Resident Bedroom

B. The minimum resident capacity of a nursing home shall be 150 square feet gross area per resident. Bedroom square footage per bed is a part of this gross area.

A. Resident bedrooms shall be designed and equipped for adequate nursing care, comfort, and privacy of residents. Each resident bedroom shall have a floor, walls, and ceilings in good repair and so finished as to enable satisfactory cleaning.

B. Each resident’s bedroom shall have a floor at or above grade level; accommodate no more than four residents; have a minimum width of not less than 10 feet; have a ceiling height of at least 7 feet; have electrical outlets in accordance with the *National Electrical Code* of which the construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal’s Office; have direct access to an exit corridor; and be so situated that passage through another resident’s bedroom is unnecessary.

D. Private resident bedrooms shall measure at least 100 square feet of bedroom area.

E. Multiple resident bedrooms shall measure at least 80 square feet of bedroom area for each resident.

F. There shall be at least three feet between the sides and foot of the bed and any wall, other fixed obstruction, or other bed, unless the furniture arrangement is the resident’s preference and does not interfere with service delivery. In nursing homes or additions to nursing homes in which construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office after January 20, 1998, there shall be at least 4 feet between the sides and foot of the bed and any wall, other fixed obstruction, or other bed, unless the furniture arrangement is the resident’s preference and does not interfere with service delivery.

G. Each resident’s bedroom shall have at least one window opening to the outside atmosphere. Windows with sills less than 30 inches from the floor shall be provided with guard rails.

H. Each resident’s bedroom window shall be provided with shades, curtains, drapes, or blinds.

A. Each resident shall be provided with an individual bed of proper size and height for the convenience of the resident and equipped with:

1. a clean spring in good repair;

2. a clean, comfortable, well-constructed mattress at least 5 inches thick with waterproof ticking and correct size to fit the bed;

3. a clean, comfortable pillow shall be provided for each bed with extra pillows available to meet the needs of the residents;

4. adequate bed rails, when necessary, to meet the needs of the resident; and
5. sheets and covers appropriate to the weather and climate.

B. Screens or noncombustible ceiling-suspended privacy curtains which extend around the bed shall be provided for each bed in multiresident bedrooms to assure resident privacy. Total visual privacy without obstructing the passage of other residents either to the corridor, closet, lavatory, or adjacent toilet room nor fully encapsulating the bedroom window must be provided.

C. The nurses' call system cords, buttons, or other communication mechanisms shall be placed where they are within reach of each resident.

D. Each resident shall be provided a bedside table with at least two drawers, and an enclosed hanging space for clothing that is accessible to the resident. As appropriate to resident needs, each resident shall have a comfortable chair with armrests, waste receptacle, and access to mirror unless medically contraindicated.

E. Each resident who has tray service to his/her room shall be provided with an adjustable overbed table positioned so that the resident can eat comfortably.

F. Each resident shall be provided with a bedside light or over-the-bed light capable of being operated from the bed for nursing homes in which construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office after May 1, 1997.

**Toilet Area**

A. Each floor occupied by residents shall be provided with a toilet and lavatory, and either a bathtub or shower.

B. Each bedroom shall be equipped with or conveniently located near adequate toilet and bathing facilities appropriate in number, size, and design to meet the needs of residents.

C. In nursing homes built prior to August 26, 1958, the following ratio shall be provided (whenever calculations include any fraction of a fixture, the next higher whole number of fixtures shall be installed).

| Lavatories | 1:10 beds |
| Toilets     | 1:10 beds |
| Showers or tubs | 1:15 beds |

D. In nursing homes built after August 26, 1958, the following ratio shall be provided (whenever calculations include any fraction of a fixture, the next higher whole number of fixtures shall be installed).

| Lavatories | One per bedroom or immediately adjacent thereto |
| Toilets     | 1:8 beds |
| Showers or tubs | 1:10 beds |

E. Bathrooms shall be easily accessible, conveniently located, well lighted, and ventilated to the outside atmosphere. Doors to bathrooms and toilet rooms used by residents shall be at least 2 feet 8 inches wide. The fixtures shall be of substantial construction, in good repair, and of such design to enable satisfactory cleaning.
F. Tub and shower bath bottoms shall be of nonslip material. Grab bars shall be provided to prevent falling and to assist in getting in and out of the tub or shower.

H. Lights must be controlled by wall switches, which must be so placed that they cannot be reached from the bathtub, whirlpool, or shower.

**New Construction: Room and Bath**

**Summary:** Floor, Walls and Ceilings in Good Repair; Minimum Room Size (Date-Specific), Minimum Ceiling Height; Space Between Beds; Room Capacity; Minimum Linens Specified; Noncombustible Privacy Curtains; Minimum Square Feet per Resident; Toilet Room Capacity (Date-Specific); Lavatory Capacity (Date-Specific)