

Temporary Wall Construction Guidelines

Any work that is performed by a facility must be in compliance with its facility emergency plan and vetted through its facility interdisciplinary team via risk assessments.

- Comply with any mitigation requirements detailed in your emergency plan and risk assessments.
- Review your proposal with your local fire official and comply with their requirements.
- Consider using existing rated separations in order to ensure a tight seal that does not allow air infiltration.
- The separation wall should be between sprinkler heads and smoke detectors and not disrupt those or any other existing systems.
- The wall should be constructed of steel stud and sheetrock. Plastic sheeting is not appropriate for this type of use; plastic sheeting is only for temporary use (few hours) and does not provide a solid barrier.
- The wall should be sealed tightly to the side walls, floor and ceiling to prevent unwanted air flow and maintain pressures outlined in risk assessments.
- Door sized appropriately for facility needs (wheelchairs, beds, chairs, equipment, etc.).
- The door should have a closer to ensure separation of environments.
- Consider including a window in the door to allow staff to see and communicate with those on the other side without entering the room and as a means of conserving Personal Protection Equipment (PPE).
- Do you need to adjust your emergency procedures to keep people from exiting through this new space? Does the space need signs to support the new procedure?
- We recommend creating negative pressure in the temporary isolation area. This can be accomplished by installing a HEPA unit and exhaust to the outside. Facilities can also adjust their HVAC to create negative pressure. Either approach must be based on the facility's infection control risk assessment.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4229.