

Tips for Sun-Safety Policy Development

sun & uv awareness

Workplace policies on preventing overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation are a good way to educate staff about how to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun. A Sun-Safety Policy is a written document that defines an organization's commitment to protecting its employees from the harmful effects of UV radiation.

Questions to Consider

When you are drafting your policy, consider the following questions:

- What does your organization currently do to protect workers from the sun?
- Do your policies and procedures promote awareness of the health risks of excessive UV exposure?
- Do you currently educate your employees about the risks associated with excessive UV exposure?
- Do you formally recognize employees who participate in safe-sun workplace initiatives?
- Do you provide access to resources and tools that promote safe-sun practices?

Points to Consider

You may want to consider including the following ideas in your sun-safety policy:

- Training employees to work safely in the sun. This training should be provided as part of your induction program for new employees.
- Providing access to educational materials about the risks of excessive UV exposure, skin cancer prevention and screening, and the early signs of skin cancer, etc.
- Scheduling outdoor work tasks to occur when levels of solar UV radiation are less intense, such as earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon.
- Organizing work routines around midday to limit worker's exposure to UV radiation, and rotation of shifts to reduce each person's total exposure.
- Providing and ensuring use of appropriate sun-protective equipment and clothing including sun-protective work clothing, sun-protective hats, sunglasses and sunscreen.
- Providing indoor areas or shaded outdoor areas for rest/meal breaks.
- Providing shaded areas or temporary shade where possible.

Source: [Cancer Council Australia](#)