ATTENDED HEATING POLICY

The most common cause of unwanted fire alarms on our campus involves heating units that are not attended. Fire detectors will detect smoke—even without flames—therefore, smoldering of any material can result in the fire department responding and evacuation of the building. Smoke detectors give occupants early warning, however we do not want nuisance alarms, or actual fires, because of burned food or overheating of other materials. As such, it is the policy of the CU Denver that:

All heating units must have someone in attendance while the unit is in operation.

These include, but are not limited to: microwave ovens, popcorn poppers, standard ovens, space heaters, hot plates, and laboratory heating units, such as Bunsen burners. The policy requires that someone be present and not leave until the unit is shut off and the unit is cool to the touch.

Please also note that all personnel should evacuate when an alarm sounds. Unless a fire drill or alarm-test has been pre-scheduled, all alarms are to be considered as real.

Please contact the Fire & Life Safety Officer for questions or concerns.
303 724-0293

Fire safety Compliance Notes are produced by the CU Denver Fire & Life Safety section of Facilities Management.