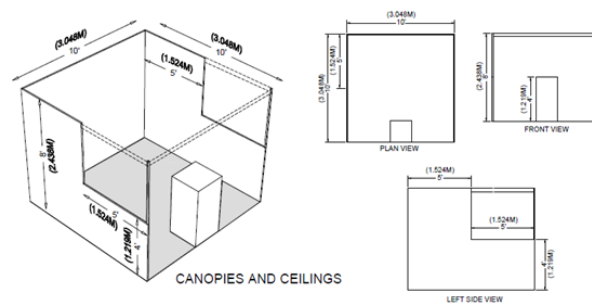


CANOPIES AND CEILINGS

DEFINITION: An exhibit component supported over an exhibitor's space for decorative purposes only.



The intent of these regulations is to allow for the best use of booth space without interfering with or obstructing neighboring exhibitors. These regulations allow for reasonable sight lines from the aisles and open access to attendees walking the aisles. Show management reserves the right to remove or modify elements, at the expense of the exhibitor, if the display does not meet the specifications set forth in this document.

COVERED EXHIBITS

Covered exhibits must be approved by show management in writing no later than 30 days prior to move in of the event. All venue and local fire regulations must be followed. All covered booth plans must be submitted to show management **AND** McCormick Place Fire Safety Division.

Floor plans must be submitted to and approved by show management prior to going into production. [Submit your HIMSS27 booth plan](#) no later than **February 15, 2027**. Last-minute changes to your booth can be costly. Show management would be happy to provide guidance during your booth design process to ensure that all rules and regulations are met and that your company does not incur any charges for last-minute changes.

Mail covered booth plans to:
McCormick Place
Attn: Fire Safety Division
2301 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Chicago, IL 60616
Questions: 312-791-6079

Submit no later than 60 days prior to the conference.

DEPTH

Canopies may extend out to the aisle line and up to the booth line on either side of an exhibitor's space providing that the support structure will not exceed 3" (7.62cm) in width when placed within 10 linear feet (3.02m) of an adjoining exhibit and not confined to that area of the exhibitor's space which is at least 5' (1.52m) from the aisle line. The bottom of the canopy should not be lower than 7ft (2.13m) from the floor within 5ft (1.52m) of any aisle. Furthermore, canopies, false ceilings or umbrellas will not be used for identification or display purposes except as would normally be allowed for any exhibit component within the regulations set forth for the exhibit configuration.

HEIGHT

Canopies, false ceilings and umbrellas will be permitted to a height that corresponds to the height regulation for the appropriate exhibit configuration of which they are a part. For example, canopies will not exceed 8' (2.44m) in height in a standard booth configuration. Furthermore, the canopy or false ceiling will not exceed 10' (3.05m) in depth and cannot be used for identification or display purposes.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following specific requirements apply to all exhibits that have a ceiling/canopy or second story:

Booths fall into one of the five following booth formats:

- Format 1: Exhibits with two stories fewer than 225 square feet
- Format 2: Exhibits with two stories at or over 225 square feet
- Format 3: Exhibits with ceilings under 225 square feet
- Format 4: Exhibits with ceilings at or over 225 square feet
- Format 5: Multiple-level exhibits, which require automatic sprinklers or any of the above exhibits with installed automatic sprinklers. Separate fire code items apply.

For booth formats 1–4, you will need to comply with the fire code items marked yes on the following table:

Fire code item	Booth format			
	1	2	3	4
Max. Dimensions	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Second Level	Yes	Yes	No	No
Exit Stairways	Yes	Yes	No	No
Smoke Detectors	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fire Extinguishers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Posted Certificate of Fire Retardancy	No	Yes	No	Yes
Certified Approval	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Fire Marshal Review	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

For exhibits using automatic sprinklers, the amount and type of sprinkler coverage needed depends on the booth specifications. If automatic sprinklers are preferred, or are required, contact our Fire Safety Office to discuss your options.

ATTENTION: If your booth design requires any variance from the regulations outlined above, please contact show management to discuss and to receive approval for your booth variance. Please do not go into production on your booth until you have approval.