

Orange County
Adult Alcohol and Drug Sober Living Facilities Certification
Section 200 Inspection Requirements

Each sober living facility must be inspected by the local jurisdiction or the County of Orange to confirm that the building and grounds meet the requirements of Section 200 of the Certification Guidelines. The local jurisdiction or the County may inspect for only the items listed in section 200.

Section 200 Compliance with Codes, Permits and Other Requirements Related to Buildings and Grounds

Prior to certification, each sober living facility shall obtain from the applicable local jurisdiction an inspection and a written determination [called a “Section 200 Review”] that the facility complies with all of the following requirements:

1. Conformance with all locally applicable and regularly enforced zoning regulations.
2. Possession of all required local, county and state permits.
3. Conformance with applicable fire safety standards, including occupancy limit, smoke detectors and emergency exit plan.
4. Building and Grounds Requirements.
 - a) The facility shall be clean, safe, sanitary, and in good repair at all times.
 - b) The interior of the facility shall be free of flies and other insects.
 - c) The facility shall provide for the safe disposal of contaminated water and chemicals used for cleaning purposes.
 - d) Living areas in the facility shall be separate and secure. Permanent walls, floors, ceilings and doors shall enclose the facility’s living, sleeping, bathing and toileting areas. This does not preclude the use of more than one building or the use of wing(s) of a building or floor(s) of a building in meeting this requirement.
 - e) All residents shall be protected against safety hazards within the facility through provision of appropriate protective devices, including, but not limited to, non-slip material on rugs.
 - f) All outdoor and indoor passageways, stairways, inclines, ramps, open porches, and other areas of potential hazard shall be kept free of obstructions.
 - g) Permanent or portable storage space shall be available for storage of facility equipment and supplies. Facility equipment and supplies shall be stored in appropriate space and shall not be stored in space designed for other activities.
 - h) Every in-ground pool and every above-ground pool that cannot be emptied after each use shall have an operative pump and filtering system.
 - i) Adequate living space for each resident in the bedrooms and bathrooms shall be provided as follows: (1) Bedrooms shall not be overcrowded. The definition of a bedroom for the purposes of this requirement is the definition contained in the Uniform Building Code. There should be a minimum of 70 square feet for the first two people and 50 square feet for each additional person in bedrooms. (2) Each resident shall have a closet and dresser space made available to him/her.

- j) Adequate bathing, hand washing and toilet facilities shall be provided with a maximum ratio of one bathroom facility per six (6) residents. Space for each resident's toilet articles shall be provided.
- k) The bathrooms shall be clean, shall provide privacy, and shall contain general hygiene items such as soap and toilet paper.
- l) When female and male residents are housed in the same facility, the facility shall ensure minimal personal security and privacy, which shall include the following: (1) Separate and adequate toilet, hand washing, and bathing facilities for females and males. Such facilities shall be in proximity of designated sleeping quarters. (2) Separate and adequate sleeping areas for females and males. Such areas shall be enclosed by permanent walls, which extend from the floor to the ceiling and have permanent doors.
- m) Locks shall be placed on all exterior doors and windows in order to maintain proper security.

5. Fixtures, Furniture, Equipment and Supplies:

- a) A comfortable temperature for residents shall be maintained at all times.
- b) All window screens shall be in good repair and be free of insects, dirt and other debris.
- c) The facility shall provide lamps or lights as necessary in all rooms and other areas to ensure the safety of all persons in the facility.
- d) Hot water faucets used by residents for personal care shall meet the following requirements: (1) Hot water delivered to plumbing fixtures used by the residents shall not be less than 105 degrees Fahrenheit (40.5 degrees Celsius) and not more than 130 degrees Fahrenheit (54.4 degrees Celsius). (2) Taps delivering water at 131 degrees Fahrenheit (54.9 degrees Celsius) or above shall be prominently identified with warning signs.
- e) All toilets, hand washing and bathing facilities shall be maintained in safe and sanitary operating conditions.
- f) Solid waste shall be stored, located and disposed in such a manner that it will not transmit communicable diseases, emit odors, create a nuisance, or provide a breeding place or food source for insects or rodents. (1) All containers, including movable bins, used for storage of solid waste shall have tight fitting covers that are kept in place. The containers and covers shall be in good repair, leak proof and rodent proof. (2) Solid waste containers, including movable bins, receiving putrescible waste shall be emptied at least once per week or more often if necessary to comply with subsection (f) above.
- g) The facility shall provide each resident with clean linen in good repair, including lightweight, warm blankets; top and bottom sheets; pillowcases; mattress pads; bath towels and wash cloths. The quality of the linen provided shall permit changing, at a minimum, once a week or with greater frequency if needed.
- h) The facility shall provide each resident with an individual bed maintained in good repair, equipped with good springs and a clean mattress, and supplied with pillow(s), and with bed linens as described above. Bunk beds are not excluded provided they otherwise meet the requirements of this Section 200.