

CSU Environmental Health Services Portable Heater Use Guidelines

- Portable electric heaters shall be listed and approved by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL).
- Portable electric heaters should be of the fail-safe type, which are equipped with an automatic tip-over safety shut-off switch.
- Portable electric heaters should be placed at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from combustibles: paper, curtains, furniture, clothing, bedding or anything else that can burn. Observe clearances recommended by the manufacturer.
- Never leave your electric heater running when you leave the room or area, or while sleeping.
- Never dry clothes or other combustibles on or directly over heaters.
- Always plug your electric heater directly into a wall outlet or use a UL approved surge strip with circuit breaker, don't use extension cords.
- Do not extend the electric cord of the heater through wall openings, under doors or floor coverings. Arrange the cord away from traffic areas where it will not be tripped over or otherwise subject to damage.
- Do not operate an electric heater with a damaged cord or plug or after the heater malfunctions or has been dropped or damaged in any manner.
- Do not operate electric heater in or near water or in extremely damp conditions.
- Liquid and/ or solid fuel (gasoline, kerosene, pellet, propane etc.) space heaters are not permitted for use inside buildings or in areas with inadequate ventilation.

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