

Title	Maintain standards of practice in an occupational health and safety practice		
Level	5	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to identify, interpret, explain, and apply relevant legislation; and maintain currency of information and techniques through education and networking.
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Classification	Occupational Health and Safety > Occupational Health and Safety Practice
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislative requirements relevant to this unit standard include, but are not limited to – Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA); Accident Compensation Act 2001; Privacy Act 2020; Health Information Privacy Code 2020; and Human Rights Act 1993.
- 2 Other legislation with considerable relevance to workplace health and safety includes, but is not limited to – Resource Management Act 1991; Building Act 2004; and the Building Code.
- 3 This unit standard is to be undertaken in a context which acknowledges cultural differences in the acceptance of health and safety practices, and where culturally sensitive techniques are used to communicate and implement workplace health and safety measures appropriate to all employees.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Identify, interpret, explain, and apply relevant legislation.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The necessary current information is accessed.

Range sources may include but are not limited to – WorkSafe New Zealand, subscription services, newspaper clipping services, professional and trade journals, NZ Gazette.

- 1.2 Communication to management of fundamental health and safety legislation relevant to the workplace facilitates health and safety policy development within the legal framework.
- 1.3 Health and safety are promoted through explanation of the legal obligations of employers and employees under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, and the Accident Compensation Act 2001, and those aspects of other legislation relevant to health and safety in the workplace.
- 1.4 Health and safety requirements for specific work areas, processes, and occupations are communicated to management and employees, with reference to the regulations, codes of practice, industry, and organisation guidelines relevant to the particular aspect of the workplace.

Outcome 2

Maintain currency of information and techniques through education and networking.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 The development and maintenance of peer and specialist networks ensures that currency is maintained in regard to relevant and current literature on health and safety techniques.
- 2.2 The effects of the changing environment are incorporated into health and safety techniques.
- 2.3 Increased knowledge and skill refinement gained from continuing education in health and safety practice are demonstrated through improvements in workplace health and safety standards.
- Range improvements can be measured by, but are not limited to –
 employee focus groups, research activities; greater acceptance by workforce of health and safety promotion initiatives;
 continuing education may be achieved through but is not limited to –
 attendance at professional conferences, networking with peers and specialists, specialist seminars, tertiary and post-graduate study, liaison with health and safety multi-disciplinary team members, personal and independent performance appraisal.
- 2.4 Up to date safety equipment, maintained to approved standards; serves to enhance workplace health and safety awareness and professionalism.
- 2.5 The maintenance of high standards of ethical conduct promotes trust by workforce and management in the workplace health and safety system.

Range ethical considerations include but are not limited to – respecting confidentiality; acting within the limits of expertise; complying with organisation standards; respecting organisational structure and culture, including cultural diversity and equal employment opportunity; maintaining adequate records; maintaining priorities of responsibility; fulfilling service commitments; punctuality; appropriate language and dress.

Planned review date	31 December 2022
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 October 1998	N/A
Revision	2	9 August 1999	N/A
Revision	3	14 March 2002	N/A
Revision	4	16 May 2005	N/A
Review	5	25 May 2007	N/A
Rollover and Revision	6	22 May 2014	N/A
Rollover and Revision	7	22 August 2019	N/A
Rollover and Revision	8	25 March 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0121
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact The Skills Organisation reviewcomments@skills.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.