Tent Requirements

SafetyNet #: 554

Tent permit applications SHALL include all of the following before plans will be approved. (Tent permit plans shall show and confirm compliance with Chapter 10, 31 and 61 of 2013 California Fire Code, and CCR Title 19). This applies to all tents that have an area in excess of 400 square feet. All tents over 400 square feet will be required to be secured with stakes.

In order for a field inspector to permit the event to occur, each item shown or stated clearly on the approved plans shall be consistent with the condition observed by the field inspector or the permit will not be approved.

1. **Submit a full site plan to scale denoting:**
   1. The area of the tent’s installation including guy-wires and support ropes;
   2. Fire Department access roads;
   3. Nearest existing fire hydrant(s);
   4. Distances to property line, buildings, other tents, parked vehicles and engines;
   5. Automobile parking lot stripes including islands;
   6. Location of heating units;
   7. Wiring routing on floors, how secured and ramped over;
   8. Location of generators and, location of other equipment.

2. **Submit a scaled floor plan of the tent or canopy, which includes the proposed layout of:**
   1. Tables, chairs, aisles, stages, switchboards, buffets;
   2. Fire Extinguishers;
   3. Exits, exit signs;
   4. Occupant load signs;
   5. Heaters;
   6. LP-gas cylinders;
   7. Generators;
   8. Cooking equipment and other associated equipment.
3. **Submit a copy of the front and back of the fire retardant certificates.**

The tent(s), canopies and all decorative materials used in the tent(s) and canopies shall be fire retardant material or treated and State Fire Marshal labeled as such. (i.e. tent, floor coverings, curtains, table cloths, banners, etc)

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**Department Requirements for Tents, Canopies, and Temporary Membrane Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>CONDITIONS / COMMENTS: CORRECTIVE ACTION NECESSARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timeline</strong></td>
<td>IMPORTANT NOTICE: The permit applicant shall furnish the submittal package <strong>at least 14 days</strong> prior to the anticipated date/time of complete event set-up. Event cannot take place until the field inspection is performed and approved by the Deputy Campus Fire Marshal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applicable Codes</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 31 of the 2013 California Fire Code and all other applicable codes/ordinances. Separate permit applications and plans are required for fuel tanks greater than 60 gallons. Provide the Deputy Campus Fire Marshal with a scaled floor plan of the tent and surrounding area. This installation and drawing shall comply with all code requirements and include all tables, chairs, aisles, stages, switchboards, buffets, fire extinguishers, exits, exit signs, occupant load signs, power cord routes, audio/visual cord routes, “No Smoking” signs, heaters, LP-gas cylinders, generators, cooking equipment and other associated equipment.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Plans</strong></td>
<td>Tent(s) shall not be located within <strong>10 feet</strong> of:</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>a. heating equipment, b. cooking equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tent(s) shall not be located within <strong>20 feet</strong> of:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. generators, b. lot lines, buildings, parked vehicles, engines,</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>c. outdoor cooking producing sparks or grease-laden vapors, and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. refueling operations. (CFC 3104.17.3)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tent(s) shall not be located within <strong>50 feet</strong> of:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. a. vegetation,
   b. combustible waste material,
   c. hay, straw, and similar combustible materials. (T-19 Div 1 326 (8))
8. Tents shall not be located within 50 feet of flammable/combustible liquid storage. (CFC 3104.17.2)

Access
9. Fire apparatus access roads shall be within 150 feet of all exterior walls of any tent. (CFC 503)
10. Fire access roads shall have a minimum 20-foot width and 13-foot 6-inch vertical clearance. (CFC 503)  
Provide banners, cones, k-rails, or security to protect generator tanks, heaters, LP-gas cylinders, outside cooking areas, etc., from vehicle impact and public access. (CFC 3104.16.3)
11. Provide “No smoking” signs for the tent(s). (CFC 3104.6)  
Provide a copy of the front and back of the flame resistance Certificate(s) for the tent and all decorative materials (i.e., tent, floor coverings, curtains, tablecloths, banners, etc.)
12. Post a maximum occupant load sign for this tent above the main exit. The sign shall state, “OCCUPANT LOAD XXX”, with XXX being the floor area (square feet) divided by 15.

Certificates
13. Provide a copy of the front and back of the flame resistance Certificate(s) for the tent and all decorative materials (i.e., tent, floor coverings, curtains, tablecloths, banners, etc.)

Occupant Load
14. Exits
15. Provide the minimum number of exits as detailed below: (CFC Table 2403.12.2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupant Load</th>
<th>Number of Exits</th>
<th>Width of Exit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-199</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>72 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-499</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>72 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-999</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>96 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000-1,999</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>120 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000-2,999</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>120 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 3,000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>120 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exits shall be spaced at equal intervals around the perimeter of the tent and shall be located such that all points are 100 feet or less from an exit. (CFC 3103.12.1)  
Exit openings shall remain open unless covered by a flame-retardant curtain, provided:

1. Curtains are free sliding on a metal support. The support
shall be a minimum of 8 feet above the floor level. Curtains when open, no part of the curtains can obstruct the exit, and

2. Curtains shall be of color contrasting with the color of the tent or marked so they are readily distinguishable from the adjacent construction. Install large red “X” in tape on the inside of curtains used to cover the exit openings. (CFC 3103.12.3)

18. Exit signs shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL924 as internally illuminated type and used in accordance with listing or shall be externally illuminated by luminaries supplied by two separate circuits one separate from all other circuits for occupant loads of 300 or less or two separate power sources, one being emergency power for an occupant load of 300 or more. (CFC 3103.12.6.1)

Aisles

19. Aisles shall be provided leading to all exits. The minimum width of the aisle(s) shall not be less than the 24 inch minimum for employees and 44 inches for the public. (CFC 3103.12.5)

There shall be no extension cords crossing aisles at any time. Temporary wiring shall be attached to the structure in an approved manner and not extend across doorways/aisles. (CFC 3103.12.5.1)

Seating/

20. Greater than 200 loose seats, folding chairs or similar seating facilities that are not fixed to the floor shall be bonded together in-groups of three or more. (CFC 1028.12)

21. Table Spacing. For rows of seating served by aisles or doorways at both ends, there shall be no more than 100 seats per row and the minimum clear width shall be 22 inches. (CFC1028.10)

22. Rectangular conference or banquet type tables shall be placed not less than 54 inches apart and not less than 36 inches from tent walls. (T19 Sec 3.06)

Fire Extinguishers

24. Provide one fire extinguisher mounted by every required exit.

25. The fire extinguishers shall have a minimum of 2A:10B:C classification rating.

26. All fire extinguishers shall have State Fire Marshal tags denoting service within the last year.

27. All fire extinguishers shall be mounted with approved brackets.

28. Provide at least one 10 b:c rated fire extinguisher for each power generator or transformer, locations where flammable or combustible liquids are used, stored, or dispensed and other fire appliances. (T-19 Div 1 319.6)

Additional fire extinguishers shall be provided under the following circumstances:

☐ Where travel distances to extinguishers exceed 50 feet.
☐ On each side of the stage or platform.

☐ In every passageway leading to a dressing room.

☐ Adjacent to each switchboard on the stage or platform.

☐ On each side of every fly gallery.

☐ In every carpenter shop, or similar work area.

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30. **Cooking Booths**

Cooking booths shall be constructed and located in accordance with UC Davis Fire Prevention Services Fire Net on Food Booth and Vendor Requirements

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31. **Labeling**

Label all tanks, containers and cylinders in accordance with (CFC 5303.4.2)

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32. **Generators**

All fuel tanks greater than 60 gallons (including the piping and fittings) shall be secondarily contained & stored in an approved manner.

Generators shall be located at least 20 feet away from tents and buildings (CFC 3104.19)

Tanks, generators, & motors shall be protected against tampering by fencing or other control measures. (CFC 3104.19)

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33. **LP-Gas**

LP-gas cylinder safety release shall be pointed away from the tents. (CFC 3104.16.2)

LPG container(s) shall not be located near exits, stairways, or in areas normally used or intended to be used for the safe egress of people. (CFC 6109.4)

Provide bracing for LP-gas cylinders/containers. (UCD Fire Prevention Services Fire Net Food Booth and Vendor Requirements)

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**Contact**

**Fire Prevention Services**

fireprevention@ucdavis.edu 530-752-1493

**More information**

[https://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/fire-prevention-staff-listing](https://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/fire-prevention-staff-listing) [1]