University of Washington
Health & Safety Compliance
Laws and Regulations
UW Policies, Boards and Committees, and Service Providers

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This document was prepared by University of Washington Compliance Services with review by appropriate subject matter experts across the institution.
Introduction

This document surveys the current state of health and safety compliance at the University of Washington. It is one of five parts, with companion reports on research, information, financial, and civil rights and employment compliance. Together, the documents are intended as a resource to support decision making and process improvement across the institution. They catalog the external regulatory framework for higher education compliance, as well as the UW’s management and administration of its compliance obligations. The reports focus primarily on Seattle campus operations – including UW Medicine – but include references to UW Bothell and UW Tacoma when and where possible.

Health and safety compliance encompasses a broad array of topics, including employee and student wellness, violence prevention, emergency management, campus security, environmental contamination, and athletics, among others. The institution and its leaders maintain an essential commitment to the health and safety of the University community; the work of subject matter experts across the three campuses demonstrate this commitment.
Regulatory environment

Laws and regulations

The following is a sample of the many federal, state and local health- and safety-related laws and regulations with which the University of Washington must comply:

**Federal**

Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know Act (included in the Higher Education Opportunity Act) | Pub. L. 110-315
Clean Air Act | 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.
Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act | 42 U.S.C. § 11001 et seq.
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1964 (FERPA) | 20 U.S.C. § 1232g
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 | 20 U.S.C. § 1681
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) | 42 U.S.C. § 13701 et seq.
State

Title 26 RCW: Domestic Relations
   Chapter 26.44: Abuse of children.

Title 28B RCW: Higher Education
   Chapter 28B.112: Campus sexual violence.

Title 43 RCW: State Government – Executive
   Chapter 43.215.215: Character, suitability, and competence to provide child care and early learning services – Fingerprint criminal history record checks – Background check clearance card or certificate – Shared background checks.

Title 49 RCW: Labor Regulations
   Chapter 49.17: Washington industrial safety and health act.
   Chapter 49.19: Safety – Health care settings.
   Chapter 49.26: Health and safety – Asbestos.
   Chapter 49.60: Discrimination – Human rights commission.
   Chapter 49.70: Worker and community right to know.
   Chapter 49.74: Affirmative action.
   Chapter 49.76: Domestic violence leave.
   Chapter 49.78: Family leave.

Title 70 RCW: Public Health and Safety
   Chapter 70.26: Pandemic influenza preparedness.
   Chapter 70.54: Miscellaneous health and safety provisions.
   Chapter 70.74: Washington state explosives act.
   Chapter 70.79: Boilers and unfired pressure vessels.
   Chapter 70.86: Earthquake standards for construction.
   Chapter 70.94: Washington clean air act.
   Chapter 70.98: Nuclear energy and radiation.
   Chapter 70.99: Radioactive waste storage and transportation act of 1980.

Title 173 WAC: Department of Ecology
   Chapter 173-303: Dangerous waste regulations.
Chapter 173-308: Biosolids management.
Chapter 173-340: Model Toxics Control Act – Cleanup.
Chapter 173-460: Controls for new sources of toxic air pollutants.

Title 246 WAC: Department of Health
Chapter 246-215: Food service.

Title 296 WAC: Department of Labor & Industries
Chapter 296-65: Asbestos removal and encapsulation.
Chapter 296-155: Safety standards for construction work.
Chapter 296-807: Portable power tools.
Chapter 296-809: Confined spaces.
Chapter 296-828: Hazardous chemicals in laboratories.
Chapter 296-842: Respirators.

**County and Local**

Electrical codes
Elevator codes
Fire codes
Housing and building maintenance codes
Land use codes
Mechanical codes
Solid waste regulations
Wastewater and pollution regulations

**Government agencies**
Selected federal, state and local governmental agencies responsible for promulgation and/or enforcement of the laws and regulations cited above include:

**Federal**
Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
Department of Defense (DOD)
Department of Energy (DOE)
Department of Education (ED)
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Department of Justice (DOJ)
Department of Transportation (DOT)
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
National Science Foundation (NSF)
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
United States Coast Guard

State
Department of Early Learning
Department of Health
Department of Ecology
Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)
Department of Agriculture
Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Department of Superintendent of Public Instruction

County and Local
Bothell Fire Department
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
King County Solid Waste Division
King Country Wastewater Treatment Division
Public Health – Seattle & King County
Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections
Seattle Fire Department
Seattle Public Utilities, Solid Waste Division
Seattle Water Department
Tacoma Fire Department
Tacoma/Pierce County Health Department

Accreditation

Accreditation – essentially a close “cousin” of higher education compliance – is an evaluative process which ensures that institutions, and their academic programs and discrete organizational functions, are aligned with standards and practices established by the nation’s top colleges and universities. That process is managed by private, not-for-profit entities, known as accreditors, created to conduct external quality assessments. These assessments take the form of peer review. Such review, coupled with regular reporting by institutions (usually at set intervals) provides accreditors with relevant information and data, and elicits evidence of continuous improvement.

Regional or national accreditation encompasses an entire institution and all aspects of its operations. Specialized (sometimes known as programmatic) accreditation relates to academic programs or disciplines such as nursing, physical therapy, engineering, business, and teacher education. It also relates to university departments or units and their specific functions and practices, such as scientific diving, animal care and use, and research with biohazardous agents.

Specialized accreditation, with regard to academic programs, ensures that institutional governance and resources, curricula, teaching and learning assessment practices, and achievement of program outcomes meet accreditors’ expectations for quality. It is relevant to many UW academic programs in the health and science fields (e.g., those in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, the School of Pharmacy, or College of Engineering). Specialized accreditation is optional for some academic programs, and mandatory for others. For example, in some disciplines, such as social work or health information management (HIM), students must hold diplomas from accredited programs to be eligible to sit for required licensure or certification exams. This is often a matter of state law or regulation, and their intersection with the specific requirements of professional licensure boards.

Accreditation of specific functions works in much the same way, and is usually relevant to activities which present health and safety concerns, such as laboratory pathology or rehabilitation medicine. Specialized accreditation in this realm relies on subject matter experts working across disciplines or fields and is predicated on adherence to standards set by leaders in business, industry, healthcare and/or higher education. In the health and safety area, recognition by a specialized accreditor implicitly acknowledges the adoption of established best practices for professionals and organizations working
with viruses or laboratory animals, for example. Specialized accreditation is optional for most university functions or activities, but a lack thereof can produce concerns among funding agencies and the general public, particularly with regard to scientific research and healthcare.

Failure to maintain compliance with accreditation principles or guidelines can result in warnings, probation, or revocation of accreditation in extreme cases. Such failure carries with it similar concerns as those in the compliance realm, e.g. closure of academic programs, damage to an institution’s reputation, loss of student enrollment, loss of public trust, etc. In the case of UW Medicine, loss of accreditation would render the hospitals and clinics ineligible to receive payments from Medicare/Medicaid and private insurers. Thus, adherence to accreditation standards is often essential to the continued operations of a large research university.

Academic programs (selected accreditors):
- Clinical Psychology: American Psychological Association (APA)
- Nursing: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
- Physical Therapy Education: Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
- Public Health: Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
- Speech & Hearing Sciences: Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology & Speech-language Pathology (CAA)

Functions (selected accreditors):
- Hall Health Center: Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)
- Medical Centers: The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, known as the Joint Commission (JCAHO)
- UWPD: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)
UW boards and committees

The following documented boards and committees currently provide guidance and oversight of health- and safety-related practices and services on the University of Washington’s Seattle campus – including UW Medicine.

Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases (ACCD)

The UW Advisory Committee on Communicable Disease (ACCD) is a collaborative group that addresses the risk of a communicable disease outbreak on UW campuses. In order to reduce the risk of, prepare for, and contemplate the University’s needs regarding such outbreaks, ACCD:

- Collaborates to promote the health and wellness of UW students, employees, and visitors;
- Disseminates information about potential threats related to communicable diseases and how to minimize risk;
- Guides the University’s preparation and response activities related to communicable diseases; and,
- Advises the Chancellors, Provost, and President on trends, risks, and appropriate responses.

Membership: The ACCD is comprised of representatives from the following UW offices/units:

- Academic Personnel
- UW Division of the Attorney General’s Office
- Compliance and Risk Services
- Global Affairs
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Health & Safety
- Hall Health Center (convenes the committee and is chaired by its director)
- Housing and Food Services
- Human Resources
- Intercollegiate Athletics
- Media Relations and Communications
- School of Medicine, Division of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- School of Public Health
- Student Life
- UW Bothell
- UW Tacoma
- Other offices/units, when particular expertise is required

Law/regulation: None

UW policy: The Committee was originally chartered in 1986, as part of EO 60, which addressed emerging issues related to HIV. Since that time, the focus, mandate, name, and membership of the committee have evolved. EO 60 remains the Policy on Human Immunodeficiency Virus.
**Campus Health Services**

Campus Health Services (CHS) is a collaborative partnership that addresses the occupational health needs of UW employees, the UW Medicine workforce, hospital volunteers, and clinical trainees.

In order to promote a safe and healthy work environment, CHS:

- Guides the University’s occupational and public health services in accordance with national, state, local, and institutional requirements;
- Promotes access to high-quality occupational clinical preventive services;
- Promotes wellness in the University work environment, in collaboration with other UW partners;
- Advises on new regulatory and national recommendations on critical issues;
- Harmonizes clinical practices of the member employee health clinics; and,
- Standardizes administrative practices regarding the use of OHM, the electronic occupational health record database.

**Membership:** Representatives from the following UW organizations comprise CHS membership:

- Environmental Health & Safety, including EH&S central administration, and the UW Employee Health Center
- Harborview Medical Center Employee Health Services
- Harborview Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic
- Health Sciences Administration
- Northwest Hospital Employee Health
- School of Medicine, Division of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- School of Public Health, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
- UW Medical Center Employee Health
- Other UW Medicine entities, as they wish to participate

**Law/regulation:** None

**UW policy:** None

**Campus Security Advisory Committee**

The Campus Security Advisory Committee was established in 1991, as required by RCW 28B.10.569 (now repealed), as a task force to examine annual campus security and safety issues. This committee is responsible for reviewing the UWPD annual report to ensure accuracy and effectiveness of the report, and to make suggestions for improvement. The committee is chaired by the UW Chief of Police and typically holds bimonthly meetings. Members meet to review current crime trends, safety issues, new policies and procedures, and potential problems or debates. Members represent administration, faculty, staff, recognized UW student organizations, and police/security.
Clery Compliance Committee

Under the direction of the Vice President of Student Life, a UW Clery Compliance Committee was instituted in October 2012. The broad charge of this committee is to advise the Vice President of Student Life and other senior leaders on issues of compliance. The committee works collaboratively with campus departments and stakeholders to ensure compliance with the law.

Membership: Unknown


UW policy: None

Committee on Accessibility

The Committee on Accessibility assists University administration in the development of capital priorities to improve facilities and grounds access and utilization. In addition to this important budget development role, the Committee has provided ongoing advice on accessible and universal design concepts applied to renewals, renovations, and capital projects.

Membership: Members are appointed by the Vice President for Finance and Facilities.

Law/regulation: Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) (committee not required by statute)

UW policy: None

CPD Central Safety Committee

The CPD Central Safety Committee’s members meet on a monthly basis to review and discuss Capital Planning and Development construction-specific issues, with a goal of reducing the number of injuries and incidents experienced on job sites. Exploring safety in design, working with contractors to support safe work practices, developing and implementing effective policies and procedures, and communicating lessons learned from incidents are among the topics explored.

Membership: Committee members are CPD directors, construction managers, and project managers.
Diving Control Board

The Diving Control Board is an institutional committee assigned to oversee diving safety for the University. It has the authority to approve and monitor diving projects, review and revise the diving safety manual, assure compliance with the manual, assure medical compliance, certify the depths to which a diver has been trained, take disciplinary action for unsafe practices, and assure adherence to the buddy system for scuba diving (a diver is accompanied by and is in continuous contact with another diver in the water).

Membership: The majority of members are active scientific divers. A board-certified physician is also a member of the committee and provides consultation and advice on diver medical issues as they arise.

Law/regulation: Functions are carried out pursuant to relevant WISHA provisions and the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) Scientific Diving Standards (AAUS is a specialized accreditor).

UW policy: None

Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee (ESCRO)

ESCRO’s responsibilities include providing ethical and scientific review of hESC research, ensuring compliance to applicable regulations and policy, overseeing a registry of hESC lines at the UW, and educating researchers about relevant compliance issues.

Membership: ESCRO Committee members are appointed by and serve as advisors to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. ESCRO Committee membership reflects the scientific, medical, and ethical expertise necessary to review hESC research applications.

Law/regulation: None

UW policy: None

Emergency Management Planning Committee (EMPC)

The EMPC meets bi-monthly to discuss and share best practices as they relate to disaster/crisis planning, training and other preparedness, mitigation and recovery issues, as well as to assist in the management of the UW disaster resilience efforts.

Membership: The Emergency Management Planning Committee (EMPC) is composed of diverse representatives from academic, research and operating units that provide guidance and strategic oversight for the University’s emergency and disaster management programs. In
addition, we invite active participation from the various student governance groups. Meetings are open to any interested member of the UW community.

Law/regulation: None
UW policy: None

Environmental Health & Safety Advisory Board

The Environmental Health and Safety Advisory Board is appointed by the President to advise the President and Provost on the implementation of EO 55 and to serve as a resource and guide to EH&S, the University Health and Safety Committees, and the other units with related responsibilities. As part of these duties, the Board:

- Reviews University data relevant to environmental health and safety;
- Identifies and recommends institutional environmental health and safety goals;
- Advocates for a healthy and safe University environment; and
- Identifies areas to best integrate and coordinate University functions and efforts that promote health and safety.

Membership: The Board is currently chaired by the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School and consists of 18 members representing the entire University community.

Law/regulation: None
UW policy: EO 55 (University Health and Safety Programs: Policy and Responsibilities)

Faculty Councils (Student Affairs; Research)

University faculty councils study and make recommendations on issues bearing on the welfare of the university. Councils with health and safety oversight responsibilities include: Student Affairs, and Research.

Membership: Not specified
Law/regulation: None
UW policy: Faculty Code, Chapter 42 (Faculty Councils and Their Duties); EO 8 ( Classified, Proprietary, and Restricted Research)

Hall Health Advisory Committee

Hall Health receives an annual allocation from the Services and Activities Fee Committee to create a universal health coverage system for all students who pay the S&A fee. The HHAC is the body that is charged with reviewing the “use policies” of Hall Health.
**Membership:** The Hall Health Advisory Committee (HHAC) is comprised of two appointed student representatives from ASUW and two appointed representatives from GPSS, as well as staff members appointed by the Executive Director of Health Sciences Administration, the administrative unit in which Hall Health resides.

**Law/regulation:** None

**UW policy:** None

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**Health & Safety Committees**

The Senior Director of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S), in consultation with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) and organizational committee executive sponsors, determines the number of organizational Health & Safety Committees and which groups of employees are represented by each of the committees. Each committee reports to its executive sponsor.

**Organizational Committee.** The UW has 10 organizational health and safety committees (HSCs), each of which reviews the accident/incident reports pertinent to its area for evaluation and resolution of any ongoing issues. Responsibilities include:

- Review and evaluate:
  - Accident investigation reports
  - Health and safety inspection reports
  - Accident/illness prevention programs
  - Health and safety suggestions from employees;
- Review safety-related material provided by EH&S and various regulatory government agencies; and,
- Recommend action and work with the executive sponsor of the organizational committee to resolve health and safety concerns presented.

**Membership:** Elections are held every two years. The Seattle campus is divided into eight organizational committees by department or unit; and each branch campus has its own organizational committee. The committees and sponsors are:

- Administrative & Other Academic Programs (1); Provost
- Finance & Facilities (2); Associate Vice Provost, Compliance and Risk Services
- Student Life (3); Vice President, Student Life
- Health Sciences (4); Executive Director, Health Sciences Administration
- UW Medicine (5); Vice President, Medical Affairs
- College of Arts & Sciences (6); Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
- UW Bothell (7); Vice Chancellor for Administration and Planning
- UW Tacoma (8); Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration
- College of Engineering (9); Dean, College of Engineering
- College of the Environment (10); Dean, College of the Environment
These organizational committees each select two representatives to serve on the University-wide Health and Safety Committee (see below).

**Law/regulation:** Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA)

**UW policy:** APS 10.11 (UW Health and Safety Committees)

**Infectious Waste Committee**

The Infectious Waste Committee (IWC) establishes and reviews biohazardous waste handling practices for the University of Washington community in compliance with local, state, and federal biohazardous waste regulations. The IWC creates and annually reviews a plan. Proposed updates are shared with the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) for review and approval.

**Membership:** Stakeholder representatives with responsibilities for safety and management of biohazardous waste and compliance with relevant University, local, state and federal laws.

**Law/regulation:** Multiple federal, state and local laws and regulations. Provisions of the Seattle Municipal Code and the King County Board of Health regulations require a Biomedical Waste Management Plan, including identification of dedicated infection control staff or committee members.

**UW policy:** APS 12.3 (Review of Research Projects Involving Biological Hazards and Recombinant DNA)

**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**

The UW’s Office of Animal Welfare (OAW) provides support to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), as well as to researchers utilizing live vertebrate animals for teaching and research.

The IACUC reviews all animal use protocols, ensures compliance with federal regulations, inspects animal facilities and laboratories, and oversees training and educational programs. The OAW serves as a resource to faculty, investigators, technicians, students, staff, and administrators.

**Membership:** Not specified

**Law/regulation:** Various federal laws; Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) standards

**UW policy:** EO 53 (Use of Experimental Animals); APS 12.4 (Animal Use)

**Institutional Biosafety Committee (Dual Use Research of Concern; Select Agent Program)**

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviews, approves, and oversees research that involves the use of recombinant or synthetic DNA/RNA and other biohazardous agents.
Biological Use Authorization from the IBC and EH&S is required for work involving biohazards, including DNA/RNA.

Membership: Not specified

Law/regulation: The IBC carries out its functions pursuant to requirements set forth by the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and various state and local regulations.

UW policy: APS 12.3 (Review of Research Projects Involving Biological Hazards and Recombinant DNA)

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

An Institutional Review Board (IRB) is the group or committee that is given the responsibility by an institution to review its research projects involving human participants. The primary purpose of the IRB review is to assure that the safety, rights, and welfare of the human participants are protected, and that the institution complies with applicable federal and state regulations.

Membership: Varies with subject matter expertise needed for reviews

Law/regulation: The Common Rule and multiple additional federal laws; IRB review required when a study or project meets the federal definition of human subjects research

UW policy: EO 24 (Research with Human Participants)

International Travel Risk and Safety Committee (ITRASC)

ITRASC supports safe travel for UW students, faculty and staff. It advises the Provost on health and safety issues related to international travel. The committee’s responsibilities include:

- Reviewing and recommending international travel policies;
- Reviewing health and safety risks associated with international travel;
- Establishing and maintaining a UW International Travel Registry; and,
- Reviewing and recommending international travel insurance.

Membership: Appointed by the Provost

Law/regulation: None

UW policy: Student Policies – Chapter 211 (Student International Travel Policy)

Montlake Landfill Oversight Committee

The Montlake Landfill Oversight Committee was established in 1999 to help ensure that landfill-related issues are not overlooked, and that appropriate use and protection of the site is ensured in perpetuity. The committee meets each calendar quarter to assess current and proposed
activities in and near the landfill area, and to evaluate new information and regulations associated with the landfill.

**Membership:** Co-chaired by EH&S and Engineering Services

- Capital Planning and Development
- Center for Urban Horticulture
- Intercollegiate Athletics
- Recreational Sports Programs
- Facilities Services, Engineering Services
- Facilities Services, Transportation Services
- Facilities Services, Campus Grounds
- Housing and Food Services
- Environmental Health & Safety
- UW Division of the Attorney General’s Office
- Planning and Management
- Public Health Seattle and King County – Solid Waste Division

**Law/regulation:** Chapter 173-340 WAC (Model Toxics Control Act – Cleanup)

**UW policy:** APS 11.3 (Pollution Control)

**Radiation Safety Committee (RSC)**

A Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) must be appointed by the University Board of Regents, the President, or Executive Director for Health Sciences Administration to set policies and oversee the implementation of those policies to ensure the safe storage, use, and security of radioactive materials.

**Membership:** In accordance with WAC 246-235-090(2)(c)(j), the RSC shall be composed of the Radiation Safety Officer, a representative of management, and persons trained and experienced in the safe use of radioactive material. The license further requires the RSC to consist of at least the Executive Director of Health Sciences Administration or designee, the Radiation Safety Officer, medical representation from UWMC and HMC, and faculty-authorized investigators representing major programs or modalities where radioactive materials are stored or used.

**Law/regulation:** The University holds a “Type A” specific license of broad scope issued by the Washington State Department of Health’s Office of Radiation Protection. The license and relevant WAC provision requires the establishment of a radiation safety committee. The license provides the RSC authority to set policies and oversee the implementation of those policies to ensure safe storage, use, and security of radioactive materials. Chapter 246-235-090(2)(c)(iii)(C) WAC requires the RSC to review and approve proposed uses of radioactive materials prior to use.

**UW policy:** None
Radioactive Drug Research Committee (RDRC)

The Radioactive Drug Research Committee (RDRC) program began when the Food and Drug Administration published a Federal Register notice in 1975 classifying all radioactive drugs as either new drugs requiring an Investigational New Drug Application (IND) for investigational use (21 CFR 312), or generally recognized as safe and effective when administered under the conditions specified in the RDRC regulations (21 CFR 361.1).

Membership: In accordance with 21 CFR 361.1(c)(1), a Radioactive Drug Research Committee shall consist of at least five individuals. Each committee shall include the following three individuals: (i) a physician recognized as a specialist in nuclear medicine, (ii) a person qualified by training and experience to formulate radioactive drugs, and (iii) a person with special competence in radiation safety and radiation dosimetry. The remainder of the committee shall consist of individuals qualified in various disciplines pertinent to the field of nuclear medicine (e.g., radiology, internal medicine, clinical pathology, hematology, endocrinology, radiation therapy, radiation physics, radiation biophysics, health physics, and radiopharmacy). Membership shall be sufficiently diverse to permit expert review of the technical and scientific aspects of proposals submitted to the committee. The addition of consultants in other pertinent medical disciplines is encouraged.

Law/regulation: In accordance with 21 CFR 361.1(c)(4), all RDRCs must be specifically approved by the FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and must operate in accordance with the requirements specified in 21 CFR 361.1.

UW policy: None

Title IX Steering Committee

The Title IX Steering Committee is charged with fostering an institution-wide environment of cultural change, taking a community approach, and ensuring compliance with Title IX, as well as with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Clery Act and other laws and regulations, as they relate to sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence.

Membership: Appointed by the Provost


UW policy: None

University-wide Health and Safety Committee

The University-wide committee coordinates information from the organizational committees to provide consistent campus-wide strategies for health and safety activities and targets concerns for organizational committee actions. Specific responsibilities include:
• Review the number, type, severity, extent, and magnitude of occupational injuries, illnesses, and incidents experienced by University employees based on information presented annually by EH&S and the Office of Risk Management;

• Review the status of the occupational health and safety environment for University employees based on information and risk factors provided by the organizational committees, EH&S and the Office of Risk Management;

• Make recommendations on health and safety strategies, policies, and programs to the Senior Director of EH&S;

• Communicate with the individual organizational Health and Safety Committees on University health and safety issues; and,

• Determine when and which concerns need to be presented to the Board of Environmental Health and Safety.

**Membership:** The Committee is comprised of elected and appointed members from the 10 organizational committees, a representative from the Faculty Senate, and various ex-officio members.

**Law/regulation:** Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA)

**UW policy:** APS 10.11 (UW Health and Safety Committees)

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**UW Committee on Disability Issues (CDI)**

The UW Committee on Disability Issues seeks to improve campus climate for students, staff and faculty with disabilities. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Vice President for Minority Affairs and Diversity, and the Vice President for Student Life.

**Membership:** Unknown

**Law/regulation:** None

**UW policy:** None

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**Use of University Facilities Committee (UUF)**

The Use of University Facilities Committee is housed within the Office of Special Programs and monitors compliance with Washington State law which requires that UW facilities be employed primarily for their intended educational use.

**Membership:** Among other campus units, a representative from the EH&S Public Health Program participates on this committee.

**Law/regulation:** Chapter 478-136 WAC (Use of University of Washington Facilities)

**UW policy:** None
UW Medicine

UW Medicine owns or operates UW Medical Center, Harborview Medical Center, Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, Valley Medical Center, UW Neighborhood Clinics, UW School of Medicine, UW Physicians, and Airlift Northwest, which together have about 65,000 admissions and about 1.6 million outpatient and emergency room visits each year. The mission of UW Medicine is to improve the health of the public by advancing medical knowledge, providing outstanding primary and specialty care to the people of the region, and preparing tomorrow’s physicians, scientists and other healthcare professionals.

UW Medicine Board Patient Safety and Quality Committee (PSQC)

The UW Medicine Board Patient Safety and Quality Committee provides guidance and advice regarding patient safety and quality. Under the Coordinated Quality Improvement Program (CQIP), the delivery of healthcare services to patients in all components of UW Medicine, as well as services delivered by UW Medicine affiliated providers at other institutions or locations, are subject to retrospective and prospective review for the purposes of: (a) improving the quality of care of patients and preventing medical malpractice; (b) assessing the competence of, and maintenance of relevant information concerning individual physicians affiliated with UW Medicine; (c) resolving patient grievances; (d) developing information concerning negative outcomes and incidents, liability claims, settlements and awards, costs of insurance, and patient injury prevention; (e) delivering educational programs concerning quality improvement and patient safety, etc.; and (f) maintaining and improving policies to ensure these purposes are served.

Membership: UW Medicine Board is comprised of community leaders appointed by the UW Board of Regents

Law/regulation: Quality improvement programs for hospitals in Washington are required as a matter of facility licensure (RCW 70.41.200). UW Medicine, which consists of hospital and non-hospital units, chose to formalize its program by creating and submitting a CQIP plan (RCW 43.70.510) to the Washington State Department of Health in order to provide a framework for its joint quality improvement efforts.

UW policy: None

UW Medicine Patient Safety & Quality Executive Committee (PSQEC)

The CEO/EVP – Medical Affairs/Dean has assigned operational authority for the CQIP to the PSQEC, which is responsible for patient safety and quality improvement activities across UW Medicine. It reviews proposals, identifies opportunities, and recommends the allocation of resources to advance patient safety and quality care at the UW Medicine level and oversees the Patient Safety Innovations Program (PSIP). The PSQEC authorizes and directs UW Medicine units to carry out the operational responsibility for the management and analysis of QI patient safety
programs such as incident reporting, peer review, and other processes required by licensing and accreditation organizations such as the Department of Health and The Joint Commission. There is also a UW Medicine Patient Safety & Quality Coordination Committee (PSQCC) that receives direction from and reports to the PSQEC for operational activities.

**Membership:** UW Medicine Chief Medical Officer, Chief Health System Officer, and Associated Chief Medical Officer, UWP President, Associate Vice Provost for Compliance and Risk Services, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Director of Health Sciences Risk Management, Entity Executive Directors, Medical Directors, Associate Medical Directors for Patient Safety and Quality Improvement, Chief Nursing Officers, and Directors of Quality Improvement

**Law/regulation:** None, but relevant accreditation standards apply

**UW policy:** None

**UW Housestaff Quality and Safety Committee – UW Medicine**

The University of Washington Housestaff Quality & Safety Committee (HQSC) is a trainee-led organization chartered under Graduate Medical Education and the UW Patient Safety & Quality Coordinating Committee that strives to engage trainees in the quality and safety work pursued everywhere throughout UW Medicine. Formed in 2011, HQSC membership today boasts more than 40 residents and fellows representing 20 medical and surgical specialties. The group meets throughout the year to learn improvement methodology, leadership skills, and change management strategies. In addition to developing and engaging future clinician leaders in healthcare quality and safety, the HQSC provides a housestaff perspective on these important matters to committees across UW Medicine.

**Membership:** Co-chairs serve overlapping one-year terms, either summer-to-summer or autumn-to-autumn, to preserve continuity. They are responsible for planning monthly meetings, setting the curriculum, and representing HQSC on various UW Medicine committees. The VA Chief Resident for Quality & Patient Safety serves as one of the co-chairs.

**Law/regulation:** None

**UW policy:** None

**UW Medicine Hospital Patient and Staff Safety Committees**

Each hospital maintains additional Patient Safety, Quality Improvement, Clinical Risk Management and Quality, Infection Prevention and Control, Employee Health Services, Environment of Care, Safe Patient Handling, and other committees that evaluate and support a safe environment for patients, visitors, faculty, staff, and trainees.

**Membership:** Not specified

**Law/regulation:** None
**UW policy:** None
Designated health and safety officials and their roles

Campus security authorities
The Clery Act designates a variety of individuals and campus organizations as “campus security authorities” under the law. This group includes:

- Campus police departments or campus security units, and their employees
- Individuals with responsibility for campus security, but not employed by police or security departments
- Individuals or departments designated as recipients for student and employee reports of criminal offenses
- An official with significant responsibility for student and campus activities including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings (an “official” is a person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution)

CSAs are responsible for reporting allegations of Clery Act-designated crimes they receive to the official or office designated by the institution to collect crime report information.

Disability
Kate Leonard, ADA/Title IX Coordinator, Compliance Services | ADA Coordinator

Human subjects
Joe Giffels, Associate Vice Provost for Research Administration and Integrity, Office of Research | Institutional Official for Human Subjects

Radiation safety
Philip Campbell, Assistant Director & Radiation Safety Officer, Environmental Health & Safety | Licensed official for radiation and radioactive materials (Washington State Department of Health)

Research with vertebrate animals
David Anderson, Executive Director, Health Sciences Administration | Institutional Official for Animal Research

Select agents
Jude Van Buren, Senior Director, Environmental Health & Safety | Responsible Official for the Select Agent program

State employee return-to-work program
Pam Nathan, Senior Return-to-Work Specialist, Claim Services | Employer representative: Return-to-work program (under Title 357-19-525 WAC)
Title IX
Kate Leonard, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Compliance Services | Title IX Coordinator
Although many University departments and units integrate health and safety protocols, policies and officers into their operations, these offices provide centralized services campus wide.

**ADA Coordinator**

The ADA Coordinator’s responsibilities include: providing information and assistance to those who wish to raise a complaint or have concerns relating to the University’s compliance with the ADA and/or related local, state, and federal laws; facilitating the University's compliance with disability laws and regulations, including responding effectively to each complaint; providing assistance and support to University programs responsible for delivering reasonable accommodations to employees, students, and members of the public; facilitating University-wide training and outreach; identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic issues relating to compliance; where appropriate, responding to or conducting an investigation of complaints; and, participating in and providing support to committees and other programs dedicated to improving the experience of persons with disabilities at the University. The ADA Coordinator is a member of the Compliance and Risk Services staff.

**Campus Safety – Bothell**

Campus Safety provides security and safety services at UW Bothell and at Cascadia College.

**Campus Safety & Security – Tacoma**

Working with Tacoma and Pierce County agencies, the department maintains a safe and secure educational environment.

**Capital Planning and Development (CPD)**

While maintaining a healthful, safe, and productive work environment for all University activities, CPD actively engages the design and construction community and CPD personnel in a manner that insures facilities are designed to operate safely and that they will be built safely. All levels of management, both outside the University and within CPD, are engaged to ensure the safe conduct of construction work, with a goal of zero injuries to University personnel, faculty, staff, students, and contractors as a result of CPD activities.

**Counseling Center**

The UW Counseling Center provides a safe environment to help students explore the challenges of life and learning through counseling, outreach, preventive programming, advocacy, and consultation.
Disability Services

Disability Resources for Students (DRS)

DRS is dedicated to ensuring access and inclusion for all students with disabilities on the Seattle and Bothell campuses enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, professional, Evening Degree and Access programs. DRS serves students with either temporary or permanent physical, health, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities to establish services for their access and inclusion on campus.

Disability Services Office (DSO)

DSO provides employment, educational, programmatic and physical access for individuals with disabilities, including: services to University staff and academic personnel with disabilities; accommodation advice and resources for University departments; assistive equipment; classroom or examination accommodations for non-matriculated students, including those in Extension courses, English Language Programs, and Certificate programs; interpreters (sign language, oral and tactile) and real-time captioning; general access accommodations for members of the public attending University events; coordination of disabled parking or disabled transportation (Dial-A-Ride); and a process for reporting needed facilities modifications (e.g. doors widened, ramps installed).

Emergency Management (UWEM)

UW Emergency Management is an independent department within the UW’s Facilities Services Division. Established in 2003, UWEM is responsible for the comprehensive, “all-hazards” emergency and disaster management planning efforts for the entire UW system. UWEM provides planning, training, grant assistance, inter-departmental coordination and emergency response assistance for major emergencies or disasters including: earthquakes, winter storms, thunderstorms, extreme heat, fire, hazmat incidents, terrorism, pandemics and communicable disease, and active shooter situations.

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

To support the University of Washington’s teaching, research, and service missions, EH&S assists organizational units in meeting their responsibility to protect the environment and to provide a safe and healthy place of employment and learning. Areas of responsibility include:

- Occupational hygiene and safety (respiratory protection, training, monitoring)
- Employee health clinical support (occupational immunizations, exposure follow-up, respirator medical clearance, medical screening and monitoring)
- Research safety (occupational health and safety, animal use medical screening, research protocol hazardous materials review)
- Diving safety
- Biological research safety
- Chemical safety (hazardous materials storage)
- Laboratory/shop safety
- Accident reporting and prevention (Health and Safety Committees, training, ergonomics, Accident Prevention Plans)
- Fire and life safety (building emergency preparedness, egress, fire code compliance)
- Building safety (construction and remodel design review, capital safety improvements, regulated building materials including lead, asbestos, PCBs)
- Ventilation safety (Biosafety Cabinet Certification (BSC), fume hood testing, indoor air quality)
- Regulatory inspection and reporting liaison; support services provided to campus departments, research units and union representatives
- Radiation safety (clinical and research; radiation machine and x-ray safety, personnel monitoring, human subjects approval)
- Non-ionizing radiation and laser safety
- Radioactive materials authorization, procurement, shipping and receiving
- Radiation waste handling and shipping
- Environmental protection (air, water, and soil quality, pollution prevention)
- Site assessment for environmental contamination
- Chemical inventories monitoring and review
- Hazardous materials review, collection, shipping and recycling
- Spill response and 24/7/365 coverage
- Public health (food, potable and recreational water safety, pest control and sanitation)
- Outreach and health education
- Health Sciences student immunizations for clinical practice

Facilities

Facilities Services includes eight departments that operate, maintain and support the University’s physical plant, grounds, transportation, emergency operations, building maintenance, and waste management programs.

Global Affairs, Office of (OGA)

Global Affairs provides travel registration services to students, faculty and staff of UW’s Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma campuses. The OGA Global Emergency Manager monitors overseas travel and responds to overseas emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, offering emergency assistance to UW travelers. OGA coordinates the International Travel Risk Assessment and Safety Committee (ITRASC) to advise the Provost on health and safety issues related to international travel.
Hall Health

Hall Health Center is an outpatient clinic that provides health care to UW students, alumni, faculty, and staff, as well as the general community. Services include: primary care, mental health, women’s health, family medicine, travel clinic, immunizations, physical therapy, sports medicine, STD testing, health promotion, lab and radiology. Hall Health is closely associated with UW Medicine, the clinical arm of the UW School of Medicine, and has full accreditation status from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC).

Health & Wellness (a division of Student Life)

Health & Wellness provides support, advocacy, consultation, and education to the University of Washington campus community. Health & Wellness programs include Alcohol & Other Drug Education, Suicide Intervention and Education, Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Harassment Advocacy and Training and Education, Student Care, Peer Health Educators, and Green Dot Bystander Education Program.

Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA)

ICA is responsible for ensuring the safety of student athletes, including prevention of concussion and catastrophic injury. ICA also monitors compliance with the provisions of Title IX.

Police and Safety Offices

University of Washington Police Department (UWPD)

The University of Washington Police Department has the exclusive responsibility to act upon law enforcement matters and perform police functions for the Seattle campus of the University of Washington. Police personnel are sworn peace officers, performing the same services as those of any municipal police agency. Officers investigate all crimes and enforce federal, state and local laws as well as Washington Administrative Code (WAC) rules within the University of Washington’s jurisdiction.

UW Medicine

UW Medicine hospitals and centers maintain security officers on site.

Risk Services

Risk Services organizes, coordinates and implements programs to control risks for all UW campuses. Services include risk financing and insurance, equipment insurance, risk consulting, claims services and workers compensation. Risk Services works closely with the UW Division of the Attorney General’s Office and EH&S to mitigate key health and safety risks, as well as
managing numerous operational and fiscal functions regarding high-risk activities such as construction, research, food services and facilities maintenance.

SafeCampus

The Violence Prevention and Response Program (known as SafeCampus) acts as the central point of communication and the coordinating unit for violence mitigation activities across the UW. SafeCampus is a partnership of key offices focusing on campus safety and violence prevention, including Student Life, Human Resources, the Bothell and Tacoma campuses, UW and Harborview Medical Centers, the UW Police Department, Academic Human Resources, and the Graduate School. When a situation of concern is reported, the Violence Prevention and Response Team collaborates with affected UW departments to develop a coordinated response that mitigates the occurrence of campus violence. SafeCampus telephone numbers are answered 24 hours/day, 7 days/week by staff specially trained to receive reports of potentially violent situations and provide resources and referrals to UW services.

Title IX Coordinator

The Title IX Coordinator’s responsibilities include: providing information and assistance to those who wish to raise a complaint or have concerns relating to the University's compliance with Title IX; facilitating the University's compliance with Title IX, including responding effectively to each complaint; providing assistance and support to University programs responsible for responding to and investigating complaints; identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic issues relating to Title IX compliance; facilitating University-wide training and outreach; where appropriate, responding to or conducting an investigation of complaints; and participating in and providing support for committees and other programs dedicated to Title IX compliance. The Title IX Coordinator is a member of the Compliance and Risk Services staff.

UW Medicine Hospitals

Harborview Medical Center, Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, Valley Medical Center and UW Medical Center together have about 65,000 admissions and about 1.6 million outpatient and emergency room visits each year. UW Medicine provides outpatients with the latest in medical discoveries, diagnoses and treatments. Physicians treat patients, as well as conduct scientific research and teach the next generation of medical professionals.

Youth Programs Development and Support, Office for

The Office for Youth Programs Development and Support provides educational resources and consultation for the 200+ UW programs and activities, including summer camps, serving over 24,000 minors on- and off-campus each year. The office is responsible for establishing guidelines
and best practices, and coordinating efforts across the University, to ensure the safety of minors. It also works to ensure alignment between youth-serving programs and the educational and strategic goals of the University. The office was established in 2016, reports to Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and works closely with Compliance and Risk Services.
UW programs

The programs listed below support the health and safety of the UW community, and are instrumental in maintaining a safe and secure campus environment.

Emergency Code Blue

Emergency Code Blue telephones are located across the Seattle campus. Community members can summon help or assistance from UWPD when needed.

Green Dot

Green Dot's aim to prevent and reduce power-based violence at the UW by engaging community members as leaders and active bystanders who step in, speak up, and interrupt potential acts of violence. Green Dot training is made available to students, faculty and staff each quarter, and is provided by staff in Health & Wellness and SafeCampus.

Husky Nightride

Nightride provides a free, safe way for UW community members holding a U-PASS to get home at night. Shuttles pick up passengers between 8:00 p.m. and 1:39 a.m. Monday through Friday. Additional information, including schedules and stops, is here.

Husky Nightwalk

Uniformed security guards provide a walking escort on the Seattle campus to community members between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 2:00 a.m., seven days a week. A map of the Husky Nightwalk service area is here.

Peer Health Educators (PHE)

The Peer Health Educators program is housed in the Office of Health & Wellness, Division of Student Life, and bridges the gap between students and health research, health skills, and campus resources. With three paid staff members, and 30-40 PHEs, provides services around education, outreach and activism, and community building.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE)

SANE nurses are specially trained to work with patients who have been sexually assaulted and provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment services. They perform forensic examinations designed to collect and preserve evidence of assault. SANE nurses are available at Harborview
Medical Center, UW Medical Center, Valley Medical Center, and Northwest Hospital & Medical Center.

**UW Alert**

The University developed UW Alert to disseminate official information via email, text message, telephone, loudspeaker, website banner, and other means to keep the community informed during emergencies and situations that might disrupt normal operations.

**Watchdawg**

The University of Washington, in cooperation with the Seattle Police Department, established a method to advise the surrounding community about crime issues. The WatchDawg notification system is open to any individual, business or group who would like to receive information regarding crime issues, safety tips and security issues affecting the community surrounding the UW campus.
Listed below are relevant Administrative Policy Statements, Presidential Orders, and Washington Administrative Code sections that support and guide health and safety compliance at the University of Washington. A sample of additional policy sources is also included in this section.

**Administrative Policy Statements (APS)**

**APS 10.1** Environmental Health and Safety Services

**APS 10.2** Contacting Governmental Agencies Regarding Health, Safety, and Environmental Matters

**APS 10.3** Occupational Safety and Health Programs: General Requirements for WISHA Compliance

**APS 10.4** Personal Protective Equipment and Clothing

**APS 10.7** Policy on Access to Vessels Used for Scientific Research and Instruction

**APS 10.8** Accident, Injury, and Illness Reporting

**APS 10.9** Visitors and Children in University Laboratories and Shops

**APS 10.10** Noncampus Groups Using Campus Facilities and Grounds

**APS 10.11** UW Health and Safety Committees

**APS 10.12** Purchase, Management, and Use of an Automated External Defibrillator at the University of Washington

**APS 11.2** Management and Disposal of Hazardous Wastes

**APS 11.3** Pollution Control

**APS 11.4** Spills and Releases

**APS 11.5** Food Service Standards

**APS 11.7** Policy on Domestic Violence in the Workplace and Leave Related to Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking

**APS 11.8** Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

**APS 12.1** Managing Asbestos and Other Regulated Building Materials

**APS 12.3** Review of Research Projects Involving Biological Hazards and Recombinant DNA

**APS 12.4** Animal Use

**APS 12.5** Chemical Hazard Communication Program

**APS 12.6** Lockout/Tagout: A Method of Hazardous Energy Control

**APS 13.1** Emergency Management

**APS 13.2** Ensuring Business, Academic, and Research Continuity (BARC)
Building Security Regulations
Crime Prevention
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy
Drug and Alcohol Testing for Positions Requiring a Commercial Driver’s License
University Risk Management and Insurance Programs
Fire Safety
Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Coverage for University Employees
Policy on Reasonable Accommodation of Employees with Disabilities
Service Animal Policy
Departmental Relocations
Alterations to UW Seattle Campus Buildings and Grounds
General Travel Policies

Presidential Orders

Executive Orders (EO)
EO 8 Classified, Proprietary, and Restricted Research
EO 22 Helicopter and Airborne Vehicle Policy
EO 24 Research with Human Participants
EO 27 Suspended Operation Policy
EO 31 Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action
EO 51 Sexual Violence Elimination Policy
EO 53 Use of Experimental Animals
EO 55 University Health and Safety Programs: Policy and Responsibilities
EO 60 Policy on Human Immunodeficiency Virus
EO 61 Research Misconduct Policy

Washington Administrative Code (WAC)
Chapter 478-121 WAC Student conduct code for the University of Washington.
Chapter 478-124 WAC General conduct code for the University of Washington.
Chapter 478-128 WAC Animal control at the University of Washington.
Chapter 478-136 WAC  Use of University of Washington facilities.

Chapter 478-137 WAC  Use of Joint University of Washington, Bothell, and Cascadia Community College Facilities.

Other policy sources

The official policies listed above have University-wide application and are therefore centrally reviewed, approved and maintained, with support from the Rules Coordination Office.

A number of departments and administrative units have established local policies, some with corresponding procedures and relevant committees, to help fulfill key health and safety compliance obligations. Numerous training and/or informational manuals, guides, and plans – that may function as *de facto* policy – are also maintained on the three UW campuses and at UW Medicine. A sample of these sources is below.

*Grants Information Memoranda (GIM)*

- **GIM 20**  Activities Involving Human Subjects, Including Clinical Research
- **GIM 27**  Use of Experimental Animals: Regulations
- **GIM 36**  Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Policy and Guidelines

*Crisis Communications Plan*

*Emergency Procedures*

*Human Subjects Division (HSD): Policies, Procedures & Guidance*

*Lab Safety Manual*

*Radiation Safety Manual*

*UW Biosafety Manual*

*UW Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)*