

# Specifications

## Fire extinguishers:

- A minimum of one dry chemical fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A:10B:C.
- The handle must be no more than 5 feet from the top of the handle to the floor.
- The bottom of the fire extinguisher must be at least 4" from the floor.



## If installing a bell instead of a horn strobe, then shall be located:

- In a location that is central inside the home or on the exterior front of the house and audible inside the home.

For additional questions or concerns about installing fire safety related equipment, call the Fire Prevention Division.

## Location of a manual pull station:

- Near a location on the way out of the home.
- Mounted so that the handle is between 42" and 54" above the floor.



## Location of a horn strobe(s):

- In a central location so the entire daycare portion of the home can hear the alarm.
- Mounted so that the lens of the strobe is between 80" and 96" above the floor.



**CITY OF  
BERKELEY FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

*Fire Prevention Division*

## Small & Large Family Day Care Requirements



**CITY OF BERKELEY FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**

2100 Martin Luther King Jr Way, 2nd Floor  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Phone: 510-981-5585

Fax: 510-981-5579

Email: [fire@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:fire@cityofberkeley.info)

# Family Day Cares

# Fire & Life Safety

# Large Family Day Care



### What is a family day care?

- ◇ Care provider lives in the home
- ◇ Cares for 14 or fewer children
- ◇ Day care operates < 24 hour/day

### What is a small versus large family day care?

- ◇ Small = 8 or fewer children
- ◇ Large = 9 to 14 children
- ◇ Includes children less than 10 years old who live in the home with the provider

### Licensing requirements in the City of Berkeley

- ◇ Zoning Certificate OR Administrative Use Permit
- ◇ Business License
- ◇ Community Care License from the State of California
- ◇ NOTE: Starting in January 2020, Senate Bill 234, Keeping Kids Close to Home Act, will exempt zoning and permitting requirements for family day cares.

### Fire & life safety requirements for ALL family day cares:

- ◇ Smoke alarms in every sleeping area/ room, hallway leading to bedrooms, and each floor
- ◇ Carbon monoxide alarm on every floor of the residence
- ◇ At least one fire extinguisher that has been serviced & tagged annually

### Considerations for ALL family day cares:

- ◇ If a basement is being used for daycare purposes, then one of the two required exits shall provide access directly to the exterior without entering the first story.
- ◇ Rooms used for daycare purposes shall not be located above the first story, unless it is fully sprinklered and at least one exit has direct access to the exterior.

### Fire & life safety requirements for LARGE family day cares:

- ◇ Every story or basement of a large family daycare home shall be provided with two exits which are remotely located from each other.
- ◇ Every required exit shall provide a door not less than 32 inches in clear width and not less than 6 feet 8 inches in height. A manually operated horizontal sliding door may be used as one of the two required exits.

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### Fire & life safety requirements for LARGE family day cares: (continued)

- ◇ Where basements are used for daycare purposes, one of the two required exits shall provide access directly to the exterior without entering the first story. The second exit from the basement may either pass through the story above or exit directly to the exterior.
- ◇ Rooms used for daycare purposes shall not be located above the first story. Exception: Buildings equipped with an automatic sprinkler system throughout and which have at least one of the required exits providing access directly to the exterior.
- ◇ Exit doors, including manually operated horizontal sliding doors, shall be openable from the inside without use of a key or any special knowledge or effort.
- ◇ Every large family daycare home shall be provided with at least one manual fire alarm box at a location approved by the fire code official. Such device shall actuate a fire alarm signal, which shall be audible throughout the facility at a minimum level of 15 db above ambient noise level. Such device or devices shall be attached to the structure and must be a device that is listed and approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.