

		POLICY			
		Health & Safety Policy			
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POLI_SMP	04	Sustainability, Safety and Quality Directorate	Sustainability, Safety and Quality Directorate	01.01.2014	23.01.2026
Reason for Revision	This Policy has been reviewed to ensure alignment with the University's institutional policy framework. Its format has been standardized, and its content has been revised in accordance with current practices and the University's strategic priorities.				

Purpose and Scope

This Policy applies to all academic, administrative, social, and operational activities conducted within Özyeğin University, primarily at the Çekmeköy Campus. The Policy aims to protect the physical, psychological, and social well-being of employees, students, visitors, contractors, and suppliers, and to maintain a safe and healthy living and working environment across the University.

This Policy covers the core principles relating to occupational health and safety, safe living and campus safety, wellbeing, emergency management, risk management, and sustainable safety culture.

Core Principles and Commitments

Özyeğin University adopts the following as institutional principles and commitments:

- Preventing work-related injuries and occupational illnesses;
- Providing safe and healthy living and working conditions;
- Reducing hazards and risks to acceptable levels;
- Complying with applicable legal requirements and other obligations;
- Adopting risk-based, proactive, and preventive approaches; and
- Continuously improving health and safety performance.

The University management is committed to providing leadership for the establishment, implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of the Health and Safety Management System, allocating necessary resources to that end, and ensuring the effectiveness of related processes.

Health and Safety Culture

Özyeğin University recognizes health and safety culture as an integral component of its institutional culture.

To that end, the University is adopts the following principles:

- Ensuring that health and safety systems are embraced by all stakeholders;
- Promoting shared values, responsible behaviors, and awareness;
- Fostering open communication and a trust-based feedback environment;
- Clearly defining acceptable and unacceptable behaviors; and
- Encouraging personal responsibility and self-accountability.

Academic and administrative managers bear primary responsibility for fostering and strengthening the health and safety culture within their respective areas.

Proactive Approach and Hazard Reporting

Özyeğin University seeks to prevent accidents and incidents before they occur and, where prevention is not possible, to minimize their impact.

Accordingly,:

- Hazards, near-miss incidents, and nonconformities are systematically reported;
- Reports are analyzed and translated into preventive and corrective actions;
- Employees, students, visitors, and contractors are actively engaged in hazard reporting processes; and
- Effective, accessible, and secure communication channels are established and maintained.

Risk Management

In all University activities, from planning through implementation and completion, risks that may threaten human health and safety are systematically identified and assessed.

Risk management is carried out based on the following principles:

- Compliance with legal requirements;
- Application of the hierarchy of controls;
- Selection of materials, equipment, and systems that present the least hazard; and
- Ongoing inspection, testing, monitoring, and measurement activities.

Protection of Health

Protecting the health of all individuals at Özyeğin University is a fundamental priority. Health risks affecting stakeholders are systematically identified and appropriate preventive measures are implemented starting from the planning stage of all campus operations, academic activities, and all events conducted under the University's name.

University-wide hygiene and health protection standards are established, and all stakeholders are informed of these requirements. Compliance with established rules is a shared responsibility of students, employees, visitors, and service providers.

In selecting materials, equipment, systems, and chemicals, safer options that pose the least risk to human health are prioritized. Health surveillance activities are conducted as necessary, particularly for groups exposed to specific health risks. Collected data are analyzed in accordance with confidentiality principles and used to inform preventive measures.

Scenarios involving large-scale public health threats are developed and addressed in an integrated manner with emergency management and business continuity frameworks.

Smoke-Free Campus Practices

As per applicable legislation, the use of all tobacco products is prohibited in indoor spaces on the Özyeğin University campus. The smoke-free campus approach is recognized as an integral component of health protection and the development of a health and safety culture.

Smoke-free area signage is clearly displayed throughout campus. Building entrances and designated campus areas are clearly marked with green lines, signage, and institutional visuals. Regular communications and awareness initiatives are conducted through internal communication channels to raise awareness about smoke-free campus practices.

Sustainability and Change Management

Prior to implementing changes that may affect University processes, facilities, or operations, health and safety risks are duly evaluated and necessary measures are taken.

The Health and Safety Management System is maintained as a structure that is:

- Current and up to date;
- Practical and applicable;
- Responsive to technological and scientific developments; and
- Continuously learning and improving.

Performance Monitoring, Oversight, and Audit

To monitor and improve health and safety performance:

- Performance indicators are established and tracked;
- Internal oversight and audits are conducted in a planned and systematic manner; and
- Identified nonconformities are addressed promptly through corrective actions.

Procedure

- All academic and administrative units are responsible for implementing the Health and Safety Policy, and ensuring compliance within their respective areas.
- Subcontractors, service providers, contractors, and campus businesses establish and implement their own occupational health and safety,

emergency management, and health and safety practices in alignment with Özyeğin University's Health and Safety, and Emergency Management approach.

- Health and safety, occupational health and safety, and emergency management processes are managed through a risk-based, integrated, and holistic perspective. These processes are coordinated by the Sustainability, Safety and Quality Directorate.
- Health, safety, and emergency risks across campus are systematically assessed. Preventive, preparedness, and response plans are developed and continuously updated in proportion to risk levels.
- Risk assessments, health and safety practices, emergency plans, drills, testing activities, field practices, and performance monitoring are conducted regularly. Incidents, near-miss reports, and drill outcomes are evaluated through post-incident analyses and translated into institutional learning and continuous improvement initiatives.
- Business continuity, information systems security, and alternative work arrangements are planned and implemented in integration with health and safety, and emergency management processes.
- Feedback from students, employees, visitors, and other stakeholders is systematically evaluated and used as input to improve health and safety performance.

Implementation Authority

- The Health and Safety Management Structure is established and maintained in alignment with the University's organizational structure, scope of activities, and applicable legal obligations.
- Roles, responsibilities, and authorities related to safe living, occupational health and safety, and emergency management are clearly defined and communicated to relevant parties.

Validity

The Health and Safety Policy enters into force on the date of publication. The Policy is published on the official website and is accessible to the public.

Execution

This Policy is executed by the President of Özyeğin University.

Legal Ground

This Policy is based on: Law No: 6331 on Occupational Health and Emergency Management and related regulations, Özyeğin University Vision Statement, Emergency Management Policy, Business Continuity Framework, ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System Standard.

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