

# ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH , AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

FOR

## CONTRACTORS

### Overview

The University of Arkansas has a strong commitment to providing a safe and healthy workplace and protecting the environment, natural resources, and local communities that could be affected by project development. This philosophy is implicit in the University's approach to planning, designing, and constructing projects campus wide. In support of its commitment, The University of Arkansas has established minimum Environmental, Safety, and Health (EH&S) requirements that apply to all projects on the campus. Contractors selected to perform work on any University project are expected to fully comply with all applicable environmental health and safety laws and regulations.

All contract employees must demonstrate a commitment to The University of Arkansas Environmental, Safety, and Health philosophy; by adhering to the following practices:

- Managers and supervisors will participate in self assessments, audits, and incident investigations; additionally, supervisors are responsible for conducting "tool box" meetings to emphasize important EH&S issues associated with their work activities including any deficiencies and corrective actions;
- Pre-job planning, injury/illness cases, and hours worked will be documented;
- All employees are to be supplied with appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g., hard hat, safety glasses) and tools to allow them to perform their work safely, maintain equipment in good working condition, and operate equipment in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations;
- Good "house keeping" will be maintained to promote fire prevention and sanitary conditions.

The University has other EH &S requirements that may apply depending on the Contractor's scope of work, site-specific conditions, or when specialized equipment is used. For example, Contractors may be required to submit specific plans to the University for approval prior to starting projects involving certain work activities, such as:

- Fall protection plan when working where a fall hazard may exist from a height greater than six feet;
- Standard operating procedures (e.g., performing service or maintenance on equipment or machinery where an unexpected release of hazardous energy may occur, conducting work in a confined space, excavation, or trench); and
- Health protection procedures where workers health may be jeopardized (e.g., exposure to noise above 85 decibels; working in a contaminated environment, handling blood or other bodily fluids);

If selected to bid for work, Contractors may be provided with more detailed information on University EH&S requirements. Contractors are expected to demonstrate in their bid proposal that

they have applied the University's EH&S requirements to the hazards associated with their scope of work. The University will evaluate Contractor responses and the results will be a factor in awarding the bid.

Contractors are responsible for selecting and managing their suppliers and lower-tier subcontractors according to the same standards and requirements that apply to their scope of work as set forth in their contract with The University of Arkansas. In the event that The University's EH&S requirements exceed a governmental law, regulation, or requirement, the more stringent requirement will apply.

Contractors will be responsible for conducting and documenting regular inspections and periodic evaluations of their work activities to ensure compliance with the project's ES&H requirements. Contractor's inspection and audit results will be made available to representatives of the University of Arkansas for review.

The following sections provide additional information on important elements of The University of Arkansas EH&S.

## **Zero Accident Philosophy**

This philosophy promotes:

- Constant awareness of each individual's responsibility to identify and eliminate unsafe practices and conditions in the work place;
- Building a safety team mentality where all workers contribute to the effort and each supervisor is fully aware of his or her team's capabilities and limitations and is held accountable for the team's actions; and
- Building a culture where everyone accepts responsibility and accountability for his or her own safety and health, as well as the safety and health of co-workers.

## **Environmental**

Contractors are responsible for complying with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, permits, and project plans and are expected to employ effective field control measures, such as:

- Storm water management;
- Spill prevention and response;
- Erosion and sediment control;
- Air emissions and dust control;
- Hazardous materials management;
- Waste management;
- Stop work procedures in the event of an unanticipated discovery (e.g., human remains, artifacts); and
- Cleanup and restoration of disturbed areas;

Contractors, sub-tier contractors, and suppliers will be required to comply with all access restrictions, including prohibitions on access to sensitive resources (e.g., wetlands, archaeological sites, special wildlife habitats) or areas adjacent to the worksite.

Depending on the contract amount and/or the scope of work, Contractors may be required to develop an Environmental Compliance Plan that conforms to all environmental permits governing the project and the requirements of the project-specific CECP.

## **Safety and Health**

Contractors are responsible for complying with all applicable safety and health (S&H) laws, regulations, codes, the project's S&H Plan, and the Contractor's own S&H requirements as they apply to the scope of work. Contractors may be required to provide a written S&H Plan that specifically addresses the hazards and corresponding mitigation measures associated with the scope of work.

Unless specified otherwise, Contractors will be responsible for obtaining all necessary safety certifications and permits applicable to the scope of work. Prior to starting work, ***Contractors will demonstrate to The University of Arkansas that all applicable certifications and permits have been obtained.***

Work crews are expected to perform daily pre-task planning to identify potential hazards and the corresponding mitigation measure(s) to eliminate or minimize the risk associated with performance of the work.