

6.1 Space Specific Standards Introduction

6.1.1 General

These Design Standards provide a framework for the University of Calgary to sustain its goal of providing high quality environments as a support to the learning experience of students and the work of staff. These standards describe all types of interior spaces including instructional spaces, laboratory spaces, meeting spaces, study spaces, public spaces, kitchen and lounge spaces, service and support spaces, loading and receiving spaces, library spaces, assembly spaces, animal spaces and residence spaces. These standards are for the entire university community.

These standards are intended for gradual and continued implementation through existing buildings as well as new buildings. Where an existing condition does not reasonably support the appropriate standard, an exception may be considered by the standards' authors.

These standards are to be a living document. The standards will be updated periodically by the Office of the University Architect working with Campus Planning.

6.1.1.1 Principles

1. The health and safety of students, staff and the public is paramount. The planning and design of the University spaces will exceed the requirements of the authorities having jurisdiction, including the University's environmental health and safety requirements.
2. The design of the University spaces should promote positive interactions, create a sense of community, and support the mental health and wellbeing of our campus community
3. Institutional needs continually change so it is important to design spaces to allow for this. These standards have been developed with modularity in mind. The standards are intended to provide the flexibility to adapt university spaces for future needs and to ensure that spaces can be easily modified in cost effective ways.
4. The University's existing space is limited, but the institution's needs continue to grow. These standards endeavour to ensure consistency in the configuration of space throughout the campus community.
5. The University has limited funds for repair or replacement of building finishes and furniture. It is important that these finishes and furniture contribute to a healthy environment and are durable over the long term as well as respectful of our operations and maintenance procedures.
6. The University of Calgary's Institutional Sustainability Policy calls for:
 - excellence and leadership in advancing the pursuit of Sustainability in teaching, research, Campus Operations and community service; and
 - modeling practices in support of Sustainability in all areas of Campus Operations.

7. While the standards will endeavour to reflect planning and design decisions that are the most sustainable, most durable and most straightforward to maintain they will also be cognisant of the cost of space and to that end a cost effective solution will be pursued.
8. The University of Calgary has many buildings, but it is a single institution. While each building on campus has a unique interior experience and history, all projects will be reviewed by Campus Planning and the Office of the University Architect for consistent design treatment to achieve economies and support a larger institutional vision.
9. The University of Calgary has an approved campus master plan. The design and redesign of building exteriors, entry points and circulation systems, must be developed with reference to this master plan. All projects likely to impact the campus master plan will be reviewed by the Master Plan Review Committee and the Design Review Committee at key points in the project's development.

6.1.1.2 Design Parameters

1. The University of Calgary Design Standards have been developed from both unique campus experiences and from best practices of universities across Canada with additional reference to business and industry best practice.
2. While the information in Section 6.0 describes the Design Standards for specific types of use, the information listed here is intended to be read as part of the larger University of Calgary Design Standards. Reference to all other sections is required to understand the full intent of these standards.
3. Exceptions to these standards must be approved in writing by Facilities Management and Development on a project by project basis.

6.1.1.3 Authority for the Accommodation Standards

1. The authority for the Accommodation Standards application, implementation and monitoring rests jointly with the Office of the University Architect Campus Planning and as per these policies, the current versions of which reside on the University's official policy web page (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/>):
 - Space Allocation Policy
 - Building and Lands Policy

Revision History

| Revision Date | Version | Description |
|----------------------|----------------|---|
| Aug 2019 | 1.1 | Baseline version |
| August 10, 2023 | 1.0 | Added Revision History table to end of document and reset to Version 1.0. |
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