Information on UNLV Fire and Life Safety Requirements

- International Fire Code (IFC)
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- Clark County Fire Code adopts the provisions of the IFC and NFPA as listed below.

**Exits:** It is unlawful to alter a building or structure in a manner that will reduce the number of exits or the capacity of the means of egress to less than required by this code. Obstruction to exits shall not be placed in the required width and exits shall not be obstructed in any manner. The minimum aisle width shall not be less than 36” in a laboratory with occupant capacity less than 50. Furniture, casework, and equipment in laboratory units shall be arranged so that means of access to an exit can be reached easily from any point.

**Fire Protection Systems:** Fire extinguishers shall be in a conspicuous and readily available location. Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.

**Combustibles:** Combustible materials in buildings shall be maintained in a neat, orderly manner. Storage shall be maintained 2 feet or more below the ceiling in a non-sprinklered building and 18 inches below sprinkler head deflectors in sprinklered areas. Combustible materials shall not be stored in exits or exit enclosures. Materials susceptible to spontaneous ignition, such as oily rags, shall be stored in listed disposal containers (self-closing lid). Shelf storage of flammable and combustible liquids shall be maintained in an orderly manner. The quantity of combustible material should not exceed the prescribed Fire Code limitations based on fire loading for a particular room. Fire loading is a measure of the maximum heat that would be released if all the combustibles in a given fire area burned. The Fire Code provides that there can be a maximum of 7.6 pounds of combustibles per square foot of space, minus various factor determinations for laboratories with flammables stored as well. A typical laboratory is 500 square feet and by code, could have a maximum of 380 pounds of combustibles.

**Electrical:** Power taps shall be directly connected to a permanently installed receptacle and shall not extend through walls, ceilings, floors, under doors or floor coverings, or be subject to damage. Extension cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. Working space and clearance of not less than 30 inches in width, 36 inches in depth and 78 inches in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment (panel). Open junction boxes and open wiring splices shall be prohibited. Approved covers shall be on all switch and outlet boxes. Multiplug adapters, such as cube adapters, unfused plug strips
shall be prohibited. Electrical motors shall be maintained free from excessive accumulations of oil, dirt, waste and debris. Electrical receptacles, switches, and controls shall be located so as not to be subject to liquid spills.

**Hazardous Materials:** Storage of incompatible materials shall be separated if in containers having a capacity over 5-lbs or ½ gallon. Flammable and combustible liquids exceeding five gallons shall be stored in a flammable storage cabinet. Compressed gas containers, cylinders and tanks must be secured to prevent falling. Compressed gas containers must have protective caps in place except when in use. Compressed gas containers, cylinders and tanks containing non-liquefied gases, shall be stored in an upright position with the valve end up including conditions where the container, cylinder or tank axis is inclined as much as 45 degrees, except those designed for use in a horizontal position.

**Fire Protection:** Fire doors and smoke barrier doors shall not be blocked or obstructed or otherwise made inoperable. Fire door assemblies shall not be modified. Wooden or rubber door wedges and fold down feet that block open fire rated doors in the open position shall be removed and the door allowed to protect the opening in fire rated corridors.