DAVIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tent Permit Application

Fire Prevention Division
23 Russell Blvd
Davis, CA 95616
fireprevention@cityofdavis.org
530-757-5682

PROJECT INFORMATION		
Business Name:		**Phone:**
Applicant Name:		**Phone:**
Project Address:		
Tent Contractor:		**Phone:**
On-Site Contact:		**Phone:**
Tent Size in Square Feet:	**Event Dates/Times:**	
Check for $479 Included:	☐**Yes**	☐**No**

The Davis Fire Department, pursuant to the latest edition of the California Fire Code, requires a permit for the construction and use of a temporary tent or membrane structure having an area in excess of 400 square feet. One set of plans must be submitted for approval before installation. Once the tent/canopy has been erected and before it is occupied, the Davis Fire Department shall inspect the tent.

Please include the following with this permit:

- Certificate of flame-retardant material or treatment (NFPA 701 and/or CPAI 84 certification)
- Depiction of anchoring method, including calculations (**water-filled barrels are prohibited**)
- Site drawing to include the following:
  - Address, location, tent dimensions, and distances of the tent in relationship to:
    - Buildings
    - Streets
    - Parked vehicles
    - Additional tents/membrane structures
    - Other internal combustion engines (including auxiliary electrical generators)
  - Locations of the exits and exit signs
  - Fire extinguishers (Minimum size 2-A:10-B:C)
  - No smoking signs
  - Seating capacity, arrangement and location of capacity sign
  - Table arrangement
  - Location and height of platforms/stages; if applicable
  - Aisle widths and guy wire placements in relationship to exit pathways
  - Location and type of heating and/or electrical equipment
- An inspection of the tent, by the Davis Fire Department, shall take place prior to occupying the structure. Please contact the Fire Prevention Division at (530) 757-5682 to schedule an inspection.

I accept this permit application under the conditions stated and declare that I am the owner or legal occupant of the property upon which the tent is to be erected, or that I have the permission of the property owner. I understand that this permit is valid only for the date and time specified.

Print Name:_____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY		
Approval Date:	By:	Permit #

DAVIS FIRE DEPARTMENT
TENT REQUIREMENTS

Summary

This document is designed to help ensure the safety of the public as it pertains to tents, canopies and membrane structures. The guiding principles for this document are found in the California Fire Code (CFC) and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 19.

General Requirements

Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of 400 square feet (or multiple smaller tents with an aggregate area exceeding 400 square feet) and/or an occupant load of 10 persons or more shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit and approval from the Davis Fire Department. All tents requiring a permit must be inspected by the Davis Fire Department before they may be operated.

1. Documentation outlining the exact tent/canopy placement shall be provided upon submittal. This design shall include a map showing the tent location, anchoring positions, required exits, seating capacities and arrangements, fabric flame certificates, wall placements, electrical appliances, fire extinguishers, "No Smoking" signs and any other required information as needed by the Fire Code Official.
2. A permit from the Davis Building Department is required for membrane structures for use exceeding 180 days. 2025 CFC §105.3.1.
3. All tent/canopy structures shall be anchored in an approved manner according to the manufacturer's specifications and weight requirements. Documentation of required anchoring specifications shall be provided upon submittal.
4. All tents shall have a durable label permanently affixed bearing the following information:
    A. The Seal of Registration
    B. If treated fabric, the name and registration number of the approved application concern and chemical used, and the date of treatment.
    C. If registered fabric. The trade name and registration number of the approved fabric, and the date of production.
    D. Statement that the tent complies with either CPAI-84 or NFPA 701.

E. The following warning label:

WARNING
KEEP ALL FLAME AND HEAT SOURCES AWAY
FROM THIS TENT FABRIC

This tent is made with flame-resistant fabric which meets CPAI-84 specifications. It is not fire proof. The fabric will burn if left in continuous contact with any flame source. The application of any foreign substance to the tent fabric may render the flame-resistant properties ineffective.

5. Pedestrian and emergency response ingress and egress shall be maintained at all times.
6. Where vehicle impact is not a concern, barricades shall be temporary in nature so the barricades can be moved as needed in the event of an emergency.
7. All open flame devices are strictly prohibited under the canopy of a tent.
8. Emergency service devices such as fire hydrants, fire department connections, street water valves, utility shutoffs, etc. must be accessible to emergency personnel at all times.
9. Sidewalk areas must remain free of obstructions to emergency response and/or pedestrian ingress or egress.
10. No tent/canopy structure, anchoring or guy lines shall extend into any public right of way, emergency egress, public roadway or ADA pathway without approval.
11. No tent/canopy structure, anchoring or guy lines shall block access to or alter the functionality of any emergency devices such as fire hydrants, fire department connections, etc.
12. Smoking shall not be permitted in tents. Approved "No Smoking" signs shall be conspicuously posted.
13. Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from tents, canopies, and membrane structures by a minimum of 20 feet and shall be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosure or other approved means. All generators must be bonded and grounded.

Electrical Cords

1. Extension cords and multi plug adaptors shall be rated for outdoor use.

2. Extension cords shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle or multi plug adaptor.
3. Multi plug adaptors and extension cords shall be of the grounded type and shall contain overcurrent protection.
4. All electrical equipment shall be tested and listed by an approved agency and shall be used only for its intended purpose.
5. Electrical cords and similar trip hazards shall be minimized and shall not be subject to environmental or physical damage.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

1. All tent/canopy structures shall have at least one 2A-10BC rated fire extinguisher placed every 75 feet of travel distance within the tent/canopy structure. All fire extinguishers shall be shown on diagrams submitted.
2. All portable fire extinguishers shall be serviced and inspected annually.
3. A "K" rated fire extinguisher is required when cooking equipment involves the use of vegetable oils or animal oils and fats.

Heater Requirements

1. All combustible materials, including tent fabric, must be located at least 3 feet away from the sides and top of a heater, or the required distance set by the manufacturer.
2. Fuel-fired heaters, open-flame heaters and heaters with exposed heating elements are prohibited from being used inside a tent structure per Title 19 CCR § 317. All liquefied petroleum gas cylinders, full and empty, shall be located at least 20 feet away from a tent.
3. A heater shall not be located in an exit or an exit access pathway.
4. Heaters shall be protected from tipping and no item shall be secured to the heater.
5. The quantity, manufacturer's specifications, location and method of attachment (if applicable) for each device, shall be provided upon submittal and approved by the Fire Code official prior to installation.
6. Portable electric heaters shall be listed for their specific use and labeled by an approved testing agency. All appliances shall be used per the appliance's listing for its approved location and use type. Portable electric heaters shall be equipped with a tip-switch cutoff and have concealed heating elements. Heating appliances shall be used in accordance with Title 19 CCR § 3.17 and California Electrical Code Chapter 424.

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Use of Heaters in Temporary Tents & Awnings

The use of tents and membrane structures have become prevalent within the State *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* for outdoor dining, beverage service, and events when such businesses are required to operate outdoors. CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) encourages expedited approval of designated facilities and operations but reminds everyone that the California Code of Regulations Title 19 and Title 24 continue to remain in effect.

Given the critical nature of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, OSFM is providing expedited certification of tents, permitting tent and/or fabric manufacturers to field label tents after contacting the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and permitting tents to be field treated by a State Fire Marshal certified flame-retardant General Applicator.

The OSFM provides statewide fire prevention regulations for the use of tents, awnings, or other fabric enclosures. Below are some important elements of the statues and regulations.

Approval of Temporary Tents, and Membrane Structures:

Based on the size of tent, a permit from the local fire department, or OSFM on state property, may likely be required. In addition to these regulations, all state and local public health directives shall also be followed.

Tent and Membrane Structure Materials

California regulations require that all tents manufactured, sold, rented, or used be made from nonflammable material or material treated with a flame-retardant chemical approved by OSFM. Title 19 CCR §1171

Each section of the top and sidewalls of large tents (ten or more occupants) shall have the State Fire Marshal seal of registration label. Small tents (nine or less occupants) may have a registration label meeting the provisions of CPAI-84; otherwise the State Fire Marshal seal of registration label is required. Title 19 CCR §335

Fuel-Fired Heating Appliances

Any heaters with open flame, open flame elements, or exposed heating elements are prohibited from being used inside a tent structure. Title 19 CCR §317. Per manufacture recommendations, these types of appliances should only be used in open outdoor space areas with plenty of air flow.

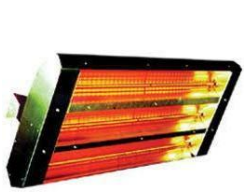
Examples of fuel fired appliances include:

Liquefied petroleum gas shall not be stored or used in connection with any tent unless the storage containers, equipment, fittings, appliances, placement, use, and operation comply with Title 19 CCR §325.

Forced air heaters may be used to heat tents and membrane structures as these units are positioned on the outside of a tent with heat pumped in through a duct under the sidewall of the tent. Examples are provided below:

Electric heating appliances

Portable electric heating appliances shall be listed for its specific use and labeled by an approved testing laboratory. All appliances shall be used per the appliance's listing for its approved location and use type. Portable electric heating appliances must also be equipped with a tip-switch cutoff and have concealed heating elements. Heating appliances shall be used in accordance with Title 19 CCR §3.17 and California Electric Code (CEC) Chapter 424.



Code References for Location and Use of Tents, Canopies, and Membrane Structures:

The State Fire Marshal shall prepare and adopt rules and regulations establishing minimum requirements for the prevention of fire and panic in connection with the use of tents, awnings, or other fabric enclosures. Health and Safety Code Section 13116

Outdoor spaces created on public property must have a permit issued for Temporary Membrane Structures and Tents. The fire code official shall issue a permit and inspect tents, canopies and membrane structures covering an aggregate area of 400 square feet or more. 2019 CFC §105.6.47

A building permit from the Building Department is required for membrane structures for use exceeding 180 days. 2019 CFC §105.3.1

NFPA 701 may be applied when recognized by the authority having jurisdiction. Title 19 CCR §1.09

Tents, canopies, and membrane structures shall not be installed within 20 feet of buildings unless approved by the fire code official. 2019 CFC §3103.8.2

Tents, canopies, and membrane structures shall be installed a minimum of 20 feet from parked vehicles or internal combustion engines. Title 19 CCR §312

There shall be a clearance of not less than 3 feet between the fabric sides of a tent, canopy or membrane structure and all contents located inside the tent, canopy, or membrane structure. 2019 CFC §3107.8

Extension cords serving a tent, canopy or membrane structure must be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) and must be protected from damage. CEC Table 400.4

Tents and their appurtenances shall be adequately roped, braced, and anchored to withstand the elements of weather and prevent against collapsing. Documentation of structural stability shall be furnished to the fire code official. 2019 CFC §3103.9

Means of egress shall always be maintained. Title 19 CCR §3.11

Flammable vegetation, materials and combustible waste is not permitted within 50 feet of the tent or membrane structure. Title 19 CCR §326

Smoking shall not be permitted in tents. Approved “No Smoking” signs shall be conspicuously posted. Title 19 CCR §316

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided. Title 19 CCR §319

Generators and other internal combustion power sources shall be separated from tents, canopies, or membrane structures by a minimum of 20 feet and shall be isolated from contact with the public by fencing, enclosure, or other approved means. All generators must be bonded and grounded. 2019 CFC §3107.16

Liquids having a flash point below 200°F shall not be stored in any tent nor less than 50 feet from any tent. Title 19 CCR §324

For more information please visit our website http://osfm.fire.ca.gov

For assistance in obtaining an approved OSFM Certificate of Registration, for tents and flame-retardant material assistance, please contact Deputy Patricia Setter, OSFM Flame Retardant Program Coordinator at (916) 597-5703 or email: patricia.setter@fire.ca.gov.