

Local Fire Code Inspector Approval to Inspect DHS-Licensed Facilities

Purpose

This information sheet provides the minimum criteria for Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division (SFMD) approval of local fire code officials to conduct inspections required for licensure under Minnesota Statute 245A.

Background

Minnesota Statute 245A is the Department of Human Services' (DHS) primary authority for licensing. The statute requires many DHS-licensed facilities to comply with the Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC) as part of the licensing process.

MS 245A.151 states that when licensure under this chapter requires an inspection by a fire marshal to determine compliance with the MSFC, a local fire code inspector approved by the SFMD may conduct the inspection.

Local Authority to Enforce the Minnesota State Fire Code

- The fire chief for the jurisdiction.
- Other members of the fire department authorized by the fire chief.
- Persons designated by municipal ordinance to enforce the fire code for that jurisdiction.
- The state fire marshal and the state fire marshal's authorized representative.

Minimum Requirements for Inspector Approval

- Certified fire inspector by Minnesota certification board or equivalent.
- Primary responsibility is the enforcement of the fire code through an inspection program.
- Inspector has attended DHS-licensed facility inspector training provided by the SFMD.
- Inspector must attend DHS-licensed facility inspector training provided by the SFMD at least once every four years.

