

[NHPH Brand Bureau, Health Public Spaces](#)[7 Principles of Universal Design](#)[UCSF Signage Standards Manual](#)[NHPH Project Requirements- Healthy Materials](#)

Shared Spaces

Entry



FUNCTION

The entry is not merely a point of access but a crucial element that orchestrates the transition from the external environment to the internal space. It functions as the architectural interface that establishes the UCSF identity and sets the initial impression. A blend of aesthetics and functionality, the entry is designed to create a welcoming atmosphere that reflects UCSF's ethos. It serves as a navigational hub for patients, staff, and visitors to different departments. Beyond aesthetics, the entry serves a practical purpose as a checkpoint for security, access control, and reception services, ensuring a smooth and organized flow of people in and out of the building.



SPATIAL COMPONENTS

- Programmatic elements may include: retail, vestibule, walk-off area, security, waiting areas with seating, proximity to restrooms, nourishment, reception desk, elevators.
- In entries serving clinical functions, consider providing wheelchair storage near the information desk.
- A clear and easily identifiable entry serves as a landmark, creating a seamless wayfinding experience, projecting a public-facing image of UCSF.
- Branding and wayfinding signage is critical, and locations must be integrated into the design.
- Visually balance engaging features or signage without overwhelming sensory stimulation.
- Provide a clear sightline to reception/information desk from all entries.
- Based on program, provide amenities such as: water dispensers, well-designed millwork that includes sufficient waste management, face mask provisions, and hand sanitation stations.
- Place inclusive restrooms near the entry, prioritizing privacy and safety in design.



LESSONS LEARNED

- Integrate inclusive art graphics for wayfinding and collaborate early in the design process to seamlessly blend wayfinding, art, and donor recognition with architecture.
- Ensure maximum coverage with walk-off mats, extending at least 10 feet to avoid the need for additional mats that could create trip hazards.
- Address the location of signage and create standardized zones for wayfinding information, regulatory signage and bulletins. Multiple languages may be required.
- Consider access control including security turnstiles, badge swipe, and security call buttons.
- Consider sunlight orientation for the space, when specifying lighting for a balanced and welcoming effect to reinforce space approachability and reduce glare.
- Prioritize acoustical treatments on ceilings and factor in durability considerations for wall treatments in high-traffic areas.
- Craft the front desk to offer unimpeded sightlines to the staff and include ample storage space.
- Incorporate electrical outlets strategically to facilitate cleaning and maintenance, thereby minimizing disruptions.

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MATERIALITY

- Investigate materials that emulate a natural aesthetic to support a neuroarchitectural design approach. Explore studies examining materials with biophilic qualities and their impact on end users.
 - The materials used at the entrance should reflect both the UCSF brand and the distinctive architectural and programmatic characteristics of the building.
 - Consider employing natural tones for architectural materials that stand the test of time, and utilize furniture, accents and other easy to update elements.
 - Specify red-list free, sustainable materials.
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 - Entries are high traffic areas and require more durable finishes that are also easy to maintain.
- Floor
- Prioritize floor materials that effectively conceal scuff marks, and reduce glare.
- Walls
- Opt for durable, maintainable replaceable and repairable finishes.
 - Less durable materials can be used to create visual interest and denote a special place, consider specific location for wear and tear.

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Architect: Mark Cavagnero Associates
Location: UCSF Joan and Sanford I. Weill Neurosciences Building

Design features that exude a welcoming and reassuring atmosphere.

