

Facilities and Fire Safety Program Common Fire Safety Compliance Issues and Solutions

Compliance Issue	Solution
Obstructed Egress	All exits must be free of obstructions such as chairs, tables, trash cans, large bags, and any items that may delay exit from a building.
Obstructed fire alarm pull stations	Fire alarm pull stations must be easily accessible. Do not block with decorative plants, bookshelves, chairs, desks, and / or vending machines.
Appropriate clearance to the ceiling / sprinkler heads (18/24 inches)	In a sprinklered building, there must be a clearance of 18 inches between sprinkler head and any item. In a non-sprinklered building, there must be a clearance of 24 inches between the ceiling and any item.
Electrical panels accessible	The area in front of electrical panels must be clear for 36 inches.
Exit doors obstructed	Items such as chairs, desks, bookshelves, boxes, decorations, storage of any kind shall not block exit doors.
Storage of materials in the stairwell	Items in a stairwell must be removed to avoid impediment to egress.
Excessive combustibles	Excessive combustibles increase the fire load of an area, and shall not be placed in exit corridors.
	Combustible door coverings exceed 50% of the door area. Wall coverings exceed 20% of the aggregate wall area.
Electrical circuit overloading	The only approved means of multiplying a receptacle is with a UL listed Surge Protector.
Extension cords used as permanent wiring	Electrical cords shall only be used for a period of no more than 4 hours per shift. Consider having an additional electrical outlet installed if constant extension cord use is necessary.
General housekeeping / excessive clutter	Excessive clutter can obstruct egress, increase fire load, and affect the evacuation routes.

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