



Policy

University Policy ES-02.02-06/14

Policy Title: Environmental Health and Safety Policy

Originator: Peter Robinson

Responsible Office: Office of Environmental Health and Safety

Reason for Policy/Purpose:

To articulate UWF policy concerning the adoption of Environmental Health and Safety Standards.

Who Does this Govern and Who Needs to Know this Policy?

This policy governs the University of West Florida Community.

Definition of Terms:

1. OSHA – Occupational Health and Safety Administration
2. NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
3. CDC – Center for Disease Control
4. NFPA – National Fire Protection Association

Policy Statement:

The University of West Florida (UWF) is committed to a learning and employment environment where faculty, staff, students, and guests are protected from the risk of injuries as a result of being exposed to health and safety hazards. A fundamental precept of the health and safety discipline is to eliminate, where possible, exposure of humans to hazards. Where hazards still exist, minimum standards of worksite conditions and employee routines should be developed to allow employees to carry out assigned tasks and avoid injury.

Currently, the state-of-the-art health and safety standards are the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, as well as standards promulgated by the National Institute of Occupational of Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). With regards to OSHA regulations, in Florida, as well as

all of the United States, enforcement of OSHA occupational standards applies only to private sector employers. By its own rules, OSHA is prohibited from enforcing its standards in Florida state public sector entities.

To establish and maintain a system of Environmental Health and Safety rules, the leadership of the University of West Florida adopts the current Federal OSHA General Industry Standards, 29CFR 1910, and OSHA Construction Standards, 29CFR 1926, NIOSH Standards, CDC Standards and NFPA Standards where applicable, and declares its intent to implement a program of seeking compliance with those rules. For clarity, these standards will be referred to as "UWF Adopted Standards." It is a condition of employment that supervisors and employees abide by the UWF Adopted Standards in carrying out assigned duties on a daily basis. Appropriate training, tools, and protective equipment will be provided by the respective University department. Mechanisms for reporting hazards, auditing incidents, and performing corrective actions will be established and aggressively utilized.

Procedures:

The UWF Department of Environmental Health and Safety will assist the applicable departments by overseeing the proper implementation of the UWF Adopted Standards and assisting in enforcement of the policies.

Change Justification:

This policy is being revised as the result of a five year review to reflect current regulatory requirements.

Authority and Related Documents:

The Florida Governor's Executive Order 2000-292, September 25, 2000.

APPROVED: Dr. Judith A. Bense, President Date: 6/20/14

History: Amended June 2014; adopted September 2001.