Master Specifications

This document contains the Master Specifications for the design and construction of new and renovated facilities for all Northwestern University locations. It is be used by A/E firms in the preparation of Construction Documents for all facility types.

The general purpose of each Specification is to provide minimum criteria for construction materials at Northwestern University facilities regarding Code compliance, warranty, approved products, execution and uniformity.

The Specifications are used to prepare specific project Contract Specifications. They are intended to be used to address system design aspects of equipment that Northwestern University desires to standardize among facilities, and identify prohibited materials and construction practices. Use of these Specifications will help A/E’s meet the Northwestern University’s primary goal of providing a safe, reliable, and energy efficient installations and ultimately successful project outcomes.

The use of these Specifications is mandatory for all design or maintenance projects. Deviations are discouraged. If project conditions arise which require a deviation, it should be thoroughly documented by the user and submitted to the Northwestern University for review and approval using the Design Standards Revision Request document (following page). Additionally, all Northwestern University staff, Architects, Engineers, and Contractors are encouraged to participate in the ongoing development of these Specifications by communicating any suggestions by use of the Revision Request document.

USER NOTE: Throughout the specifications, bracketed, bold text indicates optional requirements which may be selected/deleted as determined by project requirements.