

MechSE WELLness

T03 Thermal Zoning

Intent: Enhance thermal comfort and improve productivity by providing thermal zoning in each space.

Building users who are satisfied with their thermal environment have been shown to be more productive in the workplace, while thermal discomfort is associated with sick building syndrome symptoms and other conditions that lead to a decrease in productivity. Furthermore, thermal comfort preferences are highly individual and can be affected by metabolism, body type, clothing, and other personal factors. These factors make it nearly impossible to find a temperature that will satisfy all individuals in the same space at the same time.

Impact: Allowing people to control air temperature is linked to increased thermal comfort and productivity.

What are the requirements to earn this credit?

1. Each personal office to have specific thermal zone.
2. Shared office, provide one thermal zone per 10 occupants or 650 square feet (whichever results in fewer thermal zones).
3. Thermostats are mounted 3.3 feet or 1 meter from exterior walls, windows, direct sunlight, doors, air supply diffusers, fans, heaters, or other significant source of heat or cold.
4. All employees performing similar tasks are allowed to use free address to select a workspace with a desired temperature (if available and agreeable by fellow occupants and Director of Facilities).

How is MechSE accomplishing these requirements?

Due to advanced diagnostics, and user control of the space temperature, the space should meet the thermal comfort requests unless there is equipment failure. To meet the survey requirements, MechSE Human Resources and Communications send a survey that includes thermal environment questions twice a year. These are sent department-wide, with results tallied specifically for occupants of LUMEB to meet the WELL Certification requirements. Your anonymous participation and honest answers are very helpful in maintaining optimal thermal environment and are taken seriously. Please take the less than five minutes to help us maintain certification even if everything is great!



UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN