



# CAMPUS FIRE FACTS

## Getting Ready for Students

As students begin the fall season, publishing Fire Facts can be helpful to both students and parents. To download this and other "Fire Facts" in a printable form, visit the CCFS Resource Center: <http://www.campusfiresafety.org/Resources>

### Product safety tips

#### Smoke alarms

Smoke alarms may allow you sufficient time to reach safety by providing early warning in the event of a fire. Many people have neglected to install smoke alarms despite their life-saving potential and low cost. Even those who do have smoke alarms forget that they need some maintenance attention to continue working properly. UL offers the following tips for purchasing and maintaining smoke alarms.

#### Purchase a smoke alarm with the UL Mark

Smoke alarms are available at nearly all hardware, department and discount stores. When you purchase a smoke alarm, look for the UL Mark on the product as well as on the packaging. The UL Mark tells you that a representative sample of the smoke alarm has been evaluated by UL according to nationally recognized safety requirements.

#### Photoelectric and ionization type alarms

There are two types of smoke alarms available today: photoelectric and ionization. While photoelectric smoke alarms generally respond faster to smoldering smoke conditions and ionization smoke alarms generally respond faster to flaming fire conditions, both types provide adequate protection against fire. Combination smoke alarms featuring both photoelectric and ionization technology are also available.

#### Safety in numbers

Install at least one smoke alarm on each floor of the house or residence and outside all sleeping areas. Some fire safety advocates recommend installing smoke

alarms inside each sleeping area if sleeping with the door closed.

#### Smoke alarm maintenance

Working smoke alarms are needed in every home and residence. Test and maintain your smoke alarms at least once a month unless otherwise noted by manufacturer instructions. Smoke alarms most often fail because of missing, dead or disconnected batteries. Replace the batteries at least once a year.

#### Fire escape planning

Develop a fire escape plan and practice it at least twice a year. In the event of a fire, know at least two ways out. Stay as close to the floor as possible during your escape as hot air and smoke rise to the ceiling and air nearest the floor will be safer to breathe. If you encounter a closed door during your escape, feel the door before opening it. If it is hot to the touch, use another exit. The heat could indicate fire on the other side of the door.

Designate a well-lit place that is a safe distance away where everyone will meet in the event of a fire. This will help firefighters determine if anyone else is still inside. Never return to a burning building for any reason.



*Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent product safety certification organization that has been testing products and writing Standards for Safety for over a century. UL evaluates more than 19,000 types of products, components, materials and systems annually with 21 billion UL Marks appearing on 72,000 manufacturers' products each year. UL's worldwide family of companies and network of service providers includes 62 laboratory, testing and certification facilities serving customers in 99 countries. Our Mission: Working for a safer world since 1894 [www.ul.com](http://www.ul.com).*