

Temperature Setting Guidelines FAQs

Does Emory have a standard indoor temperature?

Yes, temperatures are set at 68°-76° (+/- 2°).

Temperatures may be adjusted outside of this range if the relative humidity in a building rises above 60%.

What buildings are included in the standard temperature policy?

The majority of campus buildings will have a standard temperature policy. Exceptions are buildings that require special temperature settings, these include all or parts of Emory clinics and hospitals, research, special use (i.e. Manuscript Archives Rare Book Library) and lab buildings.

Why is Emory standardizing temperatures in its buildings?

Standardizing temperatures will save energy, especially during spring and fall when we can increase the use of outside air. One of Emory's goals in its strategic vision is to reduce overall energy consumption by 25% per square foot by 2015 and energy reduction helps reduce Emory's carbon footprint. A significant way to accomplish this is to standardize temperatures throughout campus buildings.

Who do I contact if there is a problem?

If you feel your area is outside of the standardized temperature, call the zone shop supervisor or Campus Services Customer Service Center at 404-727-7464.

What should I do if I am uncomfortable with the temperature in my area or building?

If you feel that the temperature does not fall within the published University standards, place a call to the zone shop supervisor or call Campus Services Customer Service Center at 404-727-7464. These calls will be made a priority and that building's area temperature settings will be examined by a Campus Services Technician. If they find that your area is within the policy, then please be sure to adjust your wardrobe to allow you to feel warmer or cooler. Also consider moving the furniture in your office further away from the window or the vent (a vent blowing directly on one's head is almost always uncomfortable).

Why can't I adjust the temperature in my area or building?

Emory has a standardized temperature policy in the majority of campus buildings. Depending on your building and location, the systems are remotely controlled and monitored. All of these systems are monitored by Campus Services. By controlling the buildings centrally, Emory can ensure the systems fall within the temperature policy.

Is there a cost savings associated with a standard temperature?

Yes. Peer institutions have saved hundreds of thousands of dollars by implementing a set temperature policy.

How can I become more comfortable with the indoor temperature?

If you are uncomfortable and it is determined that your space is within the University temperature standard, it is recommended that you dress in layers, keep a sweater, jacket or lap blanket in the office and be prepared to add or remove layers of clothing for your personal comfort.

Can I use a space heater to increase the temperature in my area or building?

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Emory has prohibited the purchase of space heaters and has recommended that space heaters not be used in any University building. Use of space heaters is banned in all Finance & Administration units.

Space heaters create a safety hazard, consume energy and negatively impact the heating and cooling balance in buildings – causing the building's system to work harder by using more energy.