



State Fire Marshal Fire Code Inspections

California Public Safety, Fire, and Building Codes (Titles 19 and 24, respectively, of the California Code of Regulations) establish the minimum fire safety requirements for new and existing buildings, facilities, storage and processes. The Fire Code addresses fire prevention, fire protection, life safety and safe storage and use of hazardous materials in new and existing buildings, facilities and processes. The California State University system is subject to compliance with these regulations.

Below are common fire code violations identified on a routine State Fire Marshal inspection:

Extension Cords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extension cords are not to be used as permanent wiring.• Extension cords shall not pass through ceiling tiles, floors, or walls.
Emergency Exits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exit accesses, exits, and exit discharges shall be free from obstructions.• Storage in corridors, exit doors, and stairways is prohibited.
Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain an 18" clearance from the ceiling in buildings equipped with fire sprinklers, and 24" clearance in buildings without fire sprinklers.• Provide 3 ft clearance in front of fire extinguishers, fire pull stations, electrical panel, AEDs.
"Daisy Chaining"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power strips cannot be plugged into other power strips to make a longer cord reach. This is called Daisy Chaining. Extension cords also cannot be plugged into each other.
Propped Doors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-closing doors (ones <i>without</i> magnetic holders) are fire-rated doors. These doors are meant to be kept closed to prevent the spread of fire and smoke. When propped open, this safety feature is compromised.• Do not prop open self-closing doors with door wedges, trashcans, boxes, etc.• Doors with magnetic holders shall not have items placed in front of them that prevents them from closing completely during a fire alarm.
Portable Heaters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be plugged directly into an electrical outlet.• Must be able to alarm and/or turn off automatically if tipped over.• Do not store combustible materials within 3 ft of the heater
Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Storage of materials shall be orderly, not create a nuisance or increase a fire hazard.• Combustible items shall not be stored in equipment/mechanical/electrical rooms.• Reduce the amount of paper, boxes or other combustible materials stored in offices. This increases the fire load and can expedite the spread of fire.
Junction Boxes Electrical Outlets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open junction boxes are prohibited. Cover plates shall remain in-place when not in use.• Electrical outlets shall have faceplates that are not missing or cracked.
Cylinders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cylinders shall be restrained with two chain restraints at upper and lower points at all times.• When not in use, cylinders shall have their storage caps firmly in place.
Fire Hazards - General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The following can increase the risk of fire hazard and should not be used in campus buildings or shall be used in an appropriate manner:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Household kitchen appliances (toasters, convection ovens, toaster ovens, coffee makers and other food warming devices) shall only be used in designated kitchens or break areas.▪ Open flame devices (such as candles) are prohibited with the exception of chafing dishes, which require prior approval.▪ Scent-producing devices (such as Glade plug-ins) are prohibited.