

EVALUATING SENIOR SAFETY AND SECURITY SYSTEMS

Emergency Response Protocols

- How often are evacuation drills and emergency training held for residents and staff?

- How do you alert residents and family members in case of an emergency?

- What procedures did you put in place during the COVID pandemic?

- How are staff trained to protect residents in case of an emergency?

- Do you have a generator or other form of backup power?

Surveillance Technology & Security

- Can you demonstrate how this senior safety device works?

- What happens if your cellular system or internet access is down?

- Are there alarms in each apartment?

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- How are doors monitored after hours?

- Do residents have to sign out? Are visitors required to check in?

Staff Qualifications & Training

- Do you have staff available 24/7?

- How often is staff trained on senior safety and security?

- What is your staff-to-resident ratio?

- How do you handle staff turnover?

- How do you cover staffing if someone takes the day off?

- What are your procedures for background checks?

- Where/when are emergency drill schedules posted?

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Facility Design & Senior Safety Features

- Do you have people on staff that maintain the building?

- If something breaks in a resident's apartment, who do they tell?

- How do apartments' safety features differ based on levels of living (independent living, assisted living, memory care or skilled nursing)?

Visit Checklist

- Fire and smoke alarms
- Fire extinguishers
- Indoor sprinkler system
- Well-marked exits
- Floor plans with the locations of stairways and wheelchair-accessible exits
- Security door locks
- Wide, well-lit doorways and halls
- Slip-resistant flooring
- Safety locks to places like pools and spas
- Grab bars in the bathrooms
- Raised toilets
- Bright outside lighting