

Last updated: 10/3/2023

WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE SPACE TEMPERATURE SETPOINT STANDARD

PURPOSE

The purpose of this standard is to establish guidelines for temperature setpoint control within Weill Cornell Medicine managed space. This standard is a living document that will routinely be updated by the Facilities Management & Campus Operations (FMCO) department to reflect best practices and regulatory requirements. This guidance, while not comprehensive, aims to deliver more consistency in setpoint policy during fit-out of new spaces and during ongoing maintenance and routine troubleshooting activities. The most current version of this standard is available at https://facilities.weill.cornell.edu/.

WHY A STANDARD?

- The 2016 New York City Energy Conservation Code (NYCECC) mandates specific minimum space temperature setpoint deadbands and off-hour setbacks except in applications where precision in indoor control is required, as approved by the code official.
- Temperature standards are one way that the College is able to conserve energy and meet our sustainability goals as part of the New York City Carbon Challenge.
- The College spends nearly \$20 million per year to heat and cool the campus buildings. Every degree reduction in heating setpoint and every degree increase in cooling setpoint yields 1-2% reduction in annual heating and cooling costs.

SPACE TEMPERATURE SETPOINTS

The setpoints during occupied hours outlined below are within the range that is acceptable to at least 80% of the building occupants by ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55, Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy.

- Occupied Hours' Heating & Cooling Setpoints: 70°F (heating) 76°F (cooling)
- Unoccupied Hours' Heating & Cooling Setpoints: 63°F (heating) 82°F (cooling)
- Exceptions: vivarium spaces; BLS3 spaces; spaces with limited controls capability or manual controls; etc.
- Special cases can be reviewed by the Facilities Management & Campus Operations department's Senior Director and Energy Manager.

Occupancy schedules are determined by end user input. Concerns about the occupancy schedules should be directed to the Facilities Management & Campus Operations department. Occupancy schedules should reflect the more frequent use of the space.

If space temperature deviates beyond a few degrees on either side of the setpoint, please inform the Facilities Management & Campus Operations department.



NEW CONSTRUCTION INCLUDING SPACE RENOVATIONS

- Temperature controls of new spaces must meet current energy code requirements.
- Lighting control sensors should also provide occupancy feedback to the Building Management System (BMS).
- Tailored occupancy schedules should be determined prior to space turnover, with input from the end user. This is especially important for spaces where lighting sensor occupancy cannot be tied into the BMS.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT & CAMPUS OPERATIONS BEST PRACTICES

- Educate end users on setpoint policy, and campus energy conservation and sustainability goals
- Evaluate special cases, which will require approval by the Facilities Management & Campus Operations department's Senior Director and Energy Manager
- Confirm correct setpoints when responding to hot/cold service calls
- Document locations of exceptions to the setpoint policy and the reasoning
- Ensure temporary overrides to setpoints are accompanied by a note in the Building Management System with the date of the change and the radio code of the operator making the override
- Review setpoint standard on a regular basis to ensure the right balance is achieved between energy conservation and occupant comfort

USE OF SPACE HEATERS PROHIBITED

As a policy, space heaters are prohibited for safety and operational reasons. If the building system cannot provide adequate space temperatures per the ranges above, please notify the Facilities Management & Campus Operations dispatcher immediately at 212-746-2288. Space heaters are subject to confiscation by the Facilities Management & Campus Operations department.