

## CEILINGS

**Occupied Areas:** Ceilings in occupied areas and areas that are accessible to the public are preferred to be suspended 2 x 2 ft. acoustical ceiling tile systems.

Acoustic panel ceilings used in "functional" or "program" areas such as classrooms, lecture halls, laboratories, laboratory service areas, and administrative or faculty offices should conform to the requirements of this guideline. More specialized and/or elaborate variations of the suspension systems and acoustic panels may be used in those rooms or areas of special architectural interest within new or renovated facilities with the written approval of the UND PM.

**Acoustic Panels:** 2' x 2' mineral fiber panels not less than 5/8" thick with non-directional fissured finish; panel edges may be square cut or revealed-edge (Tegular).

**Suspension Systems:** The ceiling suspension system and its installation should conform to the requirements of ASTM C635 for Intermediate Duty service. Exposed face of suspension system tees should be 15/16" wide. Narrow face tees should not be used.

**Acoustic Panel Reinforcement:** Provide reinforcement of acoustical panels where specified by acoustic panel manufacturer to support recessed lights, speakers, where weight of supported item exceeds the recommendations of the manufacturer, support such items independently of the acoustic ceiling suspension system.

See Restrooms, Showers and Locker rooms narratives for ceiling requirements in those spaces. The exception is other areas that are exposed to high humidity and/or require water wash-down for cleaning. Ceilings in these areas shall be water resistant construction. A 24" by 24" access door or an access door of sufficient size to replace the component involved shall be provided at each device requiring operation and/or maintenance that is located above any "hard" ceiling. UND PM will provide input on minimum access requirements for specific devices.

**Unoccupied Areas:** Suspended ceilings may be omitted in areas that are unoccupied and inaccessible to the public such as equipment rooms and service areas.

**Insulation:** In general, batt insulation should not be installed above suspended ceilings. The batts are frequently removed to accommodate work and they rarely are replaced. Batt insulation shall only be installed on ceiling tiles when approved by the UND PM.

**Vapor Barrier/Insulation:** A vapor barrier shall be provided on the interior side of insulated ceilings. Quality installation of the vapor barrier and the insulation are critical to their performance. Therefore, design documents addressing their installation shall be very detailed.