii) Make special provisions for the evacuation of clients with physical disabilities;

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(ii)

Clients with physical or medical disabilities may require special procedures for evacuation, taking into account equipment or staff that must be maintained for the client's care at all times. The facility's evacuation plan should:

- identify such clients;
- clearly delineate any special evacuation procedures for those clients.

Staff should be familiar with the facility's special evacuation procedures when working with clients who are in need of unique provisions.

W447

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(iii) File a report and evaluation on each evacuation drill;

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(iii)

There is a written report of each evacuation drill held.

W448

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(iv) Investigate all problems with evacuation drills, including accidents,

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(iv)

The documentation for each evacuation drill includes an analysis of:

- The timeliness of the evacuation;
- Any difficulties observed during the drill;
- Investigates the cause of the difficulties; and
- Develops a plan to ensure the difficulties will not reoccur.

W449

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and take corrective action; and

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(iv)

When a problem is identified during the evacuation drill and the facility develops a plan to prevent reoccurrence, there is evidence the facility implemented corrective action and followup completed to ensure corrective action was successful.

W450

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(v) During fire drills, clients may be evacuated to a safe area in facilities certified under the Health Care Occupancies Chapter of the Life Safety Code.

Guidance §483.470(i)(2)(v)

The Life Safety Code NFPA 101, 2000 Edition at 3.3.167 defines safe location as “a location remote or separated from the effects of a fire so that such effects no longer pose a threat.”

W451

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(3) Facilities must meet the requirements of paragraph (i)(1) and (2) of this section for any live-in and relief staff they utilize.

Guidance §483.470(i)(3)

In the case of live-in staff, drills must occur quarterly. Typically, live-in staff can be found in facilities that fall under Chapter 32/33 of the LSC code. Drills should be held at varying times of the day and night for clients to practice evacuation including morning, afternoon, evening and the middle of the night.