

Stanford University



Air Conditioning Policy

SUMMARY This statement describes University policy on air conditioning.

POLICY STATEMENT

The University's air conditioning policy has been established with the intent to conserve non-renewable energy resources, facilitate long-range planning and insure the efficient and effective use of production and distribution equipment.

The University generally does not support the installation of air conditioning in University facilities.

New buildings are to be designed to be energy efficient. The design of new facilities shall investigate passive, solar and other design features that will enhance the scope for natural ventilation and environmental control. Only limited, essential areas will be considered for air conditioning.

When it is determined that air conditioning is appropriate, the system shall be designed with controls to limit energy use and that support operation within specified temperature ranges.

New air conditioning installations in existing buildings will be permitted only in those areas where it is demonstrated that controlled environment is critical to the functions performed and alternate existing conditioned spaces to perform the activity have been thoroughly investigated.

Air conditioning system designs shall adhere to Stanford Facilities Design Guidelines and be submitted for Plans Review by applicable stakeholders. Air conditioning systems shall utilize campus chilled water for cooling, when practical.

Air conditioning shall be generally limited to spaces that require controlled temperatures or relative humidity such as:

- selected laboratories or parts thereof;
- medical facilities;
- animal research facilities;
- rooms containing large scale computer installations and/or electronic equipment which require temperature control as a condition of the manufacturer's warranty;

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- certain areas within libraries;
- selected lecture halls, teaching laboratories, seminar rooms, and other teaching facilities, depending on size and orientation;
- other spaces supporting temperature-sensitive activities; and
- At the discretion of the Provost, spaces that cannot be maintained below the temperature 90 degrees Fahrenheit at least 75% of the normal University working hours during the period June 1 to September 30.

APPLICABILITY The policy applies to both new construction and renovations of existing facilities.

The Provost's Office will make the final decisions for all air conditioning requests after consideration of evaluation recommendations, special program needs, impact to University infrastructure systems and other relevant criteria.

PROCESS All requests for new or replacement installations and for modifications to existing installations should be submitted via the Form1 process.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE The funding for approved air conditioning installations shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring academic or administrative unit. The sponsoring academic or administrative unit may also be responsible for the associated equipment maintenance costs and for the added energy costs when air conditioning is added to an existing facility.

EFFECTIVE This policy supersedes all previous policy statements.

AUTHORITY This policy is approved by the Provost and is implemented by the LBRE - Department of Capital Planning.