

FRIENDSWOOD FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
— FAMILY FOSTER HOME QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE —
281-996-3335 / 1600 Whitaker Dr.

CHILDREN

- ✓ **Cannot have more than** 6 children. (MS/CPA-749.2551)
- ✓ **All Children shall be capable of** self-evacuation. (MS/CPA 3003)
- ✓ **Cannot have more than two** children younger than 24 months. (MS/CPA-749.2561)
- ✓ **Evacuation** of all occupants required in less than 3 minutes. (MS/CPA 3003)

FIRE PROTECTION / SAFETY

- ✓ **Home Address Identification is** required to be posted, legible and visible from the street. (IFC-505.1)
- ✓ **Working Smoke Detectors** required (Battery or hard-wired) (MS/CPA-749.2909)
- ✓ **Smoke Detector placement** shall include each sleeping room, hall areas and top of stairs for multi-story. Mounted per manufacturer's specs. (MS/CPA-749.2909)
- ✓ **Gas piping pressure test** required every 5 years. (AHJ)
- ✓ **Gas piping pressure test** required to be completed by licensed Plumber or Mechanical contractor approved for such testing. (IBC)
- ✓ **Gas piping pressure test** required to be permitted and approved by the City of Friendswood. (281-996-3201) (IBC-105)
- ✓ **Gas fired heaters/furnaces** are required to be inspected annually by a qualified technician. (MS/CPA 3003)
- ✓ **Gas appliances** are required to be equipped with metal tubing/connectors.
- ✓ **Portable unvented fuel fired heating equipment** shall be prohibited. (IFC-603.4)
- ✓ **Gas fired water heaters** are required to have a minimum clearance of 12 inches from all storage items.
- ✓ **Flammable liquids** are required to be stored in listed approved safety cans. (IFC-2703.9.10)
- ✓ **Matches/lighters** shall be kept out of reach of children at all times. (MS/CPA-749.2913)
- ✓ **Portable Fire Extinguisher** shall be mounted/available for use in kitchen. Minimum rating 2A-10B:C. Tagged/inspected by a licensed Fire Extinguisher Service Company. (NFPA 10-7.1.2.1)

ELECTRICAL

- ✓ **Extension Cords** are permitted for temporary use only. (IFC-605.5)
- ✓ **Appliance power cords** are required to be in good condition, (no frays or splices). (IFC-605.5.3)

EXITING

- ✓ **Exit doors and windows** within the primary and secondary paths of egress, in each sleeping room and living area, are required to be accessible and openable from the inside without the use of a key, special knowledge, or effort. (IFC-1008.1.9)
- ✓ **Double cylinder dead bolts** or any other locking devices requiring the use of a key to exit, are prohibited. (IFC-1008.1.9)
- ✓ **Security bars and grills** on doors and windows are prohibited. (AHJ)
- ✓ **Closet doors** required to be openable from the inside by a child. (MS/CPA 3003)
- ✓ **Bathroom doors** shall include provisions for being unlocked from the outside. (MS/CPA 3003)

FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

- ✓ **A Home Fire Escape Plan** shall be written and *rehearsed*. Such rehearsals shall be performed and *documented* monthly and include use of both primary and secondary routes of evacuation. A safe location outside shall be selected as a gathering point, away from responding emergency vehicles. (MS/CPA-749.2907)

The following document is provided as a courtesy to those currently participating in or considering family home foster care, as licensed by the State. The intent is to provide a quick-reference guide to fire and life safety requirements. It is not all-inclusive

***Code Reference Abbreviations as used in the
“Family Foster Home Quick Reference Guide”
are specified below:***

- 1. MS/CPA Minimum Standards for Child Placing Agencies – Sept. / 2010**
- 2. AHJ Authority Having Jurisdiction (Local Requirements)**
- 3. IBC International Building Code - 2009**
- 4. IFC International Fire Code – 2009**
- 5. NFPA National Fire Protection Association - 2010**

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