

September 22, 2022

In compliance with the Annual Fire Safety Report Clery Statute 34 CFR 66.49(b), the following will include campus fire statistics, description of fire safety systems in housing, fire drills, policies for housing, evacuation procedures, policies for fire education, reporting positions, improvement plans.

Campus Fire Statistics

Fire statistics for all Housing at UTPB						
Number and cause of fires			Property damage		Injuries	Deaths
			Facility	Occupant		
2019	0		-	-	-	-
2020	1	Commercial dishwasher fire	~\$9,000	\$0	none	none
2020	1	Cooking fire (apartment)	\$20	\$0	none	none
2021	1	Cooking fire (apartment)	\$80	\$10	none	none

Description of Fire Safety Systems in Housing

- In Housing 64-74, the buildings have interlinked smoke detectors.
- In Housing 2-6 and 76-80, the buildings are protected by wet pipe fire suppression systems supervised by fire detection and alarm system.
- In Housing 84-99, the buildings are protected by a supervised fire suppression system and interlinked smoke detectors.
- In Housing 210-216, the buildings are protected by wet pipe fire suppression systems supervised by fire detection and alarm system.
- All units that have built-in kitchens also have handheld fire extinguishers.
- The Residents and Dining Hall is protected by wet pipe fire suppression systems supervised by fire detection and alarm system. Several commercial kitchen hood systems also protect the kitchen with suppression systems.

Fire Drills

Fire drills are an integral part of fire training. Our procedure is found in the UTPB Fire and Life Safety Plan. Our child care fire drills are completed monthly; our K-12 STEM academy has drilled every month, be it a fire drill, shelter in place, secure in place, or severer weather drill. In housing, we hold a drill in the fall and spring semesters.

COVID upended the 2019 – 2020 academic year in favor of online education. Still, we completed one housing fire evacuation drill and our scheduled STEM and Childcare drills as appropriate. We also completed the academic building drills.

2020-2021 academic for most of the year, the university had minimal people on campus and was allowed to postpone fire evacuation drills per the state fire marshal.

The 2021- 2022 academic year saw us return to normal operations with monthly, semi-annual and annual drill schedules.

Policies for Housing

Housing has many banned products and activities.

- Grills of all types, fuels and lighter fluids are all banned
- Candles of all kinds are banned
- Heating sources such as hotplates, foreman grills, griddles, and the like
- Laboratory or industrial chemicals
- No open flame
- The use of extension cords is highly limited in use and duration
- Portable heaters are highly regulated for emergency use only.

Evacuation procedures

As defined in the UTPB Fire and Life Safety Plan, there are specific evacuation points for buildings for everyone to gather. In case of foul weather, the gym is where we will have people wait for the issue to be cleared.

For housing apartments, the evacuation point is across the road from the apartment and out of the smoke. They are to move and shelter in the Parker Ranch House in foul weather. The Residents and Dining Hall will use a posted evacuation point to the west of the building and, in foul weather, the Science Technology Building lobby, which can be opened electronically by our Police Dispatchers.

Policies for fire education

The university has several training programs to include

- Fire extinguisher training with a Bull-ex digital fire simulation system.
- Garaventa Evacu-trac is a device that can carry a person with mobility issues downstairs safely and efficiently.
- In orientation for new employees, they are trained that their department will have an evacuation point they need to meet after an evacuation.
- In annual training, people are advised how to find an evacuation path in a building, to have two practiced paths from all the typical places they are in,
- All enclosed stairwells are areas of refuge in that they have a two-hour fire separation from the rest of the building.
- Once evacuated, departments are encouraged to take attendance and report people who may be missing and where they may be to police, fire, or environmental health and safety staff.

Reporting positions

The Environmental Health and Safety office maintains all reporting to Clery reports and the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office and local fire department.

- The Director of EHS is also the lead of this program and a fire marshal for the campus.



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- Safety Specialist II is also a fire marshal if the director is unavailable.

Improvement plans

The university has maintenance and operation schedules and a replacement and improvement schedule as required by the NFPA. Buildings like our Center for Economic and Energy Diversification building are scheduled and funded to receive a wet pipe fire suppression system that will be integrated into the existing fire detection and alarm system next year. Plans for other unsprinkled buildings have been ranked and estimated for funding purposes. One of those funding proposals is under review by the legislature at this time.

Respectfully,

Lail Grant,
Director, Environmental Health and Safety