

ARTICLE ____
HEALTH AND SAFETY

Section 1. WPI shall continue to make reasonable steps to ensure the safety and health of bargaining unit members in pursuit of their work as GWs. GWs will be provided with a safe University workspace and will not be required to work in conditions that pose an unnecessary threat to their health and safety. No GW will be required to act, nor will any GW act, in a manner which constitutes an unnecessary health or safety hazard. Toward that end, the University has policies in place to provide such a safe workplace; will maintain such policies during the life of this Agreement; and may improve such policies at its discretion.

The University shall observe all applicable health and safety laws and regulations and will take all reasonable steps necessary to assure GW health and safety. Such reasonable steps shall include but not be limited to providing training in the safe and proper use of equipment necessary for the work.

~~Section 2. Each building or workspace containing laboratory space will provide a standardized laboratory operating procedure, training protocol, and/or new graduate worker orientation that denotes important building emergency and procedure safety kits and/or stations as well as core facility and laboratory space management information.~~

Laboratory supervisors or their designee shall make training available to their GW employees that should be is specific to the laboratory or work environment in which the work is being conducted.

Section 32. If a GW works outside of University workspaces, other than local remote home locations, prior to the beginning of the assignment the University shall:

- 1) Provide the GWs with information about the Global Experience Office if GWs have work that takes them outside the United States. GWs will receive this information as soon as possible and no later than fourteen (14) days before travel dates. GWs ~~must~~ should consult with the University's Global Experience Office prior to undertaking such work for information and advice about risks and safety.
- 2) Provide GWs performing field work in the United States information relevant to the safe performance of such work.
- 3) Make GWs aware of all available resources they may need for the successful completion of the work assignment, including how to access or obtain these resources in the location of the work assignment.

Section 4. Adequate first aid ~~equipment~~ will be provided in appropriate locations. GWs who find poorly stocked or expired first aid items shall notify their supervisor. ~~GWs who find poorly stocked or expired first aid items shall notify the Environmental Safety & Health Office of such.~~ The University shall provide first aid information and training at no cost for all GWs in

workplaces that involve the use of or exposure to hazardous materials or who work in a hazardous environment.

Section 5. The University shall supply and maintain all appropriate equipment, tools, materials, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to GWs needed to carry out job duties safely [as may be required by applicable occupational safety regulations, University policy, or Standard Operating Procedures](#). The Union-Management Committee referenced in Section 8 and Article __, Union-Management may also make recommendations related to the supply and maintenance of all equipment, tools, materials, and personal protective equipment (PPE) for GWs. Such recommendations shall [be considered by the University taking into account relevant factors, including cost, and shall](#) not be unreasonably denied.

~~A GW may request prescription safety glasses from [their supervisor Environmental Health & Safety \(EHS\), who shall consider such a request in good faith and , and shall not be unreasonably denied](#) shall not be unreasonably denied.~~

Section 6. See Article __ for disability accommodations.

Section 7. Workplace and Workstation Evaluations shall be provided by the University upon the request of either a GW, a group of GWs or a supervisor who believes that the nature of the work or workplace is exposing the GWs to health-related problems. The nature of these evaluations will be determined based on the work location (i.e., remote or on-campus) [and the nature of the health-related risk](#), as agreed upon by the GW and supervisor or employing unit. While these are normally campus-based work station evaluations, a GW may request that Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) conduct a virtual ergonomic review, and such request will be granted consistent with EH&S and University policies and practices.

The University shall consider the recommendations in good faith and will make reasonable efforts to implement those recommendations. The University will also make reasonable efforts to incorporate currently accepted ergonomic practices and guidelines into new and existing workplace and workstation designs.

Section 8. The University will provide at least fourteen (14) ~~working~~ days' notice to affected GWs ~~and other University building occupants~~ for any scheduled maintenance or construction project(s) in their immediate work area and/or building. The University reserves the right to conduct emergency repairs ~~and preventative~~ or requested maintenance as needed, not subject to the fourteen (14) day notice period, and every reasonable effort will be made to provide advance notice to affected GWs.

Section 9. The parties to this Agreement pledge themselves to a cooperative effort in the area of health and safety founded upon good faith communication and discussion of problems, solutions, and prevention. The Union-Management Committee shall discuss matters relating to the health and safety of GWs in the workplace. The University shall endeavor to have representatives qualified to speak on the topics of interest at the meeting when the parties agree in advance on a particular agenda item for such meetings.

The parties agree that workplace health and safety includes concerns regarding mental health and social justice issues. [The parties recognize that such issues are also being discussed, and will continue to be discussed, on a University-wide basis during the life of the Agreement and may result in specific recommendations for change. Such recommendations shall be brought at the next Union--Management Committee meeting prior to implementation and accordingly are beyond the Union-Management Committee's authority to resolve.](#)

Section 10. All GWs are eligible for Worker's Compensation. In cases of injury to a GW while at work, the GW shall assist their Supervisor to file an Incident Report as soon as possible in accordance with University procedures. The GW shall file a Worker's Compensation claim with Talent & Inclusion in accordance with University procedures and state law.

Section 11. GWs shall adhere to all health and safety policies and procedures, [including participating in all required training](#), and shall perform their duties in a safe manner, using appropriate health and safety equipment provided by the University in accordance with standard operating procedures. Should a GW become aware of conditions they believe to be unhealthy or dangerous to their health and safety, the GW shall report the condition immediately to the supervisor, building manager, or the Environmental Health and Safety Department who shall investigate and take appropriate corrective action as needed. In cases where there is an imminent danger to the GW, they shall not resume their work until appropriate corrective action is taken. The University shall not retaliate against any GW for such reporting. The University shall endeavor to respond to safety and health reports within two (2) days or immediately given the circumstances.