

Attachment to a Certificate of Occupancy
application for the building code use
“Ambulatory Care Facility”



The 2015 Edition of the International Building Code provides a definition for the use “**Ambulatory Care Facility**” as follows:

AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY. Buildings or portions thereof used to provide medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or similar care on a less than 24-hour basis to individuals who are rendered *incapable of self-preservation*. This group may include but is not limited to the following: colonic centers, dialysis centers, psychiatric centers, sedation dentistry, surgery centers.

Please refer to the life safety requirements for an “**Ambulatory Care Facility**” on the attached page (Section 422).

An applicant for a Certificate of Occupancy must execute this form attesting to any new or pre-existing conditions pertaining to the business model with any CO application for any doctor’s office, dentist office, medical office, or other similar office. The code requirements are prospective for any new “**Ambulatory Care Facility**” or for any newly expanded “**Ambulatory Care Facility.**” The code requirements do not affect legal existing businesses that may require a new CO. This form will capture the nonconforming elements of the building code with the CO application (use must have been continuous). The existing statements will become conditions on any issued COs. Any change in the character of the use of the business, such as a change in the number of persons/patients affected by treatment that may cause the building code requirements to be triggered, require a new CO and compliance with building code requirements.

Please make the appropriate check mark for both tenant space location and number of persons or Not Applicable.

FACILITIES CLASSIFIED AS AN AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY LOCATED ON GROUND FLOOR. If your tenant space is located on the ground floor and you are an “Ambulatory Care Facility” as defined that will utilize medical procedures that (*check only one*):

will render a maximum number of persons or patients that may be incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time **not to exceed 3**; or,

will render persons or patients incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time and the number of persons or patients that may be incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time **will exceed 3**.

FACILITIES CLASSIFIED AS AN AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY NOT LOCATED ON GROUND FLOOR. If your tenant space is **not** located on the ground floor and you are an “Ambulatory Care Facility” as defined that will utilize medical procedures that (*check only one*):

will render **no** patients incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time, or

will render **one** or more patients incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time

NOT APPLICABLE OR FACILITIES NOT CLASSIFIED AS AN AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY

If you are not an “Ambulatory Care Facility” as defined that will utilize medical procedures:

I will **not** render any person or patient incapable of self-preservation for any amount of time.

I certify that the location of the CO application is: _____ Suite _____ (*address*) and the initial establishment of this use occurred under C.O. number _____. I attest that the answers provided are accurate and understand that if changes are made to increase the number of patients that could be rendered incapable of self-preservation the facility must be made to comply with the currently adopted code.

Printed Name of Tenant/Owner

Date

Signature of Tenant/Owner

March 1, 2017

Excerpted from the 2015 Edition of the *International Building Code*:

SECTION 422 - AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

422.1 General. Occupancies classified as Group B ambulatory health care facilities shall comply with the provisions of Sections 422.1 through 422.5 and other applicable provisions of this code.

422.2 Separation. *Ambulatory care facilities* where the potential for four or more care recipients are to be *incapable of self-preservation* at any time, whether rendered incapable by staff or staff accepted responsibility for a care recipient already incapable, shall be separated from adjacent spaces, *corridors* or tenants with a *fire partition* installed in accordance with Section 708.

422.3 Smoke compartments. Where the aggregate area of one or more *ambulatory care facilities* is greater than 10,000 square feet (929 m²) on one *story*, the *story* shall be provided with a *smoke barrier* to subdivide the *story* into no fewer than two *smoke compartments*. The area of any one such *smoke compartment* shall be not greater than 22,500 square feet (2092 m²). The distance of travel from any point in a *smoke compartment* to a *smoke barrier* door shall be not greater than 200 feet (60 960 mm). The *smoke barrier* shall be installed in accordance with Section 709 with the exception that *smoke barriers* shall be continuous from outside wall to an outside wall, a floor to a floor, or from a *smoke barrier* to a *smoke barrier* or a combination thereof.

422.3.1 Means of egress. Where ambulatory care facilities require smoke compartmentalization in accordance with Section 422.3, the fire safety evacuation plans provided in accordance with Section 1001.4 shall identify the building components necessary to support a *defend-in-place* emergency response in accordance with Sections 404 and 408 of the *International Fire Code*.

422.3.2 Refuge area. Not less than 30 net square feet (2.8 m²) for each nonambulatory care recipient shall be provided within the aggregate area of *corridors*, care recipient rooms, treatment rooms, lounge or dining areas and other low-hazard areas within each *smoke compartment*. Each occupant of an *ambulatory care facility* shall be provided with access to a refuge area without passing through or utilizing adjacent tenant spaces.

422.3.3 Independent egress. A *means of egress* shall be provided from each *smoke compartment* created by smoke barriers without having to return through the *smoke compartment* from which *means of egress* originated.

[F] 422.4 Automatic sprinkler systems. *Automatic sprinkler systems* shall be provided for *ambulatory care facilities* in accordance with Section 903.2.2.

[F] 903.2.2 Ambulatory care facilities. An *automatic sprinkler system* shall be installed throughout the entire floor containing an ambulatory care facility where either of the following conditions exist at any time:

1. Four or more care recipients are incapable of self-preservation, whether rendered incapable by staff or staff has accepted responsibility for care recipients already incapable.
2. One or more care recipients that are incapable of self-preservation are located at other than the level of exit discharge serving such a facility.

In buildings where ambulatory care is provided on levels other than the *level of exit discharge*, an *automatic sprinkler system* shall be installed throughout the entire floor where such care is provided as well as all floors below, and all floors between the level of ambulatory care and the nearest *level of exit discharge*, including the *level of exit discharge*.

[F] 422.5 Fire alarm systems. A *fire alarm system* shall be provided for *ambulatory care facilities* in accordance with Section 907.2.2.1.

[F] 907.2.2.1 Ambulatory care facilities. *Fire areas* containing ambulatory care facilities shall be provided with an electronically supervised automatic smoke detection system installed within the ambulatory care facility and in public use areas outside of tenant spaces, including public *corridors* and elevator lobbies.

March 1, 2017