

Name of Policy	National OH&S Policy Statement	
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Description of Revision		

Human Resources Directorate

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1 Introduction

Australian Catholic University is a multi-State/Territory institution. A University-wide national occupational health and safety policy assists the University effectively manage occupational health and safety (OH&S) matters at a national level whilst preserving local requirements. Therefore, this policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant University policies and procedures and the relevant State/Territory based legislation.

2 Policy Statement

In keeping with its stated Mission, Australian Catholic University in recognising the dignity of all human beings also recognises the importance of health and safety within the workplace. The University is, therefore, committed to providing a safe and healthy work and study environment for the University community.

In order to achieve its OH&S goals and objectives, the University and staff commit to the following:

- The prevention and/or control of hazards that could result in personal injury or ill-health
- The effective management of accidents and incidents that do occur in order to minimise the harmful effects and to prevent recurrence
- The promotion of safe and environmentally sound work practices among the ACU community
- The carrying out of teaching, research and organisational activities in ways that protect the working environment from harmful effects

3 Implementation

The University will continually develop policies and programs to ensure the well-being of the ACU community. The success of the occupational, health and safety policy and its programs depends on the commitment and cooperation of all members of the University community, including all managers, staff members, students and all other relevant persons. All managers, staff and students have a responsibility to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others affected by the work of the University. They all share responsibility for ensuring a safe and healthy working environment and safe work practices within the area under their control or in which they work.

The University will encourage the involvement of staff in relation to OH&S, through the local campus OHS committees established under relevant legislation, which provide forums for staff and student consultation and participation in local health and safety issues. These committees, in turn, will provide input and advice to the ACU OH&S Strategic Management Committee.

4 Applicable Legislation

The University and its staff are obliged by legislation to work co-operatively in the development of a safe and healthy workplace. This policy should be read in conjunction with the following relevant legislation:

4.1 New South Wales

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000

4.2 Victoria

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

4.3 Queensland

- Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995

4.4 Australian Capital Territory

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989

5 Policy Review

The University may make changes to this policy and procedures from time to time to improve the effectiveness of its operation. In this regard, any staff member who wishes to make any comments about this Policy may forward their suggestions to the Director, Human Resources.

6 Further Assistance

Any staff member who requires assistance in understanding this Policy should consult her/his nominated supervisor who is responsible for the implementation and operation of these arrangements in her/his work area. Should further advice be needed, she/he should contact the Human Resources Consultant responsible for their campus.