

Fire Drills:

The purpose of a fire drill is to practice the swift removal of all building occupants to a safe area of refuge.

BEFORE THE DRILL

1. Remember that all exits are to be unlocked and unobstructed.
2. Designate specific staff members to be responsible for the planning and scheduling of fire drills.
3. Designate a safe area at least 50 feet from the building. This area should be safe from dangers of fire, fire department operations, and public vehicles.

CONDUCTING THE DRILL – Keep it as real as possible.

- *Conduct drills on different days of the week and at different times of day
- *Use the fire alarm system to initiate the fire drill
- *Remember to use a different initiating device each month
- *Don't announce the drills ahead of time
- *All occupants must participate (Exceptions for healthcare occupancies)
- *Utilize scenarios to gain staff participation
- *If any fire alarm equipment is found to be inoperable during the drill, it should be repaired immediately
- *After it is verified that a successful evacuation has taken place, the building may be occupied

SCHOOLS:

An emergency preparedness drill must be held 9 times the whole school year. The drills are divided up as the following: Four (4) fire drills, two (2) tornado drills and three (3) crisis drills. Crisis drills shall include, but are not limited to, intruder response drills and lockdown drills. These nine (9) drills must be completed during the school year.

After the alarm sounds, students should proceed in an organized manner to their area of safety, using a designated evacuation route. Staff should account for the children upon reaching the safe area. After the evacuation, faculty and staff should verify that all occupants have evacuated. Restrooms and other closed areas should be checked out by sight and voice.

HEALTHCARE

- A fire drill must be held once per shift per quarter. A silent drill may be conducted between the hours of 9:00PM and 6:00AM, a coded announcement may be used instead of the audible alarm.
- Once the fire emergency is discovered, the basic response of staff shall include the removal of all residents directly involved with the fire, provide notification to other building occupants, close all doors to try and confine the fire, and the relocation of residents to another protected area -After the evacuation, faculty and staff should verify that all occupants have evacuated. Restrooms and other closed areas should be checked out by sight and voice.

DOCUMENTING THE DRILL:

- *Completely fill out the form (Several different forms are provided below)
- *Each building must have its own separate drill record, count of participants, and evacuation time.
- *Keep completed yearly records for at least three years.

Facility Name	Year(s) of Drills
Address	Responsible Party Name & Title
City, State, Zip	Facility/License #
Phone	Fax

Emergency Preparedness Drills

Type	Date of Drill	Time of Day	Number of Occupants	Responsible Party Name	How long was fire drill evacuation, start to finish?
Fire (1x)					
Fire (2x)					
Fire (3x)					
Fire (4x)					
Tornado (September)					
Tornado (March)					
Crisis (1x)					
Crisis (2x)					
Crisis (3x)					

POST IN CONSPICUOUS LOCATION

When ALL REQUIRED DRILLS have been conducted, maintain the original or copy of the drill record IN YOUR FILES ONLY for a period of not less than 5 years for future verification by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.