

**2007 California Building Code**  
**Chapter 10**  
**Means of Egress**

**SECTION 1002**

**PHOTOLUMINESCENT** is the property of emitting light as the result of absorption of visible light, which continues for a length of time after excitation.

**SELF-LUMINOUS** means powered continuously by a self-contained power source other than a battery of batteries, such as radioactive tritium gas. A self-luminous sign is independent of external power supplies or other energy for its operation.

**1011.1 Where required.** Exits and exit access doors shall be marked by an approved exit sign readily visible from any direction of egress travel. Access to exits shall be marked by readily visible exit signs in cases where the exit or the path of egress travel is not immediately visible to the occupants. Exit sign placement shall be such that no point in a corridor is more than 100 ft or the listed viewing distance for the sign, whichever is less, from the nearest visible exit sign.

**Exceptions:**

1. Exit signs are not required in rooms or areas that require only one exit or exit access.
2. Main exterior exit doors or gates that are obviously and clearly identifiable as exits need not have exit signs where approved by the building official.
3. Exit signs are not required in occupancies in Group U and individual sleeping units or dwelling units in Group R-1, R-2 or R-3.
4. Exit signs are not required in Group I-3 occupancies where inmates are housed or held.
5. In occupancies in Groups A-4 and A-5, exit signs are not required on the seating side of vomitories or openings into seating areas where exit signs are provided in the concourse that are readily apparent from the vomitories. Egress lighting is provided to identify each vomitory or opening within the seating area in an emergency.

**1011.6 Floor-level exit signs.** Where exit signs are required by Chapter 10, additional approved floor-level exit signs which are internally or externally illuminated, photoluminescent or self-luminous shall be provided in all interior corridors of Group A, E, I, R-1, R-2 and R-4 occupancies.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where path marking complying with Section 1011.7 is provided.
2. Group I-3 occupancies.

The bottom of the sign shall not be less than 6 inches (152 mm) or more than 8 inches (203 mm) above the floor level and shall indicate the path of exit travel. For exit and exit-access doors, the sign shall be on the door or adjacent to the door with the closest edge of the sign or marker within 4 inches (102 mm) of the door frame.

**1011.7 Path marking.** When exit signs are required by Chapter 10, approved path marking shall be installed at floor level or no higher than 8 inches (203 mm) above the floor level in all interior corridors of Group A, E, I, R-1, R-2 and R-4 occupancies. Such marking shall be continuous except as interrupted by doorways, corridors or other such architectural features in order to provide a visible delineation along the path of travel and shall comply with Section 1011.5.3.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where floor level exit signs complying with Section 1011.6 are provided.
2. Group I-3 occupancies.

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### **Definition of Occupancy Classifications**

**Assembly Group A.** Assembly Group A occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for the gathering of persons for purposes such as civic, social or religious functions; recreation, food or drink consumption; or awaiting transportation or motion picture and television production studio sound stages, approved production facilities and production locations.

**A-1** Assembly uses, usually with fixed seating, intended for the production and viewing of the performing arts or motion picture including, but not limited to:

Motion picture and television production studio sound stages, approved production facilities and production locations (with live audiences).

Motion picture theaters

Symphony and concert halls

Television and radio studios admitting an audience

Theaters

**A-2** Assembly uses intended for food and/or drink consumption including, but not limited to:

Banquet halls

Night clubs

Restaurants

Taverns and bars

**A-3** Assembly uses intended for worship, recreation or amusement and other assembly uses not classified elsewhere in Group A including, but not limited to:

Amusement arcades

Art galleries

Bowling alleys

Places of religious worship

Community halls

Courtrooms

Dance halls (not including food or drink consumption)

Exhibition halls

Funeral parlors

Gymnasiums (without spectator seating)

Indoor swimming pools (without spectator seating)

Indoor tennis courts (without spectator seating)

Lecture halls

Libraries

Museums

Waiting areas in transportation terminals

Pool and billiard parlors

**A-4** Assembly uses intended for viewing of indoor sporting events and activities with spectator seating including, but not limited to:

Arenas

Skating rinks

Swimming pools

Tennis courts

**A-5** Assembly uses intended for participation in or viewing outdoor activities including, but not limited to:

Amusement park structures

Bleachers

Grandstands

Stadiums

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### **Definition of Occupancy Classifications**

**Educational Group E.** Educational Group E occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, by more than six persons at any one time for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Religious educational rooms and religious auditoriums, which are accessory to places of religious worship in accordance with Section 508.3.1 and have occupant loads of less than 100, shall be classified as A-3 occupancies.

**Exception: [SFM]** A residence used as a home school for the children who normally reside at the residence. Such residences shall remain classified as Group R-2 or Group R-3 occupancies.

**Day care.** The use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, for educational, supervision or personal care services for more than six children older than 2½ years of age, shall be classified as a Group E occupancy.

**Exception: [SFM]** A day-care facility not otherwise classified as an R-3 occupancy, where occupants are not capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical assistance from the staff, shall be classified as Group I-4.

**Institutional Group I.** Institutional Group I occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, in which people are cared for or live in a supervised environment, having physical limitations because of health or age are harbored for medical treatment or other care or treatment, or in which people are detained for penal or correctional purposes or in which the liberty of the occupants is restricted. Institutional occupancies shall be classified as Group I-1, I-2, I-3 or I-4.

**Group I-1.** This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or parts thereof housing clients, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other reasons, live in a supervised residential environment that provides personal care services.

Assisted living facilities such as: Residential Care Facilities, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE's), Adult Residential Facilities, Congregate Living Health facilities, Group homes, Residential Care Facilities for the Chronically Ill, and Congregate Living Health Facilities for the Terminally Ill.

Social rehabilitation facilities such as: Halfway houses, Community Correctional Centers, Community Correction Reentry Centers, Community Treatment Programs, Work Furlough Programs, and Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities.

**Group I-2.** This occupancy shall include buildings and structures used for medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or custodial care on a 24-hour basis for more than six persons who are classified as nonambulatory or bedridden. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Hospitals

Nursing homes (both intermediate care facilities and skilled nursing facilities)

Mental hospitals

Detoxification facilities

**Child care facility.** A child care facility that provides care on a 24-hour basis to more than six children 2½ years of age or less shall be classified as Group I-2.

**Group I-2.1 ambulatory care facility.** A healthcare facility that receives persons for outpatient medical care that may render the patient incapable of unassisted self-preservation and where each tenant space accommodates more than five such patients.

**Group I-3.** This occupancy shall include buildings or portions of buildings and structures that are inhabited by one or more persons who are under restraint. An I-3 facility is occupied by persons who are restrained. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Prisons, Jails

Reformatories

Detention centers

Correctional centers, Juvenile Halls

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### **Definition of Occupancy Classifications**

**Group I-4, day care facilities.** This group shall include buildings and structures occupied by persons of any age who receive custodial care for less than 24 hours by individuals other than parents or guardians, relatives by blood, marriage or adoption and in a place other than the home of the person cared for. A facility such as the above with six or fewer persons shall be classified as a Group R-3. Places of worship during religious functions are not included.

**Adult care facility.** A facility that provides accommodations for less than 24 hours for more than six unrelated adults and provides supervision and personal care services shall be classified as Group I-4.

**Child care facility.** A facility that provides supervision and personal care on less than a 24-hour basis for more than six children 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years of age or less shall be classified as Group I-4.

**Exception:** A child day care facility that provides care for more than six but no more than 100 children 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years or less of age, when the rooms where such children are cared for are located on the level of exit discharge and each of these child care rooms has an exit door directly to the exterior, shall be classified as Group E.

**Residential Group R.** Residential Group R includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes when not classified as an Institutional Group I. Residential occupancies shall include the following:

**R-1** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units where the occupants are primarily transient in nature, including:

- Boarding houses (transient)
- Hotels (transient)
- Motels (transient)
- Efficiency dwelling units (transient)

**R-2** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including:

- Apartment houses
- Boarding houses (not transient)
- Convents
- Dormitories
- Fraternities and sororities
- Hotels (nontransient)
- Monasteries
- Motels (nontransient)
- Vacation timeshare properties
- Efficiency dwelling units (nontransient)
- Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer occupants are permitted to comply with the construction requirements for Group R-3.

**R-4** Residential occupancies shall include buildings arranged for occupancy as residential care/assisted living facilities including more than six ambulatory clients, excluding staff.

Group R-4 occupancies shall include the following:

Assisted living facilities such as: Residential care facilities, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE's), Adult Residential Facilities, Congregate Living Health facilities, and Group homes.

Social rehabilitation facilities such as: Halfway houses, Community Correctional Centers, Community Correction Reentry Centers, Community Treatment Programs, Work Furlough Programs, and Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities.