

Health and Safety Representation At WSU

What is a HSR?

Every workplace benefits when staff have a voice in health and safety. Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs) play an important role in ensuring staff have a voice on health and safety matters. HSRs are elected staff members who represent their Work Group on workplace health and safety matters. They work collaboratively with colleagues and managers to identify issues, improve consultation and contribute to healthier, safer workplaces.

What does a HSR do?

A HSR works with colleagues and the University to:

- Represent staff on workplace health and safety matters.
- Listen to concerns raised by members of their Work Group.
- Help identify physical and psychosocial hazards.
- Promote consultation about health and safety issues.
- Work with managers and health and safety personnel to improve workplace safety.
- Encourage a culture where staff feel comfortable speaking up about health and safety.

Why become a HSR?

Becoming a HSR is an opportunity to:

- Learn more about work health and safety.
- Help improve your workplace.
- Be part of positive organisational change.
- Represent the views of your Campus-based Work Group.
- Make a difference for your colleagues.

It's important to note: You don't need to be a safety expert; you need to be someone your colleagues trust to represent them.

HSRs don't make workplaces safer by doing everything themselves—they make workplaces safer by ensuring staff are consulted and represented.

Why become a Deputy HSR?

Not everyone wants to step straight into the HSR role.

Deputy HSRs support the HSR and gain valuable experience in the role. It's a great way to contribute while building your confidence and understanding of workplace health and safety.

What support will I receive as a HSR or Deputy HSR?

- ✓ Approved HSR training
- ✓ Paid work time to perform HSR duties
- ✓ Advice and support from Health & Safety staff
- ✓ Support from other HSRs and Deputy HSRs
- ✓ Legal powers and protections under the WHS Act

Who would I represent?

A HSR or Deputy HSR represents a Designated Work Group. At WSU, Work Groups are divided between academic and professional staff on each campus. Thus, we require one HSR and one Deputy HSR at each campus for academic staff and one HSR and one Deputy HSR at each campus for professional staff. Each position is elected by staff members from that Work Group.