A. PURPOSE

Christopher Newport University (CNU) is committed to maintaining a safe working, learning, and living environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors. The purpose of this policy is to prevent accidents, illnesses, and injuries; increase safety awareness; and meet or exceed the requirements of state and federal health and safety laws and regulations by establishing authority and assigning responsibility for the development, implementation and regular review of University practices and programs necessary to meet these goals.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

Every employee of Christopher Newport plays a role in creating, supporting and maintaining a safe and healthy environment on campus by conducting their activities in conformance with the strategies, standards and processes adopted by the University’s Environmental Health and Safety Office and cooperating in their implementation. All employees, students, and volunteers shall participate in all health and safety training necessary to ensure safe and healthy operations and activities. Contractors are required to comply with all applicable University safety policies and programs as well as all federal, state and local health and safety requirements when working on University owned and operated properties and facilities.

C. PROCEDURES

In consultation with any and all affected offices, the Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Office shall identify and evaluate health and safety hazards on University owned property and in University owned and operated facilities and shall determine appropriate strategies for elimination or management, mitigation and control of such hazards. The Manager of EHS shall direct and oversee the development of standards, processes and programs; and the provision of training necessary to maintain a safe working, learning and living environment, and to comply with all federal, state and local workplace health and safety laws, regulations and standards.
The EHS Office shall facilitate training of faculty, staff and students aimed at reducing the risk of accident, injury or illness, fires, hazardous materials incidents, and laboratory accidents.

The EHS Office shall provide guidance documents for specific programs to facilitate compliance with relevant environmental, health and safety laws, regulations, and standards including building health, environmental compliance and protection, industrial hygiene and safety, radiation safety, chemical safety, laboratory and research safety, occupational health, shop safety, fire and life safety, and hazardous waste management.

The EHS Office shall monitor compliance with health and safety statutes, regulations and policies and identify noncompliant situations and recommend improvements and corrective actions.

The EHS Office shall communicate the relevant standards, processes, programs, and training needs to the affected offices. Respective directors, department heads, chairs and supervisors shall be responsible for implementation.

D. APPROVAL AND REVISIONS

Approved By: Policy Committee, March 4, 2020

E. NEXT REVIEW DATE: Spring 2022