

# Emergency Evacuation from UMass/Boston Campus Buildings

## Faculty and Instructor Emergency Evacuation Responsibilities

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## I Announcement on the First Day of Class

Every semester, on the first day of class, inform students that whenever a building fire alarm is activated they must leave the building immediately. Inform them of the proper way to evacuate:

All building floors above and below the Plaza Level

- Follow the illuminated “EXIT” signs that lead to the nearest enclosed stairwell. *(Enclosed stairwells are designed to protect exiting occupants from the effects of a fire)*
- Enter the stairwell and follow the directional arrows and exit signs to the exit door; go directly outdoors.

### Plaza Level Floor

- Follow the illuminated “EXIT” signs that lead to the nearest exit door that opens to the outdoor, plaza level.

<p><b>Do not exit the buildings via open stairs or the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor catwalk.</b></p>
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## II Observance of Fire Evacuation Practices

- Serve as a role model - immediately respond to the fire alarm. Close the classroom door behind you.
- Advise students with disabilities needing assistance to go to the nearest elevator lobby and call Public Safety at 911 for assistance. *Important: To call Public Safety from a cell phone dial 617-287-1212. Cell phone 911 calls go directly to the state police.*

## Safety Features of Campus Building Stairwells

The buildings' enclosed stairwells are constructed of materials with a fire resistance rating of two hours that protect individuals from the effects of a fire during evacuation. The stairwell walls are very well marked with directional arrows and the word "exit" at every floor landing with arrows that clearly indicate the direction to follow for exiting the building. Each stairwell door that leads to a safe outdoor refuge is identified by an illuminated EXIT sign above the door and directional exit information painted on the walls in close proximity to it. In addition, the stairwell lights are connected to emergency generators that provide reliable lighting in the event of a power outage.

*Note: This fact sheet is available at the EH&S Office website*

[www.umb.edu/ehs](http://www.umb.edu/ehs)

