Policy Statement

The University of Colorado is a constitutionally created state body-corporate, which is governed by the Board of Regents. Pursuant to this, the University of Colorado Denver has chosen to become our own Authority having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for fire prevention and life safety concerns on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora and Downtown Campus in Denver. Dr. James Shore, our previous Chancellor, signed the initial acceptance of the AHJ on June 24, 2002 and it was re-authorized by the current Chancellor, Dr. M. Roy Wilson, on July 6, 2006.

Applicable Campus:

All UC Denver Campuses

Purpose

To establish a policy for safe construction work on campus.

Scope

The policy covers all campus departments and staff.

Procedures

Under these provisions, the university will have direct authority to inspect sites and order compliance with the fire codes, as adopted under the AHJ acceptance.

The term “AHJ,” as commonly used in both the International Fire Code (IFC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, shall be defined as the entity that is responsible for requiring adherence to the adopted fire and life safety provisions for the property under the UC Denver jurisdiction.

As the AHJ for fire and life safety, the UC Denver will institute the following provisions:

1. The UC Denver, as the AHJ, is empowered to order corrections and require conformance to the fire and life safety codes on all UC Denver campuses. The AHJ will make final decisions as to the method and/or need for corrective actions.

2. All new construction must meet the State of Colorado Building Department (known as State Buildings) guidelines. The UC Denver Fire and Life Safety Officer will be the primary contact for on-going fire prevention and life safety issues, in conjunction with the UC Denver Project Manager. The UC Denver Fire and Life Safety Officer retains advisory status to the Campus Building Official.
3. The UC Denver, as the AHJ, adopts all articles and appendices of the IFC, 2006 edition, hereafter referred to as the "Fire Code." When new editions are published, the AHJ has the option of adopting all or portions of the Fire Code.

4. The UC Denver, as the AHJ, will utilize the NFPA standards, including the Life Safety Code, for comparative reference to the Fire Code. NFPA guidelines may be used in lieu of the Fire Code, based on the decisions of the AHJ.

5. The UC Denver, as the AHJ, is authorized to approve alternative materials or methods, provided that the AHJ finds that the proposed design, use, or operation satisfactorily complies with the intent of the Fire Code.

6. The UC Denver, as the AHJ, is authorized to render interpretations of the Fire Code and NFPA standards, and to make and enforce rules and supplementary regulations in order to carry out the application and intent of the Fire Code.

7. Recognizing that the local fire department is necessary for response to fires and emergency medical situations, the UC Denver grants the local fire department authority during emergency calls to the campus and for any post-fire investigations.

**CONTRACTORS:**

Welcome to the University of Colorado Denver. In order to safeguard personnel and property, the campus Fire and Life Safety Section has listed basic fire safety procedures that contractors must follow during work on campus grounds. These guidelines will be in addition to the general written campus policies noted during the pre-construction meetings. All general communication between the owner (University of Colorado) and the contractor will continue to be directed through the Project Manager. Please note the following items, and inform your employees.

1. Personnel from the campus Fire and Life Safety Section have the right to access the site at all times. Should a potential fire safety threat to personnel or property be observed, UC Denver personnel have the authority to stop the hazard-related operation until adequate safeguards are addressed. Such stoppage will be followed with written documentation of the violation and corrective actions required.

2. All contractors are required to follow the university Authority having Jurisdiction Fire Officer's orders related to fire safety concerns. This includes emergency and non-emergency orders for corrective actions.

3. In existing buildings, an absolute minimum of 36 inches clearance in the hallways is required at all times (44 inches is desirable), unless the temporary obstruction is directly attended by a contractor's employee, and the obstruction can be readily removed.

4. In existing buildings, all hot-work operations require permits prior to work. These may be obtained by contacting the UC Denver Project Manager or the campus Fire and Life Safety Officer.

5. Construction sites must be kept free of trash accumulations, especially flammable and combustible materials. Trash should be removed from the building before the end of each workday. The path of travel to the dumpsite and the area around the dumpsite are the responsibility of the contractor.
6. Inside of buildings, do not block fire doors, extinguisher cabinets, pull-stations, standpipes, electrical panels, and/or eyewash/shower stations.

7. Outside of buildings, do not block fire lanes or fire department connections.

8. Potential fire hazards on construction sites include use of flammable and combustible liquids; heating gases (such as propane); electrical systems; and other fire-related operations. Use of heating devices must be pre-approved by the campus Fire and Life Safety Officer.

9. Gas cylinders must be secured from falling, and storage of gas cylinders must conform to the Fire Code.

10. Construction and modifications must conform to codes, as determined by the Campus Building Official. For building permits, contact the Campus Building Official (303-724-0534) prior to work.

The above guidelines are not all inclusive. The campus Fire and Life Safety Officer will provide advice and assistance upon request.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

**DIAL 9-1-1**

If using a cell phone, make a second call to

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS POLICE
(303) 724-4444

REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE DISPATCHER:

1. Your name
2. Your phone number
3. The type of emergency
4. The exact location of the emergency (building and room number or area)
5. Where you will meet the emergency personnel
6. Do not hang-up until the dispatcher does

For advice or assistance with fire prevention efforts, contact the Fire and Life Safety Officer at 303-724-0293.
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Date: 12/20/07

Approved by:

David C. Turner, PE
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Facilities Operations  

Date: 12/20/07

References:

- 2006 ed. International Fire Code
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards
- Campus Authority having Jurisdiction Policy