

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Grand Valley State University Planning and Design Standards have been compiled for Architects, Engineers and Contractors retained to provide professional and construction services for the University. They reflect the planning, construction and maintenance experience of persons responsible for University facilities.

These standards for design and construction of facilities at Grand valley State University have been prepared with the intent to achieve quality facilities of maximum utility, requiring a minimum of maintenance and operation expense, cognizant of environmental design concepts and prudent use of energy.

Adherence to these standards is mandatory. Any equal or improved concept, method, or product will be given full consideration. An authorized representative of the University's Facilities Planning Department must review deviations from these standards, and the request for said deviation submitted for approval, by the consultant, on the form included in Appendix E of these Standards.

While some of these standards are clearly design guidelines, others are clearly items to be included in the project specifications and/or construction drawings. The Architect or Engineer may incorporate the items using their own wording however the clear and expressed intent of the standard must be maintained.

These standards are a living document and will be revised and updated as these standards are further expanded upon and experience or construction developments warrant. Each revision supercedes all previous editions.

These documents are also available on GVSU's web page and may be accessed via the following link: <http://www.gvsu.edu/facilitiesplanning>.

The formatting of these Standards has been revised to follow the Construction Specifications Institute MasterFormat 2004 Edition. Note that some additional numbering, particularly in Division 00, has been added to meet the purposes of describing the University's planning and design criteria.

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