

TITLE: CALL-FOR-AID SYSTEM
VERSION: VI.3
DATE PUBLISHED: 7/31/20

DEFINITION: A call system used by a resident to summon aid during a medical emergency.

PURPOSE: Provides resident with a means to alert emergency service.

NAME VARIANTS: Alert system; Medical alert system

COMMON MATERIALS: Plastic; Metal; Rubber

COMMON COMPONENTS: Annunciator; Pull cord; Speaker; Lights; Alarm; Faceplate

LOCATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unit	Bathroom, bedroom, hallway
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inside	Common area, including bathroom and hallway
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside	None

MORE INFORMATION: For the purposes of this inspection, personal “Wireless Call-For-Aid Systems” typically worn around a resident’s neck are not to be inspected.

DEFICIENCY 1: Pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY 2: System does not function properly

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY 3: System is blocked

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY I — UNIT: PULL CORD IS MISSING OR END IS HIGHER THAN 6 INCHES OFF THE FLOOR

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Pull cord is missing (i.e. evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).

OR

Pull cord end is higher than 6 inches off the floor.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Standard This is a standard health and safety issue. A repair, correction, or act of abatement for this deficiency should occur within 30 days.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Indirect	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, and the resident is unable to reach the cord, then they may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, and the resident is unable to reach the cord, then they may be injured when attempting to reach the cord.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then the resident may not be able to fully utilize the device which is assumed to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then it is likely that complaint-based work orders are not being addressed.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then it is likely that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:**
- Look for a call-for-aid system along the walls in the bedroom, bathroom, and hallways.
 - Look to see if cord is present if required, not all call-for-aid systems will have a cord, some may have a button
- REQUEST FOR HELP:**
- None
- ACTION:**
- Measure the distance between the end of the pull cord and the floor
 - If greater than 6 inches, record a deficiency
- More Information:**
- None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED:**
- Distance measuring device
- USEFUL:**
- None
-

DEFICIENCY I — INSIDE: PULL CORD IS MISSING OR END IS HIGHER THAN 6 INCHES OFF THE FLOOR

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Pull cord is missing (i.e. evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).

OR

Pull cord end is higher than 6 inches off the floor.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Standard This is a standard health and safety issue. A repair, correction, or act of abatement for this deficiency should occur within 30 days.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Indirect	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, and the resident is unable to reach the cord, then they may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, and the resident is unable to reach the cord, then they may be injured when attempting to reach the cord.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then the resident may not be able to fully utilize the device which is assumed to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then it is likely that complaint-based work orders are not being addressed.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	If pull cord is missing or end is higher than 6 inches off the floor, then it is likely that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:**
- Look for a call-for-aid system along the walls in the bedroom, bathroom, and hallways.
 - Look to see if cord is present if required, not all call-for-aid systems will have a cord, some may have a button
- REQUEST FOR HELP:**
- None
- ACTION:**
- Measure the distance between the end of the pull cord and the floor
 - If greater than 6 inches, record a deficiency
- More Information:**
- None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED:**
- Distance measuring device
- USEFUL:**
- None
-

DEFICIENCY 2 — UNIT: SYSTEM DOES NOT FUNCTION PROPERLY

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: A call-for-aid system does not emit sound or light or send signal to annunciator.

OR

The annunciator does not indicate the correct corresponding room.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening This is a life-threatening issue requiring a 24-hour repair, correction, or act of abatement.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Direct	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not be able to fully utilize a feature that is expected to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident will likely report the defect and its presence may indicate that complaint-based work orders are not being addressed.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then its presence may indicate that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:
- Confirm cord is not coiled or tied up/off.
 - Listen to verify that the system emits an audible alarm, if so designed.

- Verify system emits visual alarm, if so designed.

REQUEST FOR HELP:

- Ask the POA if the call-for-aid system is monitored onsite or offsite.
- If monitored offsite, request the POA to notify the offsite monitor and ask them to put the system on test.
- Ask the POA to station a staff person with a cellphone or 2-way radio at the annunciator panel to standby for the alarm to activate and to contact the POA once the alarm activates.

ACTION:

- Approach each call-for-aid station within unit.
- Pull the pull cord from its lowest hanging point.
- Verify that the system emits a visual alarm, such as flashing light and alerts at the annunciator panel.
- If call-for-aid system is unable to be put on test, record deficiency for each call-for-aid pull station.

More Information: If property has third party documentation of call-for-aid inspection:

- Inspector does not need to test all pull stations.
- Verify documentation addresses all parts of the call-for-aid system.
- If valid or certified third-party inspection has been completed in the last 12 months of inspection, do not test call for aid interface.

If call-for-aid system abandoned:

- Do not evaluate call-for-aid systems if all pull stations have been removed and all that remains is the indicator lights, audible indicators, or annunciator panel.
- The primary consideration is that no part of the user interface remains.

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - None

DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: SYSTEM DOES NOT FUNCTION PROPERLY

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: A call-for-aid system does not emit sound or light or send signal to annunciator.

OR

The annunciator does not indicate the correct corresponding room.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening This is a life-threatening issue requiring a 24-hour repair, correction, or act of abatement.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Direct	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident may not be able to fully utilize a feature that is expected to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then resident will likely report the defect and its presence may indicate that complaint-based work orders are not being addressed.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is not functioning properly, then its presence may indicate that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:**
- Confirm cord is not coiled or tied up/off.
 - Listen to verify that the system emits an audible alarm, if so designed.

- Verify system emits visual alarm, if so designed.

REQUEST FOR HELP:

- Ask the POA if the call-for-aid system is monitored onsite or offsite.
- If monitored offsite, request the POA to notify the offsite monitor and ask them to put the system on test.
- Ask the POA to station a staff person with a cellphone or 2-way radio at the annunciator panel to standby for the alarm to activate and to contact the POA once the alarm activates.

ACTION:

- Approach each call-for-aid station within shared space.
- Pull the pull cord from its lowest hanging point.
- Verify that the system emits a visual alarm, such as flashing light and alerts at the annunciator panel.
- If call-for-aid system is unable to be put on test, record deficiency for each call-for-aid pull station.

More Information:

If property has third party documentation of call-for-aid inspection:

- Inspector does not need to test all pull stations.
- Verify documentation addresses all parts of the call-for-aid system.
- If valid or certified third-party inspection has been completed in the last 12 months of inspection, do not test call for aid interface.

If call-for-aid system abandoned:

- Do not evaluate call-for-aid systems if all pull stations have been removed and all that remains is the indicator lights, audible indicators, or annunciator panel.
- The primary consideration is that no part of the user interface remains.

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - None

DEFICIENCY 3 — UNIT: SYSTEM IS BLOCKED

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Call-for-aid system is blocked.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Standard This is a standard health and safety issue. A repair, correction, or act of abatement for this deficiency should occur within 30 days.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Direct	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not be able to fully utilize a feature that is expected to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then its presence may indicate that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION: - Look at the call-for-aid system and visually inspect for any obstruction that would prevent a resident from accessing the system (e.g. furniture and equipment, clothes, plants, etc.).
- REQUEST FOR HELP: - None
- ACTION: - None
- More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED: - None
- USEFUL: - None

DEFICIENCY 3 — INSIDE: SYSTEM IS BLOCKED

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Call-for-aid system is blocked.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Standard This is a standard health and safety issue. A repair, correction, or act of abatement for this deficiency should occur within 30 days.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: Within 30 days

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R1	Health	Direct	Condition could affect resident's mental, or physical, or psychological state.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not have access to medical care as their ability to alert emergency services is impacted.
R6	Usability and Operability of Fixtures	Direct	Because of this condition, the resident is unable to use certain fixtures, features, or appliances, which are reasonably assumed to be part of their rent.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then resident may not be able to fully utilize a feature that is expected to be maintained as part of their rent.
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	If call-for-aid system is blocked, then its presence may indicate that routine maintenance activities are not being addressed.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION: - Look at the call-for-aid system and visually inspect for any obstruction that would prevent a resident from accessing the system (e.g. furniture and equipment, clothes, plants, etc.).
- REQUEST FOR HELP: - None
- ACTION: - None
- More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED: - None
- USEFUL: - None

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

TITLE: CALL-FOR-AID SYSTEM
VERSION: VI.3
DATE PUBLISHED: 7/31/20

FIELD	CHANGE	VERSION	DATE
Overall Formatting	Complete rework of document format and layout	VI.3	2020-07-31
Purpose	Field added	VI.3	2020-07-31
Location	Revised inspectable locations	VI.3	2020-07-31
More Information	Field added	VI.3	2020-07-31
Deficiency 1	Separated by inspectable locations — Unit and Inside	VI.3	2020-07-31
Title	Revised title; added inspectable locations		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”		
HCV — Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency; response revised		
Deficiency 2	Separated by inspectable locations — Unit and Inside	VI.3	2020-07-31
Title	Added inspectable locations		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Revised to “Life-Threatening” determination; added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
HCV — Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		

Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency; response revised		
Deficiency 3	Removed previous deficiency 3; replaced with previous deficiency 4 Separated by inspectable locations – Unit and Inside	VI.3	2020-07-31
Title	Revised title; added inspectable locations		
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as "Within 30 days"		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as "Within 30 days"		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency; response revised		