



Administrative Policy
Policy Number 2007-03: Storage in Main Building Lab Area
Corridors

Title	Storage in Main Building Lab Area Corridors
Policy Owner and Contact Information	Office of Vice President of Research UConn Fire Department and Fire Marshal Unit
Campus Applicability	UConn Health
Applies to	Departments with allocated space in the Lab Areas
Effective Date	November 9, 2021

PURPOSE:

To ensure that corridor storage in the Main Building Lab (L) Area is in compliance with the State of Connecticut Fire Safety and Fire Prevention Codes. A safe and clear Means of Egress facilitates the evacuation of building occupants during emergencies, as well as providing safe passage for emergency response personnel to affected areas

POLICY STATEMENT:

No corridor storage is allowed that will compromise the minimum egress corridor width within a Means of Egress. This includes the renovated sections of Main Building L Area and all the corridors on floors 7, 6, 5, 4, and the north end of the 3rd floor.

Unrenovated sections of the L Area, including floors basement, 1, 2, and the south portion of the 3rd floor may have storage that meets the requirement of “acceptable storage” below.

DEFINITIONS:

1. Means of Egress (MOE):
 - a. The Means of egress is a continuous and unobstructed path of vertical and horizontal egress travel from any occupied portion of a building or structure to a public way.
 - b. A means of egress consists of three separate and distinct parts: the exit access (i.e., corridors), the exit (i.e., doors), and the exit discharge (i.e., sidewalks).
2. Acceptable Storage:
 - a. Storage cabinets that are stationary and made of metal conforming to the following:
 - i. Height no taller than 78 inches
 - ii. Width no wider than 36 inches
 - iii. Depth no more than 18 inches
 - iv. Doors shall swing 180 degrees and shall be lockable
 - v. Cabinets shall be locked at all times

- vi. Each cabinet shall be marked with the researcher's name, office location and contact phone number. Inventory list of contents is preferred, but not required
 - b. Vertical file cabinets that are placed parallel to the wall provided, when open, they do not intrude into the clear space of the corridor or obstruct the egress from a lab or office.
 - c. If cabinets/carts are equipped with wheels, they shall be equipped with a means to prevent them from rolling unattended into the minimum width of the MOE, from their designated storage area.
3. Prohibited Storage:
- a. Chemical storage of any kind
 - b. Open shelving
 - c. Cabinets with open or glass fronts or doors
 - d. Storage of flammable or organic solvents of any kind
 - e. Storage of corrosive liquids
 - f. Storage of any radioactive material or radioactively contaminated or potentially contaminated radioactive equipment
 - g. File cabinets of any type that when open intrudes into the clear space of the corridor or when open obstructs the egress from a lab or office. Horizontal file cabinets are prohibited
 - h. Storage of compressed/liquefied gases
 - i. Storage of any type in the elevator lobbies
 - j. Storage of any type on top of cabinets

REFERENCES:

Connecticut Fire Safety Code (CFSC)
Connecticut Fire Prevention Code (CFPC)
Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 541

RELATED POLICIES:

None

ENFORCEMENT:

To ensure compliance with the State of Connecticut Life Safety and Fire Prevention Codes, the L Area shall be inspected periodically by the UConn Fire Marshal Unit, and a representative from the Office of Environmental Health and Safety. Inspections may be unannounced and may require a researcher to open cabinets for inspection. Life threatening violations, those that cause immediate risk of injury to occupants, shall be corrected immediately. Determination of life threatening and non-life threatening violations shall be made by the UConn Fire Marshal Unit.

Violations of this policy or associated procedures may result in appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with University By-Laws, General Rules of Conduct for All University Employees, applicable collective bargaining agreements, the University of Connecticut Student Code, other applicable University Policies, or as outlined in any procedures document related to this policy.

APPROVAL:

Andrew Agwunobi (Signed)
UConn Health Chief Executive Officer

11/9/2021
Date

Kiki Nissen (Signed)
Administrative Policy Committee Vice-Chair

11/9/2021
Date

Janel Simpson (Signed)
Administrative Policy Committee Chair

11/8/2021
Date

POLICY HISTORY:

New Policy Approved: 04/2007

Revisions: 11/2021