

.24 Emergency and Disaster Plan.

A. Emergency and Disaster Plan.

(1) The licensee shall develop an emergency and disaster plan that includes procedures that shall be followed before, during, and after an emergency or disaster, including:

(a) Evacuation, transportation, or shelter in place of residents;

(b) Notification of families and staff regarding the action that will be taken concerning the safety and well-being of the residents;

(c) Staff coverage, organization, and assignment of responsibilities for ongoing shelter in place or evacuation, including identification of staff members available to report to work or remain for extended periods; and

(d) The continuity of services, including:

(i) Operations, planning, and financial and logistical arrangements;

(ii) Procuring essential goods, equipment, and services to sustain operations for at least 72 hours;

(iii) Relocation to alternate facilities or other locations; and

(iv) Reasonable efforts to continue care.

(2) The licensee shall have a tracking system to locate and identify residents in the event of displacement due to an emergency or disaster that includes at a minimum the:

(a) Resident's name;

(b) Time that the resident was sent to the initial alternative facility or location; and

(c) Name of the initial alternative facility or location where the resident was sent.

(3) When the nursing facility relocates residents, the facility shall send a brief medical fact sheet with each resident that includes at a minimum the resident's:

(a) Name;

(b) Medical condition or diagnosis;

(c) Medications;

(d) Allergies;

(e) Special diets or dietary restrictions; and

(f) Family or legal representative contact information.

(4) The brief medical fact sheet for each resident described in §A(3) of this regulation shall be:

(a) Updated upon the occurrence of any change of information on the medical fact sheet;

(b) Reviewed at least monthly; and

(c) Maintained in a central location readily accessible and available to accompany residents in case of an emergency evacuation.

(5) The licensee shall review the emergency and disaster plan at least annually and update the plan as necessary.

(6) The licensee shall:

(a) Identify a facility, facilities, alternate location, or alternate locations that have agreed to house the licensee's residents during an emergency evacuation; and

(b) Document an agreement with each facility or location.

(7) The licensee shall:

(a) Identify a source or sources of transportation that have agreed to safely transport residents during an emergency evacuation; and

(b) Document an agreement with each transportation source.

(8) Upon request, a licensee shall provide a copy of the facility's emergency and disaster plan to the local emergency management organization for the purposes of coordinating local emergency planning. The licensee shall provide the emergency and disaster plan in a format that is mutually agreeable to the local emergency management organization.

(9) The licensee shall identify an emergency and disaster planning liaison for the facility and shall provide the liaison's contact information to the local emergency management organization.

(10) The licensee shall prepare an executive summary of its evacuation procedures to provide to a resident, family member, or legal representative upon request. The summary shall, at a minimum:

(a) List means of potential transportation to be used in the event of evacuation;

(b) List potential alternative facilities or locations to be used in the event of evacuation;

(c) Describe means of communication with family members and legal representatives;

(d) Describe the role and responsibilities of the resident, family member, or legal representative in the event of an emergency situation; and

(e) Notify families that the information provided may change depending upon the nature or scope of the emergency or disaster.

B. Evacuation Plans. The facility shall conspicuously post individual floor plans with designated evacuation routes on each floor.

C. Orientation and Drills.

(1) The licensee shall:

(a) Orient staff to the emergency and disaster plan and to their individual responsibilities within 24 hours of the commencement of job duties; and

(b) Document completion of the orientation in the staff member's personnel file through the signature of the employee.

(2) Fire Drills.

(a) The licensee shall conduct fire drills at least quarterly on all shifts.

(b) The licensee shall:

(i) Document completion of each drill;

(ii) Have all staff who participated in the drill sign the document; and

(iii) Maintain the documentation on file for a minimum of 2 years.

(3) Semiannual Emergency and Disaster Drill.

(a) The licensee shall conduct a semiannual emergency and disaster drill on all shifts during which the facility practices evacuating residents or sheltering in place so that each is practiced at least one time a year.

(b) The drills may be conducted via a table-top exercise if the licensee can demonstrate that moving residents will be harmful to the residents.

(c) Documentation. The licensee shall:

(i) Document completion of each drill or training session;

(ii) Have all staff who participated in the drill or training sign the document;

(iii) Document any opportunities for improvement as identified as a result of the drill; and

(iv) Keep the documentation on file for a minimum of 2 years.

(4) The licensee shall cooperate with the local emergency management agency in emergency planning, training, and drills and in the event of an actual emergency.