



Fact Sheet

Standard: **Aerial Lifts**

Safe Work Practices

Working at elevation can pose several hazards to workers, by-standers in close proximity, and property. When using an aerial lift on campus specific safety precautions must be followed.

- Ensure that workers who operate aerial lifts are properly trained in the safe use of the equipment.
- Maintain and operate elevating work platforms in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Never override hydraulic, mechanical, or electrical safety devices.
- Never move the equipment with workers in an elevated platform unless this is permitted by the manufacturer.
- Do not allow workers to position themselves between overhead hazards, such as joists and beams, and the rails of the basket. Movement of the lift could crush workers.
- Maintain a minimum clearance of at least 10 feet, or 3 meters from the nearest overhead lines.
- Always treat power lines, wires and other conductors as though they are energized, even if they are down or appear to be insulated.
- Use a body harness with a lanyard attached to the boom or basket to prevent workers from being ejected or pulled from the basket.
- Set the brakes and use wheel chocks when on an incline.
- Use outriggers, if provided.
- Do not exceed the load limits of the equipment; allow for the combined weight of workers, tools, and materials.

Training

- Please contact the EH&S Occupational Safety Group if your department needs aerial lifts training.