



University Fire Marshal Authority

Office of the Provost

Design and Construction Management

Policy Adopted, December 15, 2005

Space Heater Guidelines

Use

1. The use of space heaters in campus facilities is highly discouraged.
2. The use of space heaters is not allowed in wood constructed buildings or residence halls.
3. Smoke detection connected to a central fire alarm is required in areas where space heaters are used and / or in corridors serving those areas.

Examples of Hazards

1. Fires and burns caused by contact with or close proximity to the heating element.
2. Fires and explosions caused by ignition of adjacent flammable fuels.
3. Fires caused by overheated wires from pinched, defective wiring or extension cords.

Requirements for All Space Heaters

- Must be UL rated and manufactured after the year 2000.
- Must have a guard around heating element.
- Must be equipped with a tip-over override safety switch.
- Must be equipped with a shut off timer.
- Must be located at least 3 feet away from adjacent furniture or surfaces.
- Must have a thermostat control to prevent heat from exceeding design specifications.
- Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Keep doors open to area.
- Never leave a space heater on if you leave the area, unplug overnight.
- Never use or store flammable liquids (such as gasoline) around a space heater.
- Never place space heaters on furniture, only on the floor.
- Be sure the plug fits snugly into the outlet.
- Do not use extension cords.
- Do not use in wet locations.
- Do not hide cords under rugs, carpet or place anything on cords.

Information about Space Heaters

For additional information or questions about the use of space heaters on the Lawrence campus, you may contact Bob

Rombach, University of Kansas Fire Marshal Authority at 864-2717 or go to the UFMA web site at <http://www.ufma.ku.edu/>