

## Physical Plant Codes & Standards Crosswalk for Assisted Living Centers

Arizona Department of Health Services  
Bureau of Residential Facilities Licensing

Per Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R9-10-820(A), an assisted living center (*as defined in [A.R.S. § 36-401\(A\)\(8\)](#)*) must comply with the applicable physical plant health and safety codes and standards, incorporated by reference in A.A.C. R9-10-104.01, that are applicable to the level of services planned to be provided or being provided; and were in effect on the date the assisted living facility (*as defined in [A.R.S. § 36-401\(A\)\(9\)](#)*) submitted architectural plans and specifications to the Department for approval, according to A.A.C. R9-10-104. Additionally, assisted living centers must comply with all applicable physical plant standards included in A.A.C. R9-10-820(B-G). The table below includes a summary of the applicable physical plant codes and standards for assisted living centers. Please note that to ensure compliance with all regulations that govern assisted living centers, it is important to review [Title 9, Chapter 10, Articles 1 and 8](#) in addition to the table below.

### Physical Plant Codes and Standards Summary (*based on the level of care*)

Level of Care	Level of Care Defined	Arizona Administrative Code References ( <a href="#">Title 9, Chapter 10, Articles 1 and 8</a> )	Physical Plant Health and Safety Codes & Standards References (per A.A.C. R9-10-104.01)
<b>Directed Care Services</b>	<a href="#">A.R.S. § 36-401(A)(16)</a> :  “Directed care services” means programs and services, including supervisory and personal care services, that are provided to persons who are incapable of recognizing danger, summoning assistance, expressing need or making basic care decisions.	A.A.C. R9-10-104 Approval of Architectural Plans and Specifications  A.A.C. R9-10-104.01 Codes and Standards*  A.A.C. R9-10-820 Physical Plant Standards**  *Per A.A.C. R9-10-104.01(A): A. For a health care institution that is required by this Chapter to comply with any of the physical plant codes and standards incorporated by reference in this Section, an applicant shall follow the requirements in subsection (B), except as follows: 1. Physical plant standards specified in applicable Articles of this Chapter shall govern over the codes and standards incorporated by reference in subsection (B); and 2. If a conflict occurs among the codes and standards incorporated by reference in subsection (B), the more restrictive codes and standards shall govern over the less restrictive  **Per A.A.C. R9-10-820(A): A. A manager shall ensure that an assisted living center complies with the applicable physical plant health and safety codes and standards, incorporated by reference in R9-10-104.01, that: 1. Are applicable to the level of services planned to be provided or being provided; and 2. Were in effect on the date the assisted living facility submitted architectural plans and specifications to the Department for approval, according to R9-10-104	2012 NFPA 101, 3.3.188.7:  “Health care occupancy” means an occupancy used to provide medical or other treatment or care ...where such patients are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability...”  2012 NFPA 101, <i>Chap. 18 New Health Care Occupancies</i> ; <i>Limited Care Facility, 101-3.3.88.2</i> :  “A building or portion of a building used on a 24-hour basis for the housing of four or more persons who are incapable of self-preservation because of age; physical limitations due to accident or illness; or limitations such as mental retardation/developmental disability, mental illness, or chemical dependency”, including Table 18-1.6.1 Construction Type Limitations  2018 IBC, 308, <i>Occupancy, Group I-2</i> :  “...and the Group includes but not limited to: Foster care facilities, Detoxification facilities, Hospitals, Nursing homes and Psychiatric hospitals,... for persons who are incapable of self-preservation.”
<b>Personal Care Services</b>	<a href="#">A.R.S. § 36-401(A)(38)</a> :  “Personal care services” means assistance with activities of daily living that can be performed by persons without professional skills or professional training and includes the	<i>Same as above (see A.A.C. references under directed care services)</i>	2012 NFPA 101, <i>Chap. 32 New Residential Board and Care Occupancies, including Table 32.3.1.3 Construction Type Limitations</i>  2018 IBC, 308, <i>Occupancy, Group I-1, Condition 2</i> :  “This occupancy condition shall include buildings in which there are any persons receiving custodial care who require limited verbal or physical assistance while responding to an emergency situation to complete building evacuation.”

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	<p>coordination or provision of intermittent nursing services and the administration of medications and treatments by a nurse who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 25 or as otherwise provided by law.</p>		<p>“Custodial care” means assistance with day-to-day living tasks; such as assistance with cooking, taking medication, bathing, using toilet facilities and other tasks of daily living. Custodial care includes persons receiving care who have the ability to respond to emergency situations and evacuate at a slower rate and/or who have mental and psychiatric complications.</p>
<p><b>Supervisory Care Services</b></p>	<p><a href="#">A.R.S. § 36-401(A)(47)</a>: “Supervisory care services” means general supervision, including daily awareness of resident functioning and continuing needs, the ability to intervene in a crisis and assistance in the self-administration of prescribed medications.</p>	<p><i>Same as above (see A.A.C. references under directed care services)</i></p>	<p>2012 NFPA 101, 3.3.188.13: “Residential Occupancy” means an occupancy that provides sleeping accommodations for purposes other than health care or detention and correctional.</p> <p>2012 NFPA 101, <i>Apartment Buildings</i>, Table 6.1.14.4.1</p> <p>2018 IBC, 310.3, <i>Occupancy Group R-2</i>: Residential Group R-2 occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including: Apartment houses, Congregate living facilities (nontransient ) with more than 16 occupants</p>