

Christopher Newport University

Policy: Environmental Health and Safety Policy

Policy Number: 7015

Executive Oversight: Vice President for Administration and Auxiliary Services

Contact Office: Environmental Health and Safety

Frequency of Review: Biennially

Date of Last Review: January 2023

A. PURPOSE

Christopher Newport University is committed to maintaining a safe working, learning, and living environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors. The purpose of this policy is to prevent accidents, illnesses, and injuries; increase safety awareness; and meet or exceed health, safety and environmental requirements of federal, state, and local agencies. by establishing authority and assigning responsibility for the development, implementation and regular review of University practices and programs necessary to meet these goals.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

Every employee of Christopher Newport plays a role in creating, supporting and maintaining a safe and healthy environment on campus by being thoroughly familiar with and conducting their activities in conformance with the strategies, standards and processes adopted by the University's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Department and cooperating in their implementation. All employees, students, and volunteers shall participate in all health and safety training necessary to ensure safe and healthy operations and activities. Contractors are required to comply with all applicable University safety policies and programs as well as all federal, state and local health and safety requirements when working on University owned and operated properties and facilities.

C. PROCEDURES

In consultation with any and all affected offices, the Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Department shall identify and evaluate health and safety hazards on University-owned property and in University-owned and operated facilities and shall determine appropriate strategies for elimination or management, mitigation and control of such hazards. The Director of EHS shall direct and oversee the development of standards, processes and programs; and the provision of training necessary to maintain a safe working, learning and living environment, and to comply with all federal, state and local workplace health and safety laws, regulations and standards.

The EHS Department shall facilitate training of faculty, staff and students aimed at reducing the risk of accident, injury or illness, fires, hazardous materials incidents, and laboratory accidents.

The EHS Department shall provide guidance documents for specific programs to facilitate compliance with relevant environmental, health and safety laws, regulations, and standards, including occupational safety and health, environmental compliance and protection, radiation safety, chemical safety, laboratory and research safety, fire and life safety, and hazardous waste management.

The EHS Department shall monitor compliance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations and EHS Department guidance documents and identify noncompliant situations and recommend improvements and corrective actions.

The EHS Department shall communicate the relevant standards, processes, programs, and training needs to the affected offices. Respective directors, department heads, chairs and supervisors shall be responsible for implementation.

D. APPROVAL AND REVISIONS

Approved By: Policy Committee, March 4, 2020

Revision #1: Policy Committee, January 12, 2023

E. NEXT REVIEW DATE: Spring 2025