

# Managing Critical Risks

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## 1.0 Purpose

This standard outlines the mandatory requirements for managing critical risks at Griffith University. This standard aims to minimise risks to personnel and ensure continuing legislative compliance.

## 2.0 Scope

This standard applies to all staff, students, contractors, and other relevant personnel in management roles and engaged by Griffith University to undertake their work, research or study.

## 3.0 Standard

### 3.1 Identifying Critical Risks, Critical Controls and Critical Control Effectiveness Reporting

Management must:

- review all hazards and risks associated with those hazards and identify if any are critical risks
- appoint a Critical Risk Owner for each critical risk
- undertake a Critical Risk Bowtie workshop and determine the initiating event, preventative and mitigative controls
- identify which of the controls are critical
- establish Critical Control Verification checks for those critical controls
- report routinely to Health, Safety and Wellbeing (HSW) Committees on the effectiveness of the critical controls
- cease operations, immediately notify relevant stakeholders and establish a remediation plan where critical controls have been deemed ineffective
- prioritise the management of critical risks above all other HSW risks.

### 3.2 Management Review of Critical Controls Effectiveness

Management must:

- table all identified critical risks and their associated critical controls with a report on the critical control effectiveness at the Group/Element Tier 2 HSW Committee and the University Tier 1 HSW Committee
- review the Critical Controls Effectiveness report and determine if action is required.

## 4.0 Definitions

**Bowtie model** refers to a diagram that shows initiating events, the critical risk incident, preventative controls and mitigative controls. The most probable result of the potential incident or risk event.

**Critical control** refers to a control that if not present and effective could result in the critical risk crystallising.

**Critical risk** refers to a risk that if crystalised would result in fatality, permanent injury, or material environmental harm.

**Initiating event** refers to the minimum combination of failures to start a critical risk event.

**Management** refers to any leader or supervisor organising work and / or supervising staff.

## 5.0 Information

Title	Managing Critical Risks Standard
Document number	2023/0001241
Purpose	This standard outlines the mandatory requirements for managing critical risks at Griffith University. This standard aims to minimise risks to personnel and ensure continuing legislative compliance.
Audience	Staff
Category	Operational
Subcategory	Safety
UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	This document aligns with Sustainable Development Goal: 3: Good Health and Well-Being
Approval date	18 December 2023
Effective date	18 December 2023
Review date	18 December 2028
Policy advisor	Associate Director, H&S Standards and Assurance
Approving authority	Director, Health and Safety

## 6.0 Related Policy Documents and Supporting Documents

Legislation *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld)*  
*AS/NZS ISO 45001: Occupational health and safety management systems – Requirements with guidance and use*  
*AS/NZS ISO 45003 Occupational health and safety management — Psychological health and safety at work — Guidelines for managing psychosocial risks*  
*Managing the risk of psychosocial hazards at work Code of Practice 2022 (Qld)*

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Policy *Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy*

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Procedures N/A

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Local Protocol N/A

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Forms N/A

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