

## CODE WORD

This procedure is used to clarify provisions of the Harris County Fire Code. Its sole intent is to clarify what is acceptable practice.

**Issue Date:** March 1, 2007

**Subject:** *Assisted Living Facilities*

**Question:** What is required to permit an assisted living facility?

**Section of Regulation:** IBC 2006, Section 308 and 310

**Answer:** Facilities housing four (4) or more residents are regulated by the Harris County Fire Code and are required to have a full Fire Code review and Certificate of Compliance Inspection.

Facilities with three (3) or less residents are regulated by the International Residential Code and will be considered as a private residence, not regulated by the Harris County Fire Code.

See attached Table for Occupancy Classifications.



Building Official  
Harris County Texas



Fire Marshal  
Harris County, Texas

# USE AND OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION FOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

## 24 HOUR CARE

Age and capability of residents	4 or 5 occupants	6-16 occupants	Over 16 occupants
2 1/2 yrs. of age or less	R-3	I-2	I-2
Over 2 1/2 yrs. and capable of self preservation	R-3	R-4	I-1
Over 2 1/2 yrs. and not capable of self preservation	R-3	I-2	I-2