



Policy Number: I.34

Policy Level: Operating Policy

Originally Issued: June 15, 2021

Reviewed: September 30, 2022

Revised: October 7, 2024

Policy Owner: Vice President for Financial Affairs

Policy Implementation: Coordinator for Fiscal Affairs and Risk Management

Risk Management

I. Policy Statement and Purpose

Athens State University strives to maintain a safe and healthy environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors and continuously improve the University's culture of safety. The University uses a combined traditional and enterprise risk management approach to University risks and opportunities. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that risks to Athens State University are identified, considered, and managed in order to support the effective operation of the University as an educational institution.

II. Definitions

Risk: The potential of harm to the University or its stakeholders, including but not limited to physical risks, property risks, and risk of criminal conduct and other noncompliance.

Risk Assessment: An evaluation of the nature and magnitude of risk to the University.

Risk Management: A continual process of analyzing and responding to risks to the University in order to reduce those risks to acceptable levels.

III. Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management and Safety Committee (RMSC) is a standing committee of the University and has wide representation from all areas of the University. The RMSC will provide oversight and coordination of University-wide risk management efforts while continuing to discuss and proactively address campus health and safety concerns.

The President of the University charges the RMSC with (a) identifying risks, (b) evaluating, measuring, and prioritizing risks, (c) taking appropriate actions to control or respond to risks, and (d) monitoring, evaluating as well as reporting/recording the effectiveness of risk controls. The RMSC will focus on addressing campus health and safety issues to ensure that the University maintains a safe and secure campus environment.



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Categories of risk evaluated by the RMSC include physical health and safety, environmental, compliance, and hazard risks. For specific information related to information and data security refer to the University's [Information Security Program](#) policy.

The RMSC will meet three times annually or more often if needed to discuss risks and recommended solutions.

IV. Risk Management Assessment

While risk assessment is a part of normal day-to-day operations for all employees of the University, the Risk Management and Safety Committee is responsible for leading risk assessment efforts in evaluating risks and identifying opportunities for improvement. The RMSC will conduct a risk assessment bi-annually and solicit broad participation from campus constituencies.

V. Environmental Safety

The University promotes proactive actions to eliminate hazards, where possible, or to reduce to acceptable limits, environmental and occupational hazards. Environmental safety concerns should be directed to the Director of Physical Plant.

VI. Responsibility for this Operating Policy

Policy Owner

As part of the initial approval of this policy by the President and subsequent to the original dissemination of the policy, the Vice President for Financial Affairs is the policy owner for the ongoing evaluation, review, and approval of this policy. Subsequent reviews and revisions to this policy must be in accordance with approved operating policy procedures and processes.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or more frequently as needed by the Policy Owner. Revisions will be reviewed/affirmed by the Cabinet and approved by the University President. This policy will be updated/published in the University's Policy Library.

Responsibility for Policy Implementation

The President has assigned the responsibility of implementing this policy to the Coordinator for Fiscal Affairs and Risk Management.