Nurses’ Station & Resident Call System

4658.2000 SECURED UNITS.

Subpart 1. **Secured unit, definition.** For purposes of parts 4658.2000 to 4658.2090, "secured unit" means a nursing home unit in which a resident’s horizontal and vertical access in or out of the unit is restricted.

Subp. 2. **Locked unit, definition.** For purposes of parts 4658.2000 to 4658.2090, "locked unit" means a nursing home unit in which a resident’s access is restricted because the doors to the unit are locked from the outside. A locked unit is a form of secured unit.

Subp. 3. **Criteria for assignment to secured unit.** A resident may be assigned to placement in a secured unit only if the results of a comprehensive resident assessment as required by part 4658.0400 indicate that resident requires a more secure environment and there is a physician’s written order for placement in a secured unit. A resident may choose to reside in a secured unit if the comprehensive resident assessment and plan of care as required by parts 4658.0400 and 4658.0405 determine that placement in a secured unit is appropriate for that resident.

Subp. 4. **Approval by state fire marshal.** Fire safety systems and locking arrangements must be reviewed and approved by the state fire marshal according to part 4658.4030 before operation as a secured unit.

Subp. 5. **Approval by department.** A secured unit must be approved by the department according to part 4658.4030 before operation as a secured unit. Any significant change to the statement of operations for the secured unit, as required by part 4658.2020, must be reviewed and approved by the department before making the change.

4658.5020 NURSING AREA; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.

Subpart 1. **Nurses’ station.** At least one nurses’ station must be provided per resident floor. A nurses’ station may serve more than one nursing area on the same floor if the maximum distance from resident bedrooms does not exceed that required in part 4658.5000, subpart 5. The nurses’ station must be equipped to receive resident calls through a communication system from resident rooms and toilet and bathing facilities.

Subp. 2. **Clean utility room.** A clean utility room must be provided within each nursing area.

Subp. 3. **Soiled utility room.** A separate soiled utility room must be provided within each nursing area. It must contain handwashing facilities and a clinical service sink for disposal of waste materials and the cleanup of soiled linen and utensils. Cabinets and shelving must be provided for the storage of materials and supplies.
4658.5035 HANDWASHING FACILITIES; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.
Handwashing facilities must be available for persons providing services to residents. Single-service towels must be available. Use of a common towel is prohibited.

4658.5240 REHABILITATIVE SERVICES AREAS; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.
Subpart 1. Specialized rehabilitative therapy area. A specialized rehabilitative therapy service, if provided, must be provided space and equipment for exercise and treatment which meets the needs of a medically directed therapy program and of the residents receiving services. Each treatment area must be designed and equipped to protect residents' visual privacy. A lavatory or sink must be conveniently located to all rehabilitative service areas. Space for administrative activities and storage of supplies and equipment must be provided for any rehabilitative service provided.

Subp. 2. Physical therapy area. A physical therapy area, if provided, must have a lavatory or sink with institutional fittings and a single-service towel dispenser. A toilet room must be located convenient to the physical therapy area.

4658.5515 NURSE CALL SYSTEM; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.
A communication system must be provided in a nursing home. It must register a call from the resident at the nursing station and activate a signal light by the bedroom door.

Shower/Tub Room

4658.5025 TOILET ROOMS AND SANITARY FIXTURES; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.
A nursing home must have at least one toilet and one sink for eight beds, and at least one shower or tub for 20 beds. When the licensed bed capacity is increased, the requirements under part 4658.4135 apply to the new addition. In resident toilet rooms where grab bars or towel bars are not provided, bars must be installed according to part 4658.4145 to the extent that the room arrangements will permit. A toilet room must have a sink and all sinks must be provided with hot and cold water.

4658.5030 CENTRAL BATHING AREA; EXISTING CONSTRUCTION.
Subpart 1. Fixtures. Bathing fixtures must be provided in accordance with part 4658.5025.

Subp. 2. Bathing areas.

A. In bathing areas with more than one fixture, each bathtub or shower area must have privacy curtains or wall dividers.

B. Bathtubs and showers must have a nonslip bottom or floor surface, and at least one grab bar, securely anchored, must be provided at each fixture.

C. If a toilet is located within an open area with multiple bathing fixtures, the toilet area must have privacy curtains or stall partitions.

New Construction: Nursing Unit

4658.4125 NURSING AREA; NEW CONSTRUCTION.
Subpart 1. **Nurses’ station.** At least one nurses’ station must be provided per resident floor. A nurses’ station may serve more than one nursing area on the same floor if the maximum distance from resident bedrooms does not exceed that required in part 4658.4105, subpart 8. The nurses’ station must be equipped to receive resident calls through a communication system from resident rooms and toilet and bathing facilities.

Subp. 2. **Location.** Each nursing station must be located to provide for observation of corridors, residents, and resident calls. Private space must be provided for charting, storage of charts and supplies, and medicine preparation. The medication preparation area may be within the nurses’ station or the clean utility room. Each nurses’ station must contain facilities for cleanup and handwashing.

Subp. 3. **Staff toilet.** A separate staff toilet room must be provided near the nurses’ station.

Subp. 4. **Clean utility room.** A clean utility room must be provided within each nursing area. The clean utility room must contain a sink with institutional fittings. Cabinets and shelving must be provided for the storage of materials and supplies.

Subp. 5. **Soiled utility room.** A separate soiled utility room must be provided within each nursing area. It must contain handwashing facilities and a clinical service sink for disposal of waste materials and the cleanup of soiled linen and utensils. Cabinets and shelving must be provided for the storage of materials and supplies.

### 4658.4155 CENTRAL BATHING AREA; NEW CONSTRUCTION.

Subpart 1. **Fixtures.** Bathing fixtures must be provided in accordance with part 4658.4135.

Subp. 2. **General requirements.**
A. In bathing areas with more than one fixture, each bathtub or shower area must be provided with privacy curtains or wall dividers.
B. If a toilet is located within an open area with multiple bathing fixtures, the toilet area must be provided with privacy curtains or stall partitions.
C. All bathtub and shower areas must be designed for assisted bathing.
D. The bathing area must have direct access to a toilet room or space without going through the general corridor, and the toilet room or space must allow space for assistance of residents according to part 4658.4150.
E. Bathtubs and showers must be provided with a nonslip bottom or floor surface and at least one grab bar, securely anchored, must be provided at each fixture.
F. If towel bars are provided, they must be horizontal grab bars, securely anchored.
G. A bar soap holder, if provided, must be without handles and recessed.
H. The door or doors to the bathing area must have privacy door locks. Hinged doors must swing out, or they must be double acting and be provided with an emergency-type release stop.

Subp. 3. **Shower areas.**
A. Central showers must not be less than 48 inches by 48 inches, or 54 inches by 42 inches with the long side open, without a curb, and with a 32-inch high splash protection.
B. The shower area must have controls located near the splash protection for easy reach by both resident and attendant. A flexible hose hand shower must be provided.
C. A vertical, nonslip grab bar, 24 inches long, must be provided at the shower and at the shower
entrance location. The low end of the grab bar must be 36 inches above the floor. Horizontal grab bars inside the wet areas must be mounted at a height of 54 inches above the floor.

Subp. 4. **Bathtub areas.**

A. The location of the tub and the design of the central bathing area must allow a minimum of four feet of clearance around the working areas of the tub.
B. A pedestal used to elevate a standard-type bathtub must be provided with a finished cleanable surface, and include a toe space.
C. A flexible hose hand shower must be provided.
D. Horizontal or vertical grab bars must be located in proximity to the tub in order to accommodate safe use of the tub and the requirements of the bathing program, including drying of residents. These grab bars must be either wall-mounted or part of the tub design and construction.

**4658.4165 HANDWASHING FACILITIES; NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

Handwashing facilities must be available for persons providing services to residents. Single-service towels must be available at all times. Use of a common towel is prohibited.

**4658.4170 STORAGE; NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

Subpart 1. **Equipment and supplies.**

A. A storage room or rooms must be provided in each nursing area.
B. Total storage area within the nursing home for the storage of equipment and supplies must be provided in the amount of at least 15 square feet per bed including space for the storage of:
   (1) clean items and supplies in a clean utility room;
   (2) supplies and equipment for the activities program;
   (3) supplies and equipment in the barber and beauty shop room;
   (4) wheelchairs, walkers, and other adaptive equipment; and
   (5) bulk paper products.
C. Space for storage of food and linens must be provided in addition to the required storage area in item B.

**4658.4365 FACILITIES FOR PERSONNEL; NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

Locker and toilet facilities must be provided for personnel.

**4658.4370 REHABILITATIVE SERVICES AREAS; NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

Subpart 1. **Specialized rehabilitative services area.** Each specialized rehabilitative therapy service provided must be provided space and equipment for exercise and treatment which meets the needs of a medically directed therapy program and of the residents receiving services. Each treatment area must be designed and equipped to protect residents' visual privacy. A lavatory or sink must be conveniently located to all rehabilitative services areas. Space for administrative activities and storage of supplies and equipment must be provided for any rehabilitative service provided.

Subp. 2. **Physical therapy area.** The physical therapy area must be provided with a lavatory or sink with institutional fittings and a single-service towel dispenser.
Subp. 3. **Physical therapy area toilet room.** A toilet room must be located within or adjacent to the physical therapy area. Access to this toilet room must be provided from within the physical therapy area. This toilet room may also serve the general corridor. The toilet room must comply with the requirements for handicapped accessible toilet rooms in part 4658.4150.

**4658.4635 NURSE CALL SYSTEM; NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

The nurses’ station must be equipped with a communication system designed to receive calls from the resident and nursing service areas required by this part. The communication system, if electrically powered, must be connected to the emergency power supply. Nurse calls and emergency calls must be capable of being inactivated only at the points of origin. A central annunciator must be provided where the door is not visible from the nurses’ station.

A. A nurse call must be provided for each resident’s bed. Call cords, buttons, or other communication devices must be placed where they are within reach of each resident. A call from a resident must register at the nurses’ station, activate a light outside the resident bedroom, and activate a duty signal in the medication room, nourishment area, clean utility room, soiled utility room, and sterilizing room. In multicorridor nursing units, visible signal lights must be provided at corridor intersections.

B. An emergency call must be provided in each resident toilet room, in all areas used for resident bathing, dayrooms, therapy areas, and activity areas. If a pull cord is provided it must extend to within six inches above the floor. A push-button type emergency call must be installed at a height of 24 inches. An emergency call must register a call from a resident at the nurses’ station, activate a duty signal in the medication room, nourishment area, clean utility room, soiled utility room, and sterilizing room, and activate a signal light by the bedroom door. The emergency duty signal must provide a visual signal light and an audible alarm.

C. If a nurse call system provides two-way voice communication, it must be equipped with an indicator light at each call station which lights and remains lighted as long as the voice circuit is operating. Nurse calls of this type may be capable of being inactivated at the nurses’ station.

**Summary:** Secured Unit; Hand-washing Facilities; Location of Nurses’ Station; Utility Room; Shower Dimensions; Location of Bathing Facilities; Storage; Physical Therapy Area; Call System (New Construction)