1. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy is designed to protect faculty, staff and students from the risks of injuries or fatality due to falls when working at heights of four feet or greater.

Departments that assign work activities to their faculty, staff or student members that are four feet or more above a lower level must use an appropriate Fall Protection System. This includes: Aerial Lifts, Self-Powered Platforms, Suspended and Supported Scaffolds or Fall Arrest Equipment.

Assistance is available from Safety and Emergency Management to facilitate fall hazard analysis, recommend Fall Protection System options and coordinate personnel training on Fall Arrest Equipment.

Departmental management is responsible for providing a safe work place and working conditions for their faculty, staff and students. Departments must review work locations and activities to identify if there are any existing or potential fall hazards. Departments must also identify personnel that are exposed to fall hazards. Common NKU work activities to be evaluated include, but are not limited to:

- Roof maintenance and repairs (e.g., roof patching, repairing slates, repairing roof deck, pointing up chimneys, cleaning gutters, painting metal roofs);
- Roof renovations (e.g., replacing roof materials, roof deck and gutters);
- Building maintenance (e.g., window cleaning, painting);
- Building heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (e.g., access for installation, repairs, preventative maintenance and changing filters);
- Lighting (e.g., auditoriums, stairwells, pools, stadium lights);
- Scoreboards;
- Construction and renovations;
- Material storage, high lift reach trucks;
- Production lighting and personnel for rigging (e.g., theatres);
- Tree climbing;
Departmental management must provide resources for personnel training and procurement of fall arrest equipment or other fall protection system necessary for working safely at elevated heights.

Departmental management must train faculty, staff or student members to recognize fall hazards specific to their work location or assigned activities. Personnel must follow Fall Protection Safety Procedures established by the department to protect them from the risks of falls at elevated heights. Personnel who are assigned Fall Arrest Equipment must follow the equipment manufacturer's instructions in the proper use, care and inspection of their equipment. Personnel must also understand the equipment's limitations and when to remove the equipment from service.

II. ENTITIES AFFECTED

Faculty, staff, and students.

III. DEFINITIONS

Fall Protection System: A system designed to protect personnel from the risk of falls when working at heights of four feet or greater.

Fall Prevention: A structural design to limit a fall to the same level (e.g., guardrails, aerial lifts with work platforms).

Fall Arrest Equipment: The components of Fall Arrest Equipment include a full body harness, shock absorbing lanyard or selfretractable lifeline and locking snap hooks, all of which must meet Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) criteria. Anchor points must be approved for a static load of 5000 pounds or engineered to meet a 2:1 safety factor.

IV. REFERENCES AND RELATED MATERIALS

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