

Overview of Key Minnesota Regulations and Requirements

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Assisted Living

Each health care provider license in Minnesota has its own rules and requirements that providers must follow. These state regulations help protect residents and guide how assisted living services must be delivered.

This overview explains main Minnesota laws, rules, and safety codes that apply to all assisted living providers, including small providers and those offering assisted living with dementia care.

This list reflects Minnesota state government requirements only. It does not include any federal, county, or city requirements. All current and potential assisted living providers should consult the appropriate regulatory sources to ensure they understand every law that applies to their license type. This may include checking with county human services departments and confirming any applicable city licensing or zoning ordinances.

You can find additional information at the [Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\) website](https://www.mnhs.gov/minnesota-department-of-health).

Core Assisted Living Licensing Requirements

[Assisted Living Licensing Requirements \(Minnesota Statute 144G\)](#)

These laws explain what an assisted living facility (ALF) and assisted living facility with dementia care (ALFDC) must do to get and keep a Minnesota license. It includes rules for resident rights, staffing, training, assessments, contracts, services, and protections for residents with dementia.

[Assisted Living Rules \(Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 4659\)](#)

These rules outline detailed requirements for how assisted living services must be delivered, including expectations for safety practices, recordkeeping, emergency preparedness, and building-related operational standards that support safe and effective service delivery. They also provide important context and guidance to help providers understand and apply statutory requirements in practice.

Resident Protection and Safety Requirements

[Vulnerable Adult Maltreatment Reporting \(Minnesota Statute 626.557\)](#)

This law requires all staff (mandated reporters) to report any suspected abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. It includes reporting timelines, who must report, and how investigations work.

[Background Study Requirements \(Minnesota Statute 144.057\)](#)

This law requires background studies via the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) for employees, contractors, and volunteers who provide direct care or have access to clients. This helps protect clients from individuals who may pose a risk. The definition and detailed requirements for background studies are outlined in [Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 245C](#).

[Electronic Monitoring in Facilities \(Minnesota Statute 144.6502\)](#)

This law allows residents or their representatives to use electronic monitoring devices (like cameras) in their rooms. It explains permissions, signage rules, and how providers must support safe use of monitoring.

Facility Safety, Building Standards and Environmental Requirements

[Minnesota State Fire Code \(Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 7511\)](#)

This code sets statewide fire safety standards assisted living facilities must follow, including alarms, exits, sprinklers, inspections, and fire safety design features.

[National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\) 101 Life Safety Code](#)

This national code guides safe building design, emergency exits, fire protection features, and evacuation requirements to help protect residents during emergencies.

[Facility Guidelines Institute \(FGI\) Guidelines for Design and Construction](#)

This guideline provides design standards for safe, usable health care and residential care environments. Though not a Minnesota statute, these guidelines are often used in planning construction or renovation.

Health, Food Safety and Service Requirements

[Minnesota Food Code \(Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 4626\)](#)

This rule relates to food safety, storage, handling, and training. It also includes requirements for certified food protection managers in settings where meals are prepared or served to residents.

Housing, Financial and Business Requirements

[Landlord and Tenant Law \(Minnesota Statute 504B\)](#)

This statute includes housing rights and responsibilities that apply when an ALF provides a living unit. It covers leases, notices, deposits, and resident protections related to housing agreements.

[Licensing and Survey Fees \(Minnesota Statute 144.122\)](#)

This statute explains the fees for assisted living licenses, permits, inspections, and surveys required by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Administrative Oversight and Leadership Requirements

[Minnesota Department of Health Authority \(Minnesota Statute 144\)](#)

This statute establishes the responsibilities of the MDH, which oversees assisted living licensing, inspections, enforcement, and public health protections.

[Administrator Licensing Requirements \(Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 6400\)](#)

This rule explains the education and licensing requirements for assisted living directors as regulated by the Board of Executives for Long-Term Services and Supports ([BELTSS](#)). For assisted living settings specifically, the applicable requirements are found in [Minnesota Rules 6400.6950–6400.7095](#), which apply to individuals serving as assisted living directors. These sections apply when a licensed administrator works in a setting that includes an assisted living license, including multi-licensed facilities.

[Nursing Oversight Requirements \(Minnesota Board of Nursing\)](#)

Assisted living providers must also ensure appropriate clinical oversight by a registered nurse (RN), as required under assisted living regulations. The licensure, scope of practice, and professional standards for RNs are governed by the Minnesota Board of Nursing under [Minnesota Statute §148](#) and related rules. Providers should be familiar with these requirements to ensure nursing services are delivered in accordance with applicable laws and professional standards.

Quick Links

Core Assisted Living Licensing Requirements
Assisted Living Licensing Requirements (Minnesota Statute 144G) Assisted Living Rules (Minnesota Rules 4659)
Resident Protection and Safety Requirements
Vulnerable Adult Maltreatment Reporting (Minnesota Statute 626.557) Background Study Requirements (Minnesota Statute 144.057) Electronic Monitoring in Facilities (Minnesota Statute 144.6502)
Facility Safety, Building Standards and Environmental Requirements
Minnesota State Fire Code (Minnesota Rules 7511)

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) Guidelines for Design and Construction
Health, Food Safety and Service Requirements
Minnesota Food Code (Minnesota Chapter 4626)
Housing, Financial and Business Requirements
Landlord and Tenant Law (Minnesota Statute 504B) Licensing and Survey Fees (Minnesota Statute 144.122)
Administrative Oversight and Leadership Requirements
Minnesota Department of Health Authority (Minnesota Statute 144) Administrator Licensing Requirements (Minnesota Rules 6400)