

# Fire Extinguisher Training

## Types of Fire Extinguishers

- There are five types of fire extinguishers. These include types **A**, **B**, **C**, **D**, and **K**.
- The most common type of extinguisher is an ABC class fire extinguisher.
- Class ABC extinguishers are rated for class A, B, and C fires which include normal combustible materials, flammable liquids, and electrical fires.
- Class ABC extinguishers are usually filled with a dry chemical extinguishing agent. However, if the extinguisher is stationed close to electronics, it may be filled with carbon dioxide or a liquid chemical mix to prevent damage to the electronics.



## P.A.S.S. Method

Always remember to use the P.A.S.S. method when using an extinguisher to control a fire. The four steps to the P.A.S.S. method include:

**P** – Pull the pin and tags off of the extinguisher. The easiest way to do this is to twist the pin to break the seal, then pull the pin straight out of the extinguisher.

**A** – Aim the extinguisher at the base of the fire. If the extinguishing agent is only sprayed at the flames, the burning material will not be extinguished.

**S** – Squeeze the handle of the fire extinguisher. Squeezing the handle of the extinguisher opens the valve inside the extinguishers, releasing the extinguishing agent.

**S** – Sweep the extinguishing agent back and forth at the base of the fire until the fire is put out. Be sure to watch the fire as you back away to be aware of re-ignition.

Please remember that only those trained in the use of fire extinguishers should attempt to control a fire using an extinguisher.

## Evacuating in Case of a Fire

Buildings on the University of North Dakota have signs posted in common areas that depict the emergency evacuation route in that building. These signs are usually posted near elevators, stairwells, and lobbies. These signs also show the locations of fire extinguishers and alarm pull stations in the building. If you notice a fire occurring in your building, please contact 911 emergency services. After notifying emergency services, please contact the UND Operations Center.

If you have any questions about the information covered in this document, please contact the Office of Safety.