

# FIRE CODES PROCEDURE

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*Approval: June 2012*

*Revision:*

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All individuals on the Craven Community College campuses should observe the following fire codes:

## **Electrical Panels**

Nothing should be placed in front of electrical panels. As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (Access), a minimum of 30 inches of clearance shall be provided in front of electrical panels for access.

## **Extension Cords**

As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (Extension Cords: Temporary Use), extension cords shall not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.

Extension cords are permitted only with portable appliances or fixtures, and while in immediate use:

- Each extension cord shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle and shall, except for approved multiplying extension cords, serve only one appliance or fixture.
- The current capacity of the cord shall not be less than the rated capacity of the appliance or fixture.
- The extension cord shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.
- The extension cord shall be of the grounded type when servicing grounded appliances or fixtures.
- Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings, floors, under doors or floor coverings, nor be subject to environmental damaging physical impact.

## **Multiplug Adapters**

As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (Multiplug Adapters), the use of multiplug adapters, such as multiplug extension cords, cube adapters, strip plugs, or any other device that does not comply with code or the electrical code, is prohibited.

- Extension cords and multiplug strips must be plugged directly into an outlet.
- They cannot be plugged into another extension cord or multiplug strip. (no “daisy chaining”).
- All multiplug strips must be surge-protected types.

## **Egress Ways and Exits**

As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (General Provisions):

- In every building, means of egress shall be maintained.
- Means of egress shall consist of continuous and unobstructed paths of travel to the exterior of a building at all times. Means of egress shall not be permitted through kitchens, closets, restrooms and similar areas.

As per North Carolina State Building Code (Exit Obstructions):

- Where floor space is occupied by tables, chairs or other movable furniture, an aisle not less than 36 inches clear width shall be maintained to provide ready access to egress doors.

As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (Exit Obstruction):

- In every building or structure, means of egress shall be so maintained as to provide free and unobstructed egress from all parts of the building or structure at all times, and so as to be available for full instant use in case of fire or other emergency.
- Interior decorations such as draperies, tapestries, or mirrors shall not be permitted to obscure, conceal or confuse exit doors or signs or exit pathways.
- Exit access and exit discharge areas shall be so maintained as to provide a permanent, reasonably straight path of travel unimpeded by railings, barriers or gates dividing such areas into sections ancillary to adjoining individual rooms or spaces.

### **Aisles**

- In every portion of a building or area where seats, tables, merchandise, equipment or similar impediments to egress are present, required aisles shall be maintained free of all obstructions.
- Aisles, corridors or passageways leading directly to every exit shall be created and maintained in open floor areas where exits are not immediately accessible.
- Except where single exits or limited dead ends are permitted by the building code or other regulations, aisles shall be so arranged as to provide access to at least two exits by separated paths of travel.

### **Open Flames**

As per North Carolina State Fire Prevention Code (Open Flame):

- No person shall use or allow to be used, any open flame, burning candle or candles in connection with any public meeting or gathering for purposes of deliberation, worship, entertainment, amusement, instruction, education, recreation, or awaiting transportation.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)