

CODE APPLICATION NOTICE

CODE SECTION: Sections ~~1108A.3 and 3504.1~~ 3505.1, ~~1995~~ 2001 California Building Code
(Sections ~~3104(f) and 6004(a)~~, 1992 California Building Code)

~~When fire-protective signaling systems are provided, in occupancies regulated by the State Fire Marshal (see Section 101.17 (Section 110, Item 13), 1995 California Building Code) they shall include visual alarms in the following areas:~~

Sec. 4-4.5 Notification Appliances for the Hearing Impaired. Approved notification appliances for the hearing impaired shall be installed in the following areas:

1. Restrooms
2. Corridors
3. Music practice rooms
4. Band rooms
5. Gymnasiums
6. Multipurpose rooms
7. Occupational shops
8. Occupied rooms where ambient noise impairs hearing of the fire alarm
9. Lobbies
10. Meeting rooms
11. Any other area for common use

INTERPRETATION:

When fire-protective signaling systems are provided, they shall include visual alarms in the following areas:

1. **RESTROOMS AND SIMILAR USES**, to include:
 - public restrooms
 - staff restrooms
 - patient restrooms, serving other than individual patient rooms
 - locker rooms
 - dressing rooms

Visual devices are not required in patient room restrooms provided exclusively for use by inpatients in I-1.1 Occupancies. Section 308.9 (~~Section 1009~~), ~~1995~~ 2001 California Building Code.

2. **CORRIDOR SYSTEM AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

public corridors
staff corridors
service corridors
vestibules
passageways

3. **GYMNASIUMS AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

physical therapy
rehabilitation therapy
occupational therapy

4. **MULTIPURPOSE ROOMS AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

auditoriums
dining rooms
cafeterias
outdoor patios & courts that require exiting through the building and are an occupiable portion of the building.

5. **OCCUPIED ROOMS WHERE AMBIENT NOISE IMPAIRS HEARING OF THE FIRE ALARM AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

kitchens
laundry areas
central sterilization
mechanical equipment rooms
generator rooms
boiler rooms
power plants

6. **LOBBIES AND SIMILAR USES, including elevator lobbies:**

No further specifications.

7. **MEETING ROOMS AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

conference rooms
waiting rooms
reception rooms/areas
lounges
chapels

8. **ANY OTHER AREA FOR COMMON USE WITH AN OCCUPANT LOAD OF AT LEAST SEVEN (7) AND SIMILAR USES, to include:**

- pharmacies
- laboratories
- office rooms/areas

9. **ROOMS USED FOR SLEEPING AND SIMILAR USES, (NOT TO INCLUDE PATIENT ROOMS).**

Sleeping rooms and suites for persons with hearing impairments shall have a visual fire alarm connected to the building fire-protective signaling system per Section 1111B.4.5 (~~Section 3104(g)~~, 1995 2001 California Building Code. Application of this requirement shall be by sleeping room/suite type (e.g. doctors sleeping, family sleeping, etc).

When used in lieu of audible devices in patient occupied areas, visual devices shall be located in all rooms and areas. Section 308.9 (~~Section 1009~~), 1995 2001 California Building Code.

REASON:

Clarification is needed to specify locations where visual devices are required in health care occupancies.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

9/21/04

Kurt A. Schaefer

Date