



Campus Fire Safety Checklist

Each year college and university students experience a growing number of fire related emergencies. There are several causes for these fires; however most are due to a lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention. The Office of the State Fire Marshal lists a few fire safety precautions you and your college students should be aware of.

- Students should be provided a program for fire safety and prevention
- Students should know how to properly notify the fire department using the 911 system.
- Make sure the dormitory room has working smoke alarms
- Make sure the smoke alarms and fire alarm system have been fully tested by staff. Ask our office or local fire department for inspection report. (if battery alarms are in use, make sure the battery has been changed)
- Regularly inspect room and buildings for fire hazards. Ask your local fire department for assistance
- Inspect exit doors and windows; make sure they are working properly.
- Have an updated detailed floor plan of the building
- Practice fire drills monthly to assure you know what to do in case of fire
- Do not overload electrical outlets and make sure extension cords are used properly
- Learn to properly use and maintain heating and cooking appliances

Many students are unaware that fire is a risk or threat to them. Most students fail to use the 911 notification system which delays emergency response. Evacuation efforts are hindered in most cases due to student's lack of preparation and pre-planning. Vandalized and improperly maintained smoke alarms and fire alarm systems inhibit early detection of fire. If you should see your room detector has been damaged please notify your advisor.

These tips are to help reduce and prevent the loss of life and property in dormitory and university housing fires. In cases where fire fatalities occurred on college campuses, alcohol was a factor. There is a strong link between alcohol and fire deaths. In many adult fire fatalities, victims were under the influence at the time of the fire. Alcohol abuse impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts. Cooking is the leading cause of fire injuries on college campuses, closely followed by careless smoke and arson.

