

Policy

Purpose

A statement of the commitment, scope, responsibilities and objectives of UNSW with respect to the management of work, health, and safety.



1. Policy Statement

The health and safety of all staff, contractors, students and visitors is considered of utmost importance. Workers and students are provided with a safe and healthy place in which to work or study, and our work practices must not compromise the health or safety of others present on our campuses or when attending another workplace. This commitment to health and safety allows UNSW to teach, conduct research and promote scholarship at the highest international level through the attraction and retention of high-quality staff, students and other partners.

The following principles inform UNSW's health and safety policy objectives:

- 1.1. Workers and students will be provided with a safe and healthy place in which to work or study.
- 1.2. Our work practices must not compromise the health or safety of others present on our campuses or when attending another workplace.
- 1.3. Health and safety considerations are included in organisational plans, procedures, programs, courses, and job instructions.
- 1.4. Health and safety is both an individual and shared responsibility.
- 1.5. Promote a positive and proactive culture of Health and Safety across all aspects of UNSW operations.
- 1.6. We make every effort, where reasonably practicable, to eliminate or control risks from hazards, including psychosocial hazards associated with the workplace and the work performed by workers.
- 1.7. UNSW has an integrated suite of procedures, plans, resources, and online systems, to form a comprehensive Safety Management System (SMS).

1.8. Communication and consultation are central to working together for a safer workplace.

2.



Appendix 1

Responsibilities

The University Council has the duties of an Officer under the WHS Act and has ultimate responsibility for providing a safe and healthy working environment for UNSW workers, students, contractors, visitors and volunteers.

The Vice-Chancellor has the duties of an Officer under the WHS Act. In addition, they will consult with the senior leadership team to set strategic objectives and targets for UNSW's performance with respect to health and safety consistent with this policy and will ensure these targets are met.

Deans and Divisional Heads have the duties of an Officer under the WHS Act. In addition, they are responsible for meeting the health and safety objectives and targets set by the Vice-Chancellor and reporting regularly on their progress.

Heads of Schools, Divisional Unit Managers, Research Centres and Administrative Units are responsible for implementing activities and programs to meet the health and safety objectives within their area of control and reporting regularly on the progress of implementation.

Supervisors are responsible for implementing the health and safety objectives and Safety Management System within their area of responsibility and taking steps to ensure that identified hazards are eliminated as far as reasonably practicable or controlled using the hierarchy of risk controls.

Workers and Students are responsible for following UNSW policies, procedures and guides, the Safety Management System and other reasonable instructions by their supervisor. They must also ensure that their conduct or lack of action does not endanger themselves, others or the environment.

Work Health and Safety Committees are responsible for ensuring effective consultation and issue resolution takes place within their responsible workgroup, providing Health and Safety advice and may assist with the implementation of the Safety Management System.

UNSW Safety Unit is responsible for the review and maintenance of the Safety Management System, assisting senior management with the coordination and implementation of the Health and Safety objectives and target, and provide health and safety support and advice to Deans Div D g8/F1 9.96 TH-4(resp)-6(o)4

Related documents

[Code of Conduct and Values](#)

[Enterprise Agreements](#)

UNSW Strategic Plan

WorkSafe ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/Home> SafeWork NSW: www.safework.nsw.gov.au

State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) <https://www.sira.nsw.gov.au/>

[UNSW Register of Delegations](#)

Definitions and acronyms