

ers without having to return through the smoke compartment from which *means of egress* originated.

422.5 Automatic sprinkler systems. *Automatic sprinkler systems* shall be provided for ambulatory care facilities in accordance with Section 903.2.2.

422.6 Fire alarm systems. A fire alarm system shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.2.1.

SECTION 423 STORM SHELTERS

423.1 General. In addition to other applicable requirements in this code, storm shelters shall be constructed in accordance with ICC 500.

423.1.1 Scope. This section applies to the construction of storm shelters constructed as separate detached buildings or constructed as safe rooms within buildings for the purpose of providing safe refuge from storms that produce high winds, such as tornados and hurricanes. Such structures shall be designated to be hurricane shelters, tornado shelters, or combined hurricane and tornado shelters.

423.2 Definitions. The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

STORM SHELTER. A building, structure or portions(s) thereof, constructed in accordance with ICC 500 and designated for use during a severe wind storm event, such as a hurricane or tornado.

Community storm shelter. A storm shelter not defined as a "Residential Storm Shelter."

Residential storm shelter. A storm shelter serving occupants of *dwelling units* and having an *occupant load* not exceeding 16 persons.

SECTION 424 TEMPORARY OVERFLOW EMERGENCY SHELTERS FOR THE HOMELESS

424.1 General. Existing A-2 and A-3 occupancies shall be permitted to provide facilities for temporary overflow emergency shelters for the homeless, provided that all of the following conditions are met and approved by the local code official and fire marshal:

424.1.1 The total number of homeless occupants is limited to 20 individuals who are ambulatory. The homeless occupants must be 18 years of age or older.

424.1.2 The building used for the temporary overflow emergency shelter must be of Type I, II, or III construction.

424.1.3 The temporary overflow emergency shelter must be staffed by a minimum of two individuals of 21 years of age or older and trained in accordance with Chapter 4 of the *North Carolina Fire Code* and at least one trained individual shall be awake to monitor the sleeping room and restrooms throughout the time the facility is occupied by the homeless.

424.1.4 Functioning smoke detection and a local fire alarm system in accordance with Section 907.2.8 shall be provided throughout the sleeping room and exit access corridors and stairs of the temporary overflow emergency shelter.

424.1.5 There shall be a minimum of two separate code compliant means of egress serving the temporary overflow emergency shelter. An evacuation route approved by the local code official and fire marshal shall be posted and be in compliance with Sections 404, 406, and 408 of the *North Carolina Fire Code*.

424.1.6 There shall be no lockable doors between sleeping rooms and required exits.

424.1.7 The temporary overflow emergency shelter sleeping room and exit access corridors and stairs shall have night lighting and emergency lighting with back-up power.

424.1.8 No fire protection sprinkler system is required in accordance with Section 903.2.8, Exception 2.

424.1.9 Heating, cooling, and ventilation must be provided by equipment installed and approved for such use. No space heaters are permitted.

424.1.10 There must be an adequate number of fire extinguishers to serve the temporary overflow emergency shelter as determined by the local fire marshal. Travel distance to an approved fire extinguisher shall not exceed 50 feet. Minimum rating of extinguishers shall be 3-A:40-BC.

424.1.11 No smoking is permitted in the temporary overflow emergency shelter.

424.1.12 The building owner must submit documentation illustrating that the fire alarm system is approved and that all emergency batteries have been tested and are operational.

424.1.13 Temporary overflow emergency shelters must be approved by the local code official for occupancy by issuance of an approved occupancy permit. Drawings of the temporary overflow emergency shelter sealed by a North Carolina licensed architect or engineer must be provided for local code official review and approval.

424.1.14 Compliance with *North Carolina Accessibility Code* for temporary overflow emergency shelters is not required, provided that the local jurisdiction has other shelter facilities that are accessible by the disabled.

424.1.15 Occupancy of a temporary overflow emergency shelter shall be for a maximum of 150 calendar days within any 365 day time span.

SECTION 425 LICENSED RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY

425.1 Classification. Buildings in which more than three people are harbored for medical, charitable or other care or treatment shall be classified as residential care facilities. The state agency having jurisdiction shall classify the facility as a residential care home, small residential care facility, small nonambulatory care facility or large residential care facility.