Electrical Safety

Applicable regulations and policies
29 CFR 1910, Subpart S
NFPA 70E – Electrical Safety in the Workplace
EHS 118: Electrical Safe Work Practices

Applicability
This program applies to all ASU campuses, all work performed on the university campus, and to any work performed by ASU employees regardless of jobsite location. All employees who face a risk of electrical shock, burns or related injuries must be trained in electrical safe work practices. These work practices must always be followed. In addition, employees that work around, but not on electrical systems must be trained in the inherent danger of electricity.

Requirements
Departments have the following responsibilities:
Departments are expected to maintain a safe and healthy working environment for their faculty, staff, students and visitors to our campus. Departments are expected to assure that all employees are thoroughly familiar with their safety responsibilities and that safety practices are followed at all times. Departmental worksites should be inspected on a frequent basis to identify and correct hazards. Employees are expected to comply with all safety requirements and act proactively to prevent accidents and injuries by communicating hazards to supervisors or reporting concerns directly to the EHS office.

Employees
Employees must use the appropriate personal protective equipment and safe work practices in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Administration’s or OSHA the Arizona State University Electrical Safety Compliance Guidelines, Lock-Out/Tag-Out standard, the Arizona State University Fire Prevention and Safety Plan, ASU policies and procedures, and applicable standards.

Equipment
All electrical safety equipment shall have an arc rating that is suitable for the arc flash exposure. Contact the Department of Environmental Health and Safety for more information regarding arc flash safety requirements for employees. ASU’s arc flash protective equipment includes flash suit, including the hood and face shield, Electrical safety rated rubber gloves or like.

Training
Qualified persons working on or near exposed energized parts must receive training in the following:
- Appropriate safety equipment and tools necessary to safely perform work in accordance with OSHA and NFPA 70E.
- The clearance distances specified for working on or near exposed energized parts and the corresponding voltages to which the qualified person will be exposed.
- The skills and techniques necessary to determine the nominal voltage of exposed live parts.
- The skills and techniques necessary to distinguish exposed live parts from other parts of electrical equipment.
Retraining will be performed whenever inspections performed by ASU EHS or the employee’s supervisor indicates that an employee does not have the necessary knowledge or skills to safely work on or around electrical systems.

Retraining will also be performed when policies or procedures change and/or new equipment or systems are introduced into the work area. Refresher training once every three years is recommended to maintain safe work practices skills and knowledge.

**Additional information:**
Contact ASU EHS: asuehs@asu.edu

Questions? Contact ASU Environmental Health and Safety at 480-965-1823 or email asuehs@asu.edu.

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