

Please note that on December 22, 2024, smoke alarms will be required to have sealed batteries or be hard-wired.

The Housing Authority Section 8 Inspectors will begin to enforce the smoke detector requirements effective November 1, 2024, for all new move in inspections, and December 1, 2024, for all annual inspections, this will allow the 3 weeks given to make repairs prior to the December 22, 2024, effective date.

Smoke detectors are required inside each bedroom, outside of the bedroom(s) and on each level of the unit. A smoke alarm installed within a hallway in the immediate vicinity of multiple bedrooms meets the requirement of "outside the bedroom(s)". A smoke detector must be within 21 feet of any bedroom door. Where a smoke detector installed outside a bedroom is separated from an adjacent living area by a door, a smoke detector must also be installed on the living area side of the door. If mounted on the ceiling, the smoke detector must be greater than 4 inches from the wall. If mounted on the wall, it cannot be closer than 4 inches or greater than 12 inches from the ceiling. It should be installed **at least 10 feet** from a cooking appliance. Any missing or inoperable smoke detectors must be corrected within 24 hours.