Ergonomic Chair Specifications

These specifications are intended to address most employees. Employees that have difficulty finding a comfortable chair due to their height, weight, length of arm, etc should consult Environmental Health & Safety if they require a special ergonomic chair.

a. Any chair must meet or exceed ANSI/BIFMA standards.

b. The chair must have a five point base that (a) measures no less than twenty-three inches across and (b) has casters that roll across carpeted floors without pulling the carpet into the caster housing. The casters should be large enough to require a minimum of effort to move the chair, and be removable and replaceable.

c. The seat pan must have an adjustment for forward and backward tilt angle independent of lumbar support adjustment. It must measure at least 16” deep and 19-22” wide as measured from the front of the seat pan to the rear of the pan, and from one side of the pan to the other side of the pan. The seat pan must also adjust forward at least 2”. This action will move the seat pan forward away from the backrest for the prescribed distance and provide a longer seat pan reach.

d. The forward leading edge of the seat pan must cascade to a rounded edge that has a downward sloping angle and have a concave contour for even weight distribution. The entire upper chair assembly must be able to rotate 360 degrees.

e. The backrest must be contoured to provide lumbar support and be adjustable for height and for angles ranging from behind the vertical to forward of the vertical position. The back support must have a vertical height adjustment span of at least 3.5”. The height adjustment may be achieved with one gross adjustment or with a combination of adjustment mechanisms.

f. Arm supports must be adjustable for height and be removable. The height adjustment must be at least 2.5”, as measured from the lowest position of the armrest to the full-extended position of the armrest. The armrest should be easily removable and adjustable without the use of tools.

g. The chair’s height adjustment must be able to adjust from 16-17” to 21-22” as measured from the floor to the top edge of the seat pan.

h. The backrest should be between 16” to 22” in height as measured from the bottom of the backrest to the top of the backrest.

i. All adjustment mechanisms must be readily operable and within easy reach of the chair user. Adjustments must be capable of being accomplished without the use of tools. It is preferred that adjustment mechanisms be provided with labels as to their function.

All of the following companies stock chairs meeting the above specifications.

Office Max; Steelcase--Tangram Interiors; Humanscale; Herman Miller--Pivot Interiors; Bodybilt--Ergogenesis