

Product: Walk-in Coolers and Freezers

Variations: Foamed-in-place urethane, laminated urethane, polystyrene, 4", 5" or 6" panels, many construction differences.

General: Many walk-ins are similar. Once erected they look a lot alike. Almost all school applications use 4", polyurethane insulated walk-ins, either foamed-in-place or laminated. These are slightly more expensive than the other types, but may produce energy savings and be more durable. When specifying, look into the manufacturers door construction to be sure it will withstand normal school usage. Several manufacturers reinforce the doors to prevent sagging and warping of the doors over time. Walk-in boxes may be ordered as freezers or coolers, either independent of each other, or as "combination" units, where the two units share a common wall.

Differences: Galvanized panels are more subject to corrosion and discoloration than aluminum panels. Units that are to be installed outside must have a covering over the roof, usually made of a polyvinyl material. This is necessary to prevent water seepage into the box. Walk-ins come in all shapes and sizes and heights. Be sure to specify at least 7'6" high. This is an overall height. If conditions allow, an 8'6" height is better. The interior will be 8" smaller allowing for the floor and ceiling. Also, the refrigeration coils will hang down into the box, potentially interfering with shelving. There are significant differences in refrigeration. They can either be mounted inside or outside. Usually, they are mounted outside. This removes the noise and heat from the kitchen. Also, there are "hermetic" and "semi-hermetic" types. Hermetic is usually less expensive but may be more costly to service.

Required Information: You must know the overall size that the walk-in must be: length, width and height. You must know the voltage and phase of the electricity available. A drain line must be nearby to drain the water from the unit during the defrost cycle, although this may be done electrically. The floor surface should be flat and level. If this is to be a replacement box, the supplier must know if the existing box is on the floor or in a pit.

Concerns: Several things must go right for a proper walk-in installation. One of the most important is the installer. If the box is not erected properly, you will be dissatisfied with it FOREVER. Be sure to bid these units to qualified dealers that have extensive walk-in construction experience. ALWAYS put into your specs that "it is the responsibility of the successful bidder to take final measurements, on-site before ordering". It is a good idea to require the bidders to inspect the area BEFORE bidding, to insure that no changes will be required after bidding. There are over 100 manufacturers of walk-in equipment. When deciding on a prime spec or approved alternates, ask the dealer salesperson or the rep for references of their equipment in school foodservice applications. Do not be misled by "they are all alike". They are not. There are also lots of available options, like ramps, windows in the doors, white pre-painted ceilings for better light diffusion inside the box, fluorescent lights, kickplates on the doors to minimize damage from carts, digital alarms and more. Some of these make the box much more user friendly. Be sure of your options before specifying.



Product: Walk-in Coolers and Freezers **Quantity:** _____
Manufacturer: _____ **Model #:** _____

Temperature: Cooler Freezer Combination

Size: Width _____ x Depth _____ x Height _____

Insulation: Foamed-in-place urethane Laminated urethane

Finish: Galvalume interior and exterior
 Aluminum interior and exterior
 Unit to be aluminum interior & exterior with stainless exposed exterior

Floor Type: Unit to be floorless
 Unit to include 4" floor with .100 smooth aluminum finish
 Freezer to have 4" floor in .100 aluminum, cooler to be floorless
 Unit to sit on existing floor
 Unit to be recessed into floor

Install Site: Unit to be installed inside bldg. Unit to be installed outside bldg.

Door Size: Doors to be 34" wide x 78" high Doors to be 42" wide x 78" high

Options: Locking bar Digital thermometer
 14" x 24" heated window in door Digital temperature alarm
 Fluorescent lighting inside box(s) Interior floor ramp
 White pre-painted interior ceiling Vinyl strip air curtain
 Enclosure panels from top and sides of box to adjoining walls and ceiling
 Foot treadle for "no-hands" door opening

Refrigeration: Condensing units to be mounted over walk-in
 Condensing units to be mounted outside, with winter controls
 Hermetic
 Semi-Hermetic
 Electric *specify voltage:* _____ *specify phase:* _____
 Distance from condensing unit to coil in walk-in *specify:* _____

Spec: Other pertinent information should accompany the above to provide a spec that looks something like this:

Walk-in cooler/freezer, per the size noted above, to be of aluminum interior and exterior with a .100 smooth aluminum floor. Floor to be non-recessed, with interior ramp. Stainless exposed exterior, tread plate kickplates on interior and exterior of door sections. Construction of walk-in to use 4" foamed-in-place polyurethane insulation. Unit to have temperature alarm with telephone hook-up available. Refrigeration to be semi-hermetic, 208 volt, 3 phase, for exterior mounting complete with all necessary winter controls. Successful bidder to be responsible for final measurements, with on-site inspection required. Trim-strips and enclosure panels required for a complete enclosed walk-in, to a ceiling height of 10'.

