

## FIRE SAFETY

### ***LESSON 1 ~ INTRODUCTION***

#### **OVERVIEW**

Residents in healthcare facilities often suffer from physical and/or mental conditions that prevent them from protecting themselves. For this reason, fires in healthcare facilities are particularly dangerous. With proper fire safety awareness, you can help prevent fire-related danger by taking steps to prevent fires in your facility. With adequate fire-response training, you can help minimize potential fire-related injury and loss of life, by knowing what to do in the event of a fire. This course addresses:

- Fire risk in the healthcare setting
- Fire-safety requirements for healthcare facilities
- Common causes of facility fires
- Common locations of fires in the healthcare setting
- Physical and procedural fire safeguards in healthcare facilities
- Appropriate fire response in the healthcare environment

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify the three sides of the fire triangle.
- List sources of fuel, oxygen, and heat in the healthcare setting.
- Discuss the importance of staff fire-safety awareness.
- List the primary goals of the Life Safety Code.

### ***LESSON 2 ~ FIRE PREVENTION & FACILITY SAFEGUARDS***

By following certain guidelines, you can help prevent fires in your facility. If prevention strategies fail and a fire occurs, however, your facility is equipped with physical and procedural safeguards to help minimize damage and loss of life. After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- List common causes of fires in the healthcare setting.
- List strategies for preventing common fires in the healthcare setting.
- Identify high-risk areas for fires.

### ***LESSON 3 ~ FIRE RESPONSE***

When you hear the fire alarm in your facility, you may not know if it is a drill or a true fire emergency. Treat each alarm as if it is a true emergency, and respond accordingly. The **RACE** acronym can help you remember what to do in the event of a fire. After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Describe the procedures that make up the RACE fire response model.
- Describe carrying techniques for moving residents to safety.
- Discuss methods for initiating a fire alert.
- Outline procedures for confining a fire, including the importance of confinement.
- Describe the circumstances under which you might consider fighting a fire with a portable extinguisher.
- Describe procedures for resident evacuation, including evacuation priority and the significance of the defend-in-place strategy.