



Dear WI Fire Chiefs,

2005 Wisconsin Act 78 – Sprinkler requirements for fraternities, sororities and other organizations.

This Act extends automatic fire sprinkler requirements to all of the following:

1. All student residential facilities regardless of ownership, that are operated by fraternities, sororities, or other organizations authorized or sponsored by an institution of higher education.
2. Residence halls and dormitories that are owned or operated by private institutions of higher education.
3. “Private student residential buildings.” A “private student residential building” is defined as a “privately owned and operated residential building” that:

- Has a capacity of at least 100 occupants, and
- Is occupied by persons at least 80% of whom are enrolled in an institution of higher education and
- Has attributes usually associated with a student residence hall or dormitory such as a food service plan or occupancy by a resident advisor.

The following links provide additional information on the statutory sprinkler requirements for fraternities, sororities and other organizations.

- Currently statutory language covering sprinkler requirements is available at the following link:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/101/I/14>

- The Department of Safety and Professional Services Website has a Frequently Asked Question document posted for review and guidance, please follow the enclosed link:

<http://dsps.wi.gov/Default.aspx?Page=c9beefbd-69c9-4a71-8f34-20c64bdf6f8e>

- Wisconsin Legislative Council Act Memo dated January 18, 2006 is available at the following link:

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2005/related/lcactmemo/ab544.pdf>

- A letter clarifying that ownership of the building is not a factor when assessing the sprinklering requirement is linked below. The operation of the building by a fraternity or sorority is the requirement that triggers sprinklering.

[Link to letter](#)

For additional information regarding 2005 Wisconsin Act 78 or sprinkler requirements as applied to student housing, please contact:

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