



Boston University Campus Planning & Operations

Annual Capital Projects

120 Ashford Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Regulations for the Purchasing of Solid Plastic Chairs or Upholstered Furniture (Revised August 31, 2023)

On July 8, 2016, the Fire Department for the City of Boston issued revised regulations regarding the requirements for upholstered and plastic furniture within certain types of buildings or rooms within those buildings. Boston University will apply these regulations across the campus, including properties in Brookline.

Solid plastic chairs installed in University facilities must be tested as a product using ASTM E 1537 and be compliant with that standard.

Upholstered furniture installed in the University's academic, administrative, and research facilities must comply with California Technical Bulletin 117-2013 EXCEPT in the following buildings where compliance with California Technical Bulletin 133 is required.

CAL 133 Fire certificates are required for the following buildings:

1. College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Avenue
2. George Sherman Union, 775 Commonwealth Avenue
3. Boston University Academy / Sargent Activities Center, 1 University Road
4. Mugar Library, 771 Commonwealth Avenue

The buildings below in red have since had a full sprinkler system installed within the facility and now comply with California Technical Bulletin 117-2013. Thus, they have been removed from the Fire Certificate hold list:

1. College of General Studies, 871 Commonwealth Avenue
2. College of Fine Arts, 855 Commonwealth Avenue

Upholstered furniture installed in the University's student residences must comply with California Technical Bulletin 133 EXCEPT when the residence hall is a high rise in which instance compliance with California Technical Bulletin 117-2013 is required.

Other Points:

- Business Use does not need CAL TB 133
- Rental Property does not need CAL TB 133
- Assembly Space (more than 49) does not need CAL TB 133 if it has full sprinklers.

Further questions can be directed to Environmental Health & Safety or the design staff in Facilities Management & Planning.