Policy: Work health and safety

Purpose

This policy is intended to provide a safe workplace as well as deliver the best health, safety and wellbeing outcomes for everyone that the Australian National University is responsible for.

Overview

The University is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of its workers, students and visitors. This policy defines the principles of this commitment and University’s approach to the continuous improvement of health and safety in the workplace.

Scope

This policy applies to all workers, students and visitors across the University.

Policy statement

1. The University is committed to the following:
   - Developing, implementing and maintaining an effective work health and safety management system
   - Complying with applicable health and safety legislation and Codes of Practice or Australian Standards
   - Implementing a health and safety risk management process to ensure workplace hazards are identified, assessed, controlled and reviewed, where they are not able to be eliminated
   - Allocating sufficient financial and physical resources to enable the effective implementation of this policy
   - Providing and disseminating health and safety training and information to workers, students and visitors
   - Implementing and maintaining arrangements for the consultation of health and safety matters with workers
   - Establishing objectives and measurable targets for health and safety aimed at the elimination of work-related illness and injury and system improvements.
Leadership and culture

2. At the University we promote excellence in health and safety leadership and a positive culture of health and safety through:

- Encouraging and supporting innovative, healthy and safe work practices
- Integrating health, safety and wellbeing into all aspects of our business
- Ensuring the University’s work health and safety management system is appropriate for the University’s work
- Determining, in consultation with our workers, health, safety and wellbeing outcomes
- Improving the University’s health, safety and wellbeing performance
- Ensuring our workers have the necessary skills and knowledge to achieve superior health, safety and wellbeing outcomes.

Responsibility and authority

3. Responsibility and authority under this policy operates at three levels:

- Executive: provides leadership to ensure communication of this policy and effective implementation
- Senior Managers: support managers and supervisors in fulfilling their responsibilities and accountabilities
- Workers (staff, volunteers and contractors), students and visitors: take reasonable care for their own safety and the safety of others as well as comply with any reasonable instruction, policy or procedure of the University in relation to health and safety.
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