

MINIMUM LACTATION STATION GUIDELINES

Revised July 1, 2014

Principles for Lactation Station Planning & Design

The University of Chicago seeks to provide an environment suitable for nursing employees and students to feed their infants and/or express milk. As such, the fundamental principles for lactation station renovation and construction are guided by Universal Design, which supports the creation of spaces that are inherently accessible to people both with and without disabilities.

The FS Project Manager, together with identified stakeholders, will determine the need to include a lactation space in the program for a given project.

The following list is to provide guidance in the planning and design of a lactation space. It is expected that the design of such a space meet or exceed Federal, State, and Municipal accessibility standards, codes, and ordinances.

In facilities where lactation spaces are provided, at least one lactation room or space, or no less than 5% of the total, in each room or facility, shall comply with the minimum accessibility requirements 4 through 12 below.

1. A room for nursing parents is a private space (other than a restroom) used to express milk. This space must be shielded from view and free from intrusion from others and therefore must be fully enclosed, with a locking entry door.
2. The lactation station space must be functional. There should be a place to sit and a flat surface, other than the floor, to place the breast pump (an optional requirement) and other supplies.
3. These spaces should provide access to electricity for the use of a breast pump, as well as good lighting, a comfortable temperature, and proper ventilation.
4. Each enclosed space shall be designed, at minimum, to accommodate an occupant who uses a standard wheelchair.
5. Required maneuvering clearances shall be provided at all room entrances and exits.
6. Minimum unobstructed 60" diameter turning circle or 60" x 60" t-turn space is required. The turning space may extend under furniture if required knee clearances are provided or if the furniture is movable.
7. Minimum 36" wide unobstructed accessible paths shall be provided within the space for occupants.
8. Minimum 80" ceiling height and headroom clearance shall be provided.
9. Minimum clearances shall be provided for an arrangement of furniture appropriate to the assigned space use.
10. Fixed furniture and equipment shall be provided in compliance with reach ranges and knee clearances.
11. All minimum clearances and dimensions shall be clear and unobstructed, and shall allow for conventional tolerances and variances in construction and manufacturing.
12. Provide visual fire alarm devices where required under the applicable codes and regulations.

Additional references – University of Chicago Human Resources:

<http://humanresources.uchicago.edu/fpg/policies/700/p706.shtml>

Additional references – University of Chicago Student Manual:

<https://studentmanual.sites.uchicago.edu/parents>