



Campus Administrative Policy

Policy Title: Construction Fire Safety Policy and Procedures (OPP: 103-053)

Policy Number: 3071 Functional Area: Facilities

Effective: February 22, 2018
Date Last Amended/Reviewed: November 1, 2017
Date Scheduled for Review: July 1, 2025
Supersedes: Construction Fire Safety (March 2004)

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Authority Having Jurisdiction for Fire and Life Safety
(February 22, 2018)

Prepared by: Campus Fire Marshal
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Responsible Officer: Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance |
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Applies to: CU Anschutz
CU Denver
CU South Denver Location

A. POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus (the university) is a constitutionally created state body-corporate, which is governed by the Board of Regents. Pursuant to this, the university has chosen to become our own Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for fire prevention and life safety concerns on both campuses.

B. PURPOSE

To establish a policy for safe construction work on campus property.

C. 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 university jurisdiction.

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

1. The university, as the AHJ, is empowered to order corrections and require conformance to the fire and life safety codes on both campuses of the university. 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 university Fire & Life Safety Officer will be the primary contact for on-going fire prevention and life safety issues, in conjunction with the university Project Manager. The university Campus Fire Marshal retains advisory status to the Campus Building Official.
3. The university, as the AHJ, adopts all articles and appendices of the IFC, 2015 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, 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, 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, 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 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 | Anschutz Medical Campus. In order to safeguard personnel and property, the campus Fire & 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) 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 & Life Safety Group have the right to access the site at all times. Should a potential fire safety threat to personnel or property be observed, the university personnel have the authority to stop the hazard-related operation until adequate safeguards is 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 AHJ 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 university Project Manager or the campus Fire & 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 Marshal.
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 Marshal will provide advice and assistance upon request.

Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:
March 2004: Adopted/Approved by Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities
February 22, 2018: Revised
December 18, 2019: Reformatted
2. History:

December 18, 2019: Reformatted to reflect a Campus-wide effort to recast and revitalize Campus policy sites into a standardized and more coherent set of chaptered policy statements organized around the several operational divisions of the university. Links, university branding, and formatting updated by the Provost's office.
3. Initial Policy Effective Date: March 2004
4. Cross References/Appendix:
 - [2015 ed. International Fire Code](#)
 - [Campus Policy 3003, Authority Having Jurisdiction for Fire Prevention and Life Safety](#)
 - [National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\) Life Safety Code](#)