



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

February 7, 2025

AL TSA: ESF #2025-003
INCREASED REGULATORY FOCUS BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
(OSFM) – ENHANCED SERVICES FACILITIES (ESF)

Dear Enhanced Services Facility Provider:

WA State ESFs are responsible for ensuring consistent compliance with all applicable federal and state fire safety and life safety code (LSC) regulatory requirements.

OSFM has identified widespread fire alarm functionality concerns which place ESF residents and staff at potential risk. As a result, OSFM is increasing regulatory focus on existing semiannual regulatory requirements.

Current fire safety and LSC regulatory information, specific to nursing ESFs is provided below.

WA State regulatory requirements for OSFM include:

- [Chapter 212-12 RCW](#) – Fire Marshal Standards; and
- [Chapter 43.44 RCW](#) – State Fire Protection.

OSFM uses regulations outlined in the following documents to complete fire safety and LSC regulatory tasks for ESFs:

- [2024 International Fire Code \(IFC\)](#); and
- 2019 edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72
 - *This document is copyrighted and therefore must be obtained directly from the National Fire Protection Association.*

WA State fire safety regulatory guidance for ESF facilities includes:

- [RCW 70.97.210](#)-Standard for fire protection,
- [WAC 388-107-0570](#) Resident records-System,
- [WAC 388-107-0730](#) Applicable Codes-New Construction,
- [WAC 388-107-1100](#)-Licensee's responsibilities,
- [WAC 212-12-025](#)-Fire Reporting Requirements,
- Physical plant requirements [WAC 388-107-0700](#) through [WAC 388-107-0740](#).

Related References:

- [WSP Fire Inspection & Plan Review Site](#),
- [S&C: 16-29-LSC](#)
- [RCW 19.27.031](#) – State building code – Adoption – Conflicts – Opinions,
- [Chapter 51-50 WAC](#) – State building code adoption and amendment of the 2021 edition of the international building code,
- [Chapter 51-51 WAC](#) - State building code adoption and amendment of the 2021 edition of the international residential code,
- [Chapter 70.92 RCW](#) – Provisions in buildings for aged and handicapped persons.

ALTSA Provider Letter: **INCREASED REGULATORY FOCUS BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE
FIRE MARSHAL (OSFM) – ENHANCED SERVICES FACILITIES (ESF)**

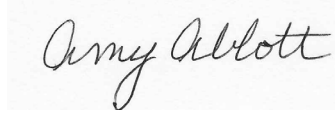
January 30, 2025

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For questions about Life Safety Code regulations, please contact Cozetta Christian, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal at (360) 584-5796 or Cozetta.Christian@wsp.wa.gov.

Please submit policy questions to the RCS Policy Unit at: rcspolicy@dshs.wa.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Partnering with People"*