

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. 2 x 4 ceiling tiles and specialty fabric ceiling panels are not permitted. The exception to this is restrooms and 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. The U of I 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 get removed to accommodate work, and they rarely get replaced. Where there is a finished ceiling installed below a structural deck, insulation should be placed on the upper side of that deck. For example, in an old building that has wood ceiling joists and a hard plaster ceiling with a drop ceiling below it, and conduit, etc., in the interstitial space, we prefer to have the insulation installed in between, or on top of, the joists.

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.

Finish Schedule: See the *Master Room Finish Schedule* found within the *Exhibits* for a summary of ceiling finish and material requirements for each space type.