24.01 Risk Management

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Policy Summary

It is the objective of The Texas A&M University System (system) to manage, control and, where appropriate, reduce or eliminate risk to the end that its employees, students and visitors are protected from hazards; its financial condition is not seriously jeopardized; and its material and natural resources conserved to the maximum extent possible and practicable. This policy establishes uniform programs and strategies in addressing the risks faced by the system. These programs will provide effective ways to manage, eliminate, or transfer these risks.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The system and its members are exposed to risks of loss resulting from injury or death of employees, students and the public; damage to the environment; and loss, destruction and damage to its own property and the property of others.
- 1.2 Of primary importance in all risk management programs is the protection of the health and safety of employees, students and visitors to any member.
- 1.3 Strong risk management and safety programs, coupled with safety consciousness and awareness on the part of all system personnel, students and visitors, are of vital importance to the accomplishment of the objectives of this policy.
- 1.4 System Risk Management is responsible for the administration of a risk management program within the system. The office oversees programs in environmental management, health and safety, workers' compensation, risk transfer, emergency management, business continuity, fire protection and loss prevention. In providing service to the system, System Risk Management:
 - (a) advises and assists member chief executive officers (CEOs), or their designees, in regard to managing the risk of the member;
 - (b) facilitates member environmental, health and safety, emergency management, business continuity, fire protection, risk transfer and other risk management programs through such means as, but not limited to, leadership, specialized knowledge,

24.01 Risk Management Page 1 of 4

dissemination of current information, or assistance in securing specialized expertise or equipment;

- (c) prepares and submits an annual report on the system's risk management programs to the Board of Regents (board), chancellor and member CEOs;
- (d) develops and provides professional training opportunities for risk management personnel utilizing system and outside expertise; and
- (e) consults with the System Office of General Counsel on all legal issues pertaining to the administration and operation of the risk management programs.

2. RISK TRANSFER

System Risk Management will work to establish uniform risk transfer strategies in addressing the risks faced by the system. These risk transfer programs will provide effective ways to transfer risks to minimize the financial and reputational impact on members.

3. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.1 As provided by Executive Order GWB 95-8 (*Relating to Workplace Safety and Health of State Employees, Citizens Served, and Preservation of State Property*), the system and its members will develop and maintain a comprehensive health and safety program.
- 3.2 System Risk Management will provide oversight and guidance for the members' health and safety programs based on federal and state laws and agency regulations.
- 3.3 As part of the system's health and safety program, System Risk Management will offer assistance as necessary, including training, to foster member compliance.
- 3.4 Each member CEO will implement and administer a health and safety program and submit an annual report to System Risk Management on the status of the member's health and safety program.
- 3.5 The chancellor or designee may contract with external providers specializing in health and safety, who will monitor members' compliance with health and safety laws, offer recommendations to the members on how to achieve compliance and report to System Risk Management on the members' progress.

4. ENVIRONMENT

- 4.1 It is the objective of the system that its operations and persons associated with its operations will cultivate environmental performance and model good practices wherever its facilities and activities interface with the natural and built environments.
- 4.2 The scope of these practices will encompass, but is not limited to, providing clean and safe settings for learning and inquiry; factoring the environment into our planning, acquisitions, designs, construction, operations, maintenance and activities; creating learning opportunities for campus communities; conserving renewable and natural

24.01 Risk Management Page 2 of 4

resources; preventing pollution; and fostering compliance with applicable environmental laws.

5. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/BUSINESS CONTINUITY

- 5.1 The system is responsible for ensuring its members have plans in place to properly protect personnel and property in an emergency situation.
- 5.2 By requiring that each member has a plan(s) to address various situations and by reviewing this plan(s) on a regular basis, the system can ensure each member is fulfilling its responsibilities to its constituents.
- 5.3 The system serves as liaison with The Texas A&M University System Law Enforcement Administrators Council to assist in the development of standardization and uniformity in police department activities within the system.

6. FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection relative to the health and safety of employees, students and visitors is critical. To this end, the system will implement strategies to maintain consistency and compliance with all required state statutes and industry standards to maintain and promote appropriate fire safety requirements and best practices.

7. ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Enterprise risk management assesses and defines actions to be taken by the members, System Offices and/or the system to identify, monitor and mitigate risks that threaten the achievement of strategic goals and the continuation of operational programs.
- 7.2 Members and System Offices will conduct the enterprise risk management process on an annual basis, providing the report to System Risk Management for review.
- 7.3 System Risk Management will evaluate the reports from members and provide an executive summary to the chancellor.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Executive Order GWB 95-8, Relating to Workplace Safety and Health of State Employees, Citizens Served, and Preservation of State Property

Tex. Educ. Code § 51.966

Texas Tort Claims Act, Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code, Ch. 101

Tex. Lab. Code, Ch. 502

System Regulation 24.01.01, Health and Safety

System Regulation 24.01.02, Risk Transfer

System Regulation 24.01.03, Environment

System Regulation 24.01.06, Programs for Minors

System Policy 34.06, Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers

System Regulation 34.06.01, System University Police Department Collaboration

System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons

System Policy 34.07, Emergency Management

System Regulation 34.07.01, Emergency Management Plans

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

System Office of Risk Management (979) 458-6330

24.01 Risk Management Page 4 of 4