

 University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus	Facilities Management Policies and Procedures	OPP: 103-020
Title: Authority Having Jurisdiction for Fire Prevention and Life Safety	Issue Date: August 19, 2002 Revision Date: November 29, 2006 January 1, 2013	

Policy Statement

Due to the complexities of the campuses, and in order to minimize risks and to maintain a fire-safe campus setting, in 2002 the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus created an Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for fire prevention and life safety. The provisions contained herein apply only to those buildings owned by the university; University of Colorado Hospital and other entities are not covered.

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 university jurisdiction. With regard to the university, the power of the AHJ is vested with the Chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus, and delegation will be at a level no lower than an Assistant Vice Chancellor. Final decisions as to application of the codes will be made after consultation with the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus Fire and Life Safety Officer.

Purpose

To provide policy and procedures to ensure that issues related to Fire and Life Safety are handled in a manner that minimizes risk and maintains a safe campus environment through delegation by the Chancellor of an Authority having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

Applicable Campus: All Campuses

Procedures

As the AHJ for Fire and Life safety, the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS will institute the following provisions:

1. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS, as the AHJ, is empowered to order corrections and require conformance to the fire and life safety codes on the campuses of the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS.
2. All new construction must meet the State of Colorado Building Department (known as State Buildings) guidelines. After the Campus Building Official signs the final Certificate of Occupancy, the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS Fire and Life Safety Officer will be the primary contact for on-going fire prevention and life safety issues. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS Fire and Life Safety Officer retains advisory status to both the Campus Building Official and the post-occupancy AHJ.
3. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS, 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 UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS, 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 upon the decisions of the AHJ.
5. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS, 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 UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS, 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 UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS grants the local fire department authority during emergency calls to the campus and for any post-fire investigations.
8. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS will allow the local fire department access to buildings, post occupancy, in order to make recommendations regarding fire safety and prevention. (Note: local fire inspections must be provided at no charge.) The local fire department must arrange times for audits and pre-fire planning with the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS Fire and Life Safety Officer. All fire or life safety comments from the local fire department will receive a written response from the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS Fire and Life Safety Officer. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS also agrees to maintain a close relationship with the local fire prevention bureau and to keep them informed of changes related to new buildings and major modifications to existing structures.
9. The UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS agrees that violations of the Fire Code will be addressed in a timely manner. The AHJ will make final decisions as to the method and/or need for corrective actions. Certain conditions may be placed on a priority list, such that the violations are duly acknowledged. As funding becomes available, projects on the priority list will be corrected, however the UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS reserves the right to make determinations as to the ordering of priorities based on cost/benefit and risk analysis.
10. Due to the age of many of the buildings on the campus, certain "pre-existing conditions" may be accepted, even though they do not meet the Fire Code of today. Such buildings must meet the applicable requirements of the "existing conditions" of the NFPA Life Safety Code (or equivalent).
11. This policy will be reviewed at least every three years and/or whenever the Chancellor or delegated AHJ changes.

Prepared by:

Wayne Blubaugh

Wayne E. Blubaugh
Fire and Life Safety Officer

12/17/2012

Date

Approved by:

David C. Turnquist

David C. Turnquist, P.E.
Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Management

12/18/12

Date

References:

- AHJ Memo from Chancellor Wilson, July 6, 2006
- AHJ Memo from Chancellor Shore, June 17, 2002
- International Building Code
- International Fire Code
- National Fire Protection Association Standards and Life Safety Code