

Slips, Trips and Falls

Overview

Slips, trips and falls can account for a significant proportion of work related injuries. The primary causes for slip, trip and fall accidents are:

- Wet, greasy or slippery floors
- Uneven or poorly maintained paths, walkways, steps or other hard surfaces used by pedestrian traffic
- Obstructed paths, walkways or steps that cause pedestrian traffic to detour from a purpose built pedestrian way
- Inadequate lighting
- Rushing or running to get from one place to another
- Overcrowding on paths, walkways, steps or other surfaces used by pedestrian traffic
- Weather
- Poorly maintained or inappropriate footwear

Critical Point Summary

Taking the following measures can help to reduce the incidence of slips, trips and fall accidents:

- Ensure that floors are regularly cleaned as part of a cleaning contract
- Ensure that wet, greasy or slippery floors are spot cleaned or clearly marked
- Ensure that uneven or damaged paths, walkways, steps or other hard surfaces used by pedestrian traffic are reported to the local [Campus Maintenance Coordinator or Capital Works and Facilities](#)
- Ensure that any equipment under your control does not become an obstruction or is left on paths, walkways, steps or other hard surfaces used by pedestrian traffic
- Clean up any accidental spills or other hazards immediately
- Ensure defective lighting is reported promptly to the local Campus Maintenance Coordinator or Capital Works and Facilities
- Ensure that the incidence of slips, trips and falls are taken into the consideration at the design stage of a proposal to build a new facility
- Ensure that the incidence of slips, trips and falls is taken into consideration when designing a new system of work and as part of conducting a [risk assessment](#)
- Ensure footwear is serviceable and appropriate
- Ensure that all slips, trips and falls accidents are reported and properly investigated