



Falls

Work at heights, including falling from height and dropped objects.



Cause #	Cause description
1	Fall from height from an unprotected open edge including roofs, scaffold, attic stair, mezzanine, trench, void, drain, loading bay tree.
2	Non-compliant equipment (stairs, ladders, absent handrails, scaffold).
3	Use of not-fit-for-purpose equipment for working at height.
4	Fall from ladder (platform, step, extension).
5	Transition from EWP/Scissor lift/ladder/plant/machinery to a roof, ground or other structure.
6	Climbing onto vehicles or equipment/plant, fall from or out of.
7	Dropped objects (tools, cameras, phones, plant, equipment).
8	Fall through ceiling space.
9	Deliberate fall from height; accidental fall from height due to unauthorised access to places of height.
10	Failure of scaffold (PCBU or SCU erected) over 2m.
11	EWP/Scissor lift failure.

Preventive controls (reducing likelihood)	Critical/non critical	Cause #
(CC01) Fall prevention system: SCU employees and students to remain a minimum of 2 metres from an open edge unless edge protection is installed or fall prevention systems are implemented.	Critical	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11
(CC02) Preventive maintenance of critical systems: Structural integrity of working at heights equipment to prevent failure of critical systems.	Critical	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11
(CC03) Fall arrest systems: Restraint equipment, tethered to an approved anchor point, to be worn near all open edges where there is a risk of a fatality from a fall from one level to another .	Critical	1 – 11
(CC04) Exclusion zone: All mobile plant, vehicles and people are excluded from an area where working at height activities are being conducted.	Critical	11
(CC05) Portable ladder: Only used approved, fit for purpose portable ladders requirements: - Used for access or short term light duty work - Secured using a ladder restraint system (e.g., gutter clamps) - Set on level ground or utilise levelling feet - Placed at a slope of 4:1 - Fully opened 3-points of contacted maintained whilst be used - Non-conductive ladders used near electrical installations	Critical	4
(CC06) Transition systems should be used when moving from a ladder, EWP, or scissor lift to another structure.	Critical	5
Certified scaffolders must be used, with a 30-day sign-off.	Non-Critical	10
Regular inspection of arborist ropes .	Non-Critical	1
Swipe card access is required throughout campus.	Non-Critical	9
Drones and wireless cameras to remove the need to work at heights.	Non-Critical	1 – 11
(CC07) Crawl boards used for working in ceilings.	Critical	9
Mitigating controls (reducing consequence)	Critical/non critical	Cause #
(CC06) Fall arrest rescue plan: Must be in place prior to work at height requiring fall arrest/restraint.	Critical	1, 5, 6, 8, 11
(CC07) First aid applied as per first aid training.	Critical	1 – 13

Potential to interact with other fatal risks	
Critical risk	Potential interaction
Electrical work.	Interaction with electrical services whilst working at height.
Remote and isolated work.	Delayed emergency response.
Person-vehicle Machinery Interaction.	Fall from height whilst inspecting fixed or mobile plant.
Emergency events.	Fall from height caused by severe weather events.