



September 2024

OVERVIEW OF FACT SHEET

Accidents can happen in any work setting, and even minor injuries can lead to serious issues. Reporting hazards and incidents, no matter how small, is crucial for preventing future accidents and eliminating unsafe conditions.

Safety Goals:

Our goal is zero injuries. Achieving this requires everyone's commitment.

Employee Responsibilities:

- Follow safe work practices.
- Report hazards or unsafe conditions immediately.
- Participate in safety training and programs.

Key Terms:

Accidents: Unplanned events that can cause harm.

Hazards: Potential sources of harm (e.g., slippery floors, faulty equipment).

Injuries: Physical harm or damage to the body (e.g., cuts, fractures, burns).

Risk: The likelihood of injury or damage occurring from a hazard.

Accidents, hazards, and risks all affect safety. However, proper preparation, planning, and proactive measures can prevent or reduce injuries. By taking these steps, we strengthen the overall safety of our campus community and create a safer environment for everyone.

To request a safety service, please complete the form:

[Safety Service Form](#)

To report a safety hazard, please complete the form:

[Safety Hazard Form](#)

Injury Prevention

Slip, trip and fall incidences are some of the leading causes of occupational injuries at UNC Charlotte



Common Causes of Injury:

- Unsafe acts
- Faulty equipment
- Distraction
- Lack of knowledge or training
- Unsafe environmental conditions
- Chemical exposure

Everyone needs to understand the causes of injuries and how to prevent them.

Ways to Prevent Injuries

- **Stay Alert**
 - Be aware of your surroundings, regularly inspect the area for hazards, report any potential hazards immediately, and promptly clean up spills.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
 - Always wear the correct PPE for the task, ensure it's in good condition, and replace damaged items.
- **Proper Use of Tools and Equipment**
 - Use guards on rotating parts, check cords for wear, and ensure equipment meets safety specifications.
- **Safe Material Handling**
 - Use proper lifting techniques: grip securely with both hands, move in smooth, controlled motions, keep the load close to your body, and lift with your legs, not your back.
- **Good Ergonomics**
 - Arrange workstations to promote neutral body posture and use appropriately sized equipment to prevent strain.



GROUP DISCUSSION TOPICS

- What are the most common hazards in your specific workplace environment?
- Has anyone been injured on campus? Could it have been prevented?
- How do ergonomics apply in your work environment?
- What PPE could help prevent injuries in your role?

For injury prevention questions, contact [Environmental Health and Safety](#) at 704-687-1111 or ehsoffice@charlotte.edu.