

	Environmental Health and Safety Manual	
	Policy Number: EH&S 5-2	
Title: Interior Finishes and Furniture		
Effective Date: 5/88	Revision: 2/97	Number of Pages: 3

PURPOSE: To establish a clear definition of allowable rating of interior finishes and furniture installation in University facilities.

SCOPE: University wide.

DEFINITIONS:

Interior Finish: The exposed interior surface of buildings, including, but not limited to fixed or movable walls and partitions, columns, ceilings, draperies, hangings, and decorative material, but does not include trim such as picture molds, chair rails, hand rails, baseboards, and door and window frames, or subsequently applied paint or paper wall covering less than 1/28 inch in thickness.

Interior Floor Finish: The exposed floor surfaces of buildings, including carpeting.

Furniture: Includes, but is not limited to desks, chairs, cabinets, shelving units, couches, beds, especially resident constructed loftbeds.

Ratings: All ratings are described in the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, Section 772.2.

POLICY:

I. Finish Requirements

1. Carpet and carpet-like materials having a napped, tufted, looped, woven, non-woven or similar surface are not permitted to be applied to walls and ceilings, except that such materials which are manufactured for use on walls and which have a Class A rating may be applied to walls only in rooms equipped with an automatic sprinkler system.
2. Interior finishes in exit stairways and passageways shall have Class A rating.

3. In exits, stairways, passageways, and in areas of public assembly, carpeting shall be Class 1.
4. Draperies, hangings, and decorative materials in assembly spaces of more than 500 square feet in area, and in exits of buildings, shall be noncombustible or flame resistant.

II. Loftbeds

1. All wood components shall be fire retardant impregnated.
2. The loftbed shall not restrict free and easy movement within the room.
3. The maximum height of the loft assemblies shall be three feet below ceiling level.
4. Loftbed assemblies shall be fitted with side rails to prevent falling episodes and contact with windows.
5. In order to enable escape during an emergency, windows shall not be impeded by loftbed assemblies.
6. Loftbed assemblies shall be free standing and unattached to any part of the building.
7. Both the Department of Environmental Health and Safety and Campus Residences must approve each dormitory room for loftbed use.
8. All loftbed designs shall be approved by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Pre-approved designs are available from the Department of Environmental Health and Safety.
9. After construction, all loftbeds shall be inspected by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety and given a certification number. Certification numbers shall be affixed to the loftbed assembly.
10. Loftbeds that do not meet inspection parameters will require deficiency correction within seven (7) days. Loftbeds that are not corrected within this period of time will be removed.

III. Documentation

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1. All furniture and finishes will be required to have a certificate or other documentation of fire rating prior to purchasing approval and it must be on file in Purchasing, the Department of Environmental Health and Safety, and the requesting department.
2. Specific requirements can be made by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety to ensure fire safety in specialized areas (i.e. oxygen enriched atmospheres, high hazard areas, etc.)
3. Failure to comply with this policy will result in the inability to purchase requested items or removal of installed items at the department's expense.

IV. Exemptions

1. Exempt items include linens, notices, signs, paintings, and decorations, provided they are at least two (2) feet from the ceiling and ten (10) feet from exit doors and do not exceed 20% of the wall area.
2. Written requests for substitute ratings or equivalent ratings must be made to the Department of Environmental Health and Safety prior to purchase.

INQUIRIES/REQUESTS:

Environmental Health and Safety
110 Suffolk Hall
Zip 6200
Main Office: 632-6410
FAX: 632-9683

RELATED FORMS:

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code,
Title 9 Section 772

New York State Dormitory Authority Policy 09800-2

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