



**CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
Fire Prevention Bureau**

Code/Procedural Interpretation

CFD Interpretation: Use of Portable Electric Space Heaters

Date: June 9, 2014

Code Reference: North Carolina Fire Code, Section 605

Subject:

Are electric space heaters allowed in businesses?

Interpretation:

Yes. Electric space heaters are allowed in all occupancies EXCEPT Institutional occupancies such as hospitals and nursing homes. The use of the heaters must comply with ALL of the following:

1. Heaters must be a UL listed and labeled device.
2. The use of an extension cord is prohibited; heater must plug directly into a wall outlet.
3. A minimum clearance of 3-feet shall be maintained from the heater to any combustible material.