

WV State Fire Marshal

Minimum Requirements for Day Care Centers

As of May 1, 2024

	Child Day Care	Family Group Day Care	Family Home Day Care
Number of Children	More than 12	7-12	6 or less
Occupant Load Factor	1 person/35 SF	None	None
Sprinkler Requirement	Required	No Requirement	No Requirement
Fire Alarm System	Required	Hardwired Single-station and multi-station smoke alarms shall be in Accordance with NFPA 72	Hardwired Single-station and multi-station smoke alarms shall be in Accordance with NFPA 72
Smoke Detectors	Connected to Fire Alarm System	Interconnected Smoke Alarms in new Construction or in a Mixed occupancy	Interconnected smoke alarms in new construction
Number of exits	2 remote from each floor	2 remote from each Floor	2 remote from each floor. Second can be a window
Travel distance to Exits	200 ft (from any Point in the room)	150 ft (from any point in the room)	150 ft (from any point in the room)
Dead Ends	50 ft Max	20 ft Max	20 ft Max
Exit Discharge	To outside	At least 1 directly to outside	At least 1 directly to outside
Fire Drills	1 per month	1 per month	1 per month
Door Latches (Closet)	Child can open from Inside	Child can open from inside	Child can open from inside
Door Locks (Bathrooms)	Staff can unlock without a key in an emergency	Staff can unlock without a key in an emergency	Staff can unlock without a key in an emergency
Illumination of Means of Egress	If open after daylight	If open after daylight	If open after daylight
Exit Signs	Required	No Requirement	No Requirement

Emergency Lighting	Exits and windowless Rooms	Not required Operable flashlight for Each staff member	Not required Operable flashlight for Each staff member
Protection of Vertical Openings	Sprinkled	20 Minute Separation	Not Required
Hazard Protection	Sprinkled	No Requirement	No Requirement
Interior Wall & Ceiling Finish	Class A in stairways, Corridors and Lobbies Class a or B in all other Areas	No Requirement	No Requirement
Exit Corridor Width	36 inches	36 inches	No Requirement
Corridor Wall Separation	Sprinkled	No Requirement	No Requirement
Windows in sleeping, living & dining Rooms for Rescue/Ventilation	Sprinkled	Required	No Requirement
Fire Extinguishers	Required	Required	Required
Electrical Equipment	Shall meet NFPA 70 Receptacles must be Tamper resistant	Shall meet NFPA 70 Receptacles must be Tamper resistant	Shall meet NFPA 70 Receptacles must be Tamper resistant
Unvented Fuel-Fired Heaters	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	Not Permitted