1 PURPOSE

1.1 CQUniversity has an obligation to provide a work environment without risks to health and safety, so far as is reasonably practicable including eliminating or minimising, risks associated with exposure to asbestos and other materials containing asbestos. The intention of this policy and procedure is to meet or exceed obligations under current legislation.

1.2 In relation to asbestos management, the University has a commitment to:

- identify and manage asbestos and asbestos containing material so as to eliminate or minimise exposure
- work towards the ultimate long-term goal of having an asbestos-free workplace
• provide relevant information and consultation with employees, students and others on asbestos-related matters
• ensure that any asbestos removed is disposed of safely and in accordance with legislative requirements, and
• identify health, safety and environmental requirements of the contractor and CQUniversity relating to asbestos related work. This incorporates a risk management approach to the utilisation of contractors and employees so that potential risks to the health, safety and environment are identified, assessed and controlled, allowing contractors and employees to work safely at all times.

2 SCOPE

2.1 This policy and procedure applies to CQUniversity employees, students, contractors and their employees, and all visitors whilst at CQUniversity worksites including individuals participating in work activities that are conducted off-site.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

3.1 Refer to Appendix 1 - General principles of an asbestos management plan, for process map.

3.2 Any work conducted with asbestos containing material must comply with current legislation. It is the University’s intention that appropriately licensed asbestos removal contractors will conduct all forms of asbestos removal work. However, extenuating circumstances may apply where CQUniversity employees may be required to adopt other safe systems of work or processes to ensure task completion. For example, conducting emergency repairs to critical CQUniversity services after a natural disaster.

Risk management process

From SafeWork Australia

Managing work health and safety risks involves four steps:

• Identifying hazards—find out what could cause harm.
• Assessing risks (if necessary)—understand the nature of the harm that could be caused by the hazard, how serious the harm could be and the likelihood of it happening.
• Controlling risks—implement the most effective control measure that is reasonably practicable in the circumstances.
• Reviewing control measures—ensure control measures are working as planned.

Figure 1 The risk management process
3.3 The process of risk management starts with a commitment by CQUniversity to manage business and undertakings in a healthy and safe manner. The purpose of risk management is to enable decisions to be made about appropriate control measures to lower the known risk as far as practicable.

**Identification of asbestos containing material in the workplace**

3.4 In accordance with the requirements of current legislation ([Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in the Workplace](NOHSC:2018 (2005))) all structures built prior to 31 December 2003 will be inspected for asbestos, by a competent person engaged by the Facilities Management Directorate, to identify any asbestos containing materials present in the workplace and an Asbestos Register will be implemented.

3.5 Organisational Units within the University will be responsible for ensuring any plant/equipment under their control that may contain or is suspected to contain asbestos containing material is assessed by a competent person. Risk will be evaluated and appropriate controls implemented. Inspection periods to ensure risk controls are effective will be identified in the Asbestos Register.

**Warning signs/labelling**

3.6 All CQUniversity buildings which are known or suspected to contain asbestos containing materials will have a warning sign at every main entry to the building to indicate that an Asbestos Register exists for the building and this Register must be consulted before undertaking any works which may impact the building. The warning sign must be clearly visible from all directions leading into the building and will meet [Australian Standards](#) for content. A typical sign will read: “Warning! Asbestos containing material exists in this building. Consult the Asbestos Register prior to commencing work with this material.”

3.7 A system of labelling has been implemented throughout CQUniversity premises to clearly identify and provide warning of the presence of asbestos containing materials. These labels comply with Australian Standards AS1216-2006 – Class labels for dangerous goods and AS1319-1994 – Safety signs for the occupational environment. An example of the standard warning table is provided below:

3.8 The purpose of such labelling is to immediately draw attention of personnel to the presence of asbestos to avoid the inadvertent mechanical disturbance of the material via maintenance or other works.

3.9 Labels for internal usage must be waterproof and self-adhesive. Weatherproof signage constructed from rigid, hard wearing materials, such as sheet metal, are required for outdoor applications (e.g. warning signage fixed on or near brittle corrugated asbestos cement roof cladding).

3.10 Labels or other clear signage will be installed in prominent positions on or near asbestos containing materials, where maintenance personnel may operate from time to time. Such areas will typically include plant rooms, ceiling spaces, service ducts, and the like where asbestos containing materials is present.

**Re-survey/re-inspection**

3.11 Re-Surveys and/or re-inspections of each building identified as containing asbestos (including asbestos containing material) will occur every five years, or until the asbestos containing materials have been removed.
Asbestos sampling and analysis

3.12 Asbestos sampling will be undertaken by a competent person trained in asbestos removal. The minimum requirement is provided in the Safe Working Procedures (SWP) No. 7 Sampling of Non Friable Asbestos Containing Materials (available from the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Unit).

3.13 The sample will be issued a ‘sample number’ by the Facilities Management Directorate which will be attached to the sample.

3.14 The competent person will ensure a detailed location description of where the sample was taken and will affix an asbestos sample sticker to the sample location. The sample will be sent to a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory for analysis to confirmation of the material containing asbestos and the level of risk associated with the asbestos containing material in situ.

3.15 The results will be returned to the Facilities Management Directorate and will be filed for the respective building in the Asbestos Register.

Exposure standards

3.16 Exposure standards set out the airborne concentrations of asbestos which should not damage the health of workers. The exposure standards for asbestos are:

- Amosite (brown asbestos): 0.1 fibres per millilitre of air
- Crocidolite (blue asbestos): 0.1 fibres per millilitre of air
- Chrysotile (white asbestos): 0.1 fibres per millilitre of air

Any situation or area which exceeds the asbestos exposure standard will be controlled to minimise risk of exposure.

Asbestos register

3.17 The Facilities Management Directorate will maintain an accurate on-line register of all identified or suspected asbestos containing material.

- The register will be reviewed at least every five years and updated when any asbestos containing material has been disturbed (removed, sealed or enclosed), or when the Asbestos Management Plan is reviewed.
- The register will store information for a period of 30 years commencing from 2008.

3.18 The Asbestos Register will include the following information:

- asbestos that has been identified or suspected present at the workplace
- date when the asbestos was identified
- location (specifically the name of the building and building number), type and condition of the asbestos
- details of any inaccessible areas that are likely to contain asbestos
- analysis results for all testing, confirming whether or not asbestos is detected
- outcomes of any risk assessments, including any reviewed or revised risk assessments
- results and risk assessment of any air monitoring for airborne asbestos fibres
- details of individuals and/or companies engaged to undertake surveys and/or inspections
- details of any work on the asbestos containing material, including the company and date
- clearance certificates
- photos where provided, and
- floor plans showing a mark-up of asbestos containing items.
3.19 Access to the Asbestos Register will be provided to the employers, employees, contractors and contractor’s employees, and/or the person assuming management or control of the workplace if CQUniversity is relinquishing management and control of the workplace and/or to interested parties who may be tendering or quoting for such work, where:

- work is performed which may expose persons to airborne asbestos fibres, or
- demolition or refurbishment of a structure constructed or installed before 31 December 2003.

4 PROCEDURE

4.1 Asbestos containing materials have been used in the construction of numerous CQUniversity buildings over many years. The use of all types of asbestos including manufacture and use (including reuse or sale) of any asbestos product in Australia is now prohibited.

General information relating to asbestos management is included in the CQUniversity online contractor induction program.

Prior to the commencement of any work on CQUniversity premises (e.g. demolition, refurbishment, maintenance or installation of new equipment) the Asbestos Register must be checked to determine the presence of asbestos containing material.

If presence of asbestos containing material, the material will be assessed for removal or containment. In exceptional circumstances the asbestos containing material may be encapsulated upon approval by the National OHS Manager (or nominee) and the Director, Facilities Management (or nominee).

Asbestos permit to work

4.2 Individuals involved with such work will be required to become familiar with this policy and procedure and the Asbestos Register.

4.3 A Work Method Statement and a Control Plan will need to be submitted by the individual/s undertaking the work, detailing particulars of the asbestos containing material to be removed, encapsulated or otherwise protected, and the control measures that will be implemented for the safe removal of the asbestos containing material for consideration.

4.4 Where more than one worker is involved, a responsible person will be issued with the CQUniversity Asbestos Permit to Work. This person will be responsible for ensuring that the workers are aware of their responsibilities.

4.5 As part of this process:

- the National OHS Manager (or nominee) must be notified, and
- tenants of the worksites and other interested parties must be notified of the asbestos removal work (asbestos awareness may be made available to those persons affected by the asbestos work).

4.6 The Asbestos Permit to Work will be issued by the Facilities Management Directorate prior to any work with asbestos containing material. It is designed to ensure appropriate work practices are employed when working with asbestos containing material. An Asbestos Work Permit Number will be generated by the Facilities Management Directorate.

4.7 If unknown materials or undocumented materials suspected of containing asbestos are encountered during the works, the work will cease and the National OHS Manager (or nominee) must be notified immediately.

Control measures

4.8 As part of any asbestos survey, a competent person is required to assess the risk posed by the asbestos containing material and determine what, if any, control measures may be required. Generally there are four control options available:

- leave in-situ and manage
- seal/encapsulate
• enclose/isolate, or
• remove.

4.9 The controls are to be appropriate to the risk of the asbestos containing material in question. The following information should be used as a guideline when determining the correct control measure for management of the asbestos containing material risks, even though the ultimate goal of a workplace being free of asbestos containing material, priorities should be set for control in the short term.

• Asbestos containing material which is friable and there is risk of exposure, is to be removed by a Class A licensed asbestos removalist as soon as practicable, in accordance with the How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice.

• Asbestos containing material which is non-friable and requires removal is to be removed by a person with a minimum of a Class B asbestos removalist license, in accordance with the How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice.

• Asbestos containing materials that are bonded, stable and sealed, and are unlikely to be disturbed during normal activities, should be left in-situ and managed.

• Asbestos containing materials, if stable and inaccessible, may be left in situ until demolition, partial demolition, renovation or refurbishment of a building.

• If the asbestos containing materials are bonded, stable and unsealed then encapsulation will be conducted depending on the risk of exposure. Encapsulation provides another “barrier” to the potential release of asbestos fibre as well as prolonging the lifespan of the material by providing protection against UV radiation, etc.

• Asbestos containing material must be removed prior to the commencement of demolition, partial demolition or refurbishment if they are likely to be disturbed by those works, in accordance with the How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice.

• The presence and location of any remaining asbestos containing material should be clearly identified where practicable and regularly inspected to ensure that it is not deteriorating or contributing to an unacceptable health risk.

• Airborne asbestos fibres are to be controlled to minimise the risk to health. Control measures should be implemented in accordance with the hierarchy of control measures for occupational hazards with elimination the most preferred and personal protective equipment the least. Refer to the How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice for further information on risk control.

Maintenance

4.10 Maintenance tasks that may impact asbestos containing material will be performed under controlled conditions to prevent the distribution of airborne asbestos fibres. These tasks may include, but are not limited to:

• drilling of asbestos containing materials
• sealing, painting, coating and cleaning of asbestos-cement products
• cleaning leaf litter from gutters where asbestos-cement roofing material exists
• replacing cabling in asbestos-cement conduits or boxes
• working on electrical mounting boards containing asbestos and
• inspection of asbestos friction materials.

Please refer to the Related Legislation and Documents section of this policy and procedure.

Asbestos removal

4.11 Any asbestos containing material will be removed by a person with the appropriate class asbestos removal licence. Asbestos removal work will be performed in accordance with requirements as per current legislation including:

• having an asbestos removal supervisor present or available
• having an Asbestos Removal Control Plan in place
• providing written notification to Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (The Regulator) five days prior to licence asbestos removal
• obtaining a CQUniversity Asbestos Permit to Work, and
• undertaking a clearance inspection.

4.12 Appropriately licensed asbestos removal contractors, and not CQUniversity personnel, will conduct all forms of asbestos removal work.

Airborne asbestos fibre monitoring

4.13 Airborne asbestos fibre monitoring must be conducted during and after the removal of friable asbestos containing material by an independent competent person, or if determined as a control measure resulting from a risk assessment.

4.14 Air monitoring will be conducted:
• during the removal works to check the effectiveness of control measures implemented by the asbestos removal contractor (e.g. isolating the removal work area with a sealed, airtight enclosure fitted with negative air generating units, etc.)
• After the asbestos containing material has been completely removed and the work area has passed a satisfactory visual inspection to determine whether the area is safe to reoccupy by unprotected persons, and/or
• for asbestos exposure as a result of the assessment.

4.15 Air monitoring must be conducted by a competent person in accordance with Guidance Note on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres 2nd Edition [NOHSC:3003(2005)].

Tools and equipment

4.16 Tools and equipment used for asbestos related work will minimise the generation of airborne asbestos fibres.

4.17 Hand tools are preferred to power tools. High-speed abrasive power or pneumatic tools such as angle grinders, sanders, saws and high speed drills are not permitted.

4.18 Vacuum cleaners used for asbestos cleaning must comply with Australian Standard AS/NZS 60335.2.69:2012 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2.69: Particular requirements for wet and dry vacuum cleaners, including power brush, for commercial use. Household vacuum cleaners are not permitted.

4.19 At the end of the removal work, all tools will be:
• decontaminated (i.e. fully dismantled and cleaned under controlled conditions as described in Code of Practice for Management and Control of Asbestos in the Workplace [NOHSC: 2018 (2005)])
• placed in sealed containers and used only for asbestos removal work, or
• disposed of as asbestos waste.

Clearance certificates

4.20 Before an area can be re-occupied post asbestos removal, a clearance inspection must be performed. The clearance inspection must be undertaken by an independent competent person and a clearance certificate obtained from that person.

4.21 Clearance monitoring is a mandatory requirement for all friable asbestos removal works and is recommended for bonded asbestos containing material removal works particularly when the bonded asbestos containing material is located internally or near sensitive receptors such as air intakes.
4.22 The complete removal of all asbestos containing material must be verified with a written clearance certificate which must include details of a satisfactory clearance inspection conducted by the independent competent person. If clearance air monitoring has been conducted, the results of the air monitoring must be included as part of the clearance certificate.

4.23 Upon completion of the work, the responsible person will forward the:
   - clearance certificate (obtained from the independent competent person (i.e. Occupational Hygienist))
   - waste transport certificate (if more than 250kg)
   - waste disposal certificate, and
   - asbestos permit to work
   to the Facilities Management Directorate for approval.

4.24 Once approved by the Facilities Management Directorate, all documentation will be forwarded to the National OHS Manager for final approval. Copies of all documentation will be retained by the OHS Unit and the originals will be returned to the Facilities Management Directorate, where the Asbestos Management Plan and Asbestos Register will be updated as appropriate.

**Health monitoring**

4.25 Health monitoring is required for workers carrying out licensed asbestos removal work or other ongoing asbestos related work at a workplace, and is at risk of exposure to asbestos when carrying out the work. Consideration must be given to the worker’s demographic, medical and occupational history and records of the worker’s personal exposure.

4.26 Health monitoring must include a physical examination of the worker, with emphasis on the respiratory system, including standardised respiratory function tests, unless another form of health monitoring is recommended by a registered medical practitioner. Workers must be informed of any health monitoring requirements before the worker carries out work that may expose them to asbestos.

4.27 Health monitoring reports must be kept as a confidential record for at least 40 years after the record is made and identified as a formal record for the particular worker.

Refer to [How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace Code of Practice](#) for further information.

**Training**

4.27 Any person involved in asbestos removal or asbestos-related work will be required to undertake training in the identification and safe handling and/or suitable control measures for, asbestos and asbestos-containing material.

4.28 Accredited Asbestos Removal Training will be provided by a registered training organisation (RTO) to people who are required to remove bonded asbestos containing material.

4.29 The holder of a B-Class Licence is permitted to remove bonded asbestos containing material only. This licence does not permit holders to remove friable asbestos containing material.

Refer to [How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace Code of Practice](#) for further information.

**Waste**

4.30 All asbestos containing material waste shall be disposed of at an approved landfill disposal site by licensed contractors, and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant State/Territory legislation. Transport and disposal of asbestos waste shall be carried out only in a manner that will prevent the liberation of asbestos fibres into the atmosphere. Asbestos containing material shall not be stored for extended periods or buried on University property.
4.31 To achieve "final completion" of an asbestos removal project, CQUniversity will require verification that the asbestos containing material waste has been transported and disposed of in accordance with State/Territory legislative requirements. A copy of the relevant Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Waste Tracking document and copy of the necessary license for carrying out this removal and disposal must be provided.

Incident response

4.32 If an incident or emergency involving the immediate or imminent exposure to asbestos fibre occurs, work will cease immediately and a report made the CQUniversity appointed responsible person and the National OHS Manager. Please refer to the incident response flowchart in Appendix 2.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, monitoring and review

5.1 CQUniversity management have a duty to exercise due diligence to ensure that CQUniversity complies with relevant legislation (e.g. Work Health and Safety Act, Work Health and Safety Regulations, Codes of Practice, Guides).

5.2 CQUniversity employees, students, contractors and their employees, and all visitors at CQUniversity worksites (including work activities that are conducted off-site) have a duty to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and must not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons. They must comply with any reasonable instruction and co-operate with any reasonable policy or procedure relating to health and safety at the workplace.

OHS Unit

5.3 The OHS Unit will:

- assist management and others to facilitate compliance, monitoring and review
- develop, maintain and review this policy and procedure in consultation with other key stakeholders
- respond to and report any asbestos exposure related incidents and implement control measures, and
- authorise the Asbestos Permit to Work.

Refer to the Work Health and Safety Roles and Responsibilities Procedure.

Organisational unit

5.4 Each organisational unit (division, directorate or business group) will be responsible for ensuring that the particulars contained within this policy and procedure are implemented when people under their control are working with asbestos containing materials and are specifically responsible for:

- having qualified consultants access any suspect plant/equipment under their control to determine if it contains any asbestos containing material, and include details in the Asbestos Register
- ensuring all employees are aware of any building/plant/equipment that may contain suspect asbestos containing material
- providing adequate training to employees within the areas in the process of reading the Asbestos Register specific to their requirements, and
- developing appropriate safe work procedures and communicating these to employees if there is a requirement to work with asbestos containing material.

Facilities Management Directorate

5.5 The Facilities Management Directorate will:

- ensure qualified consultants access all buildings and/or any suspect plant/equipment under their control to determine if they contain any asbestos containing material, and include these details in the Asbestos Register
• ensure regular inspections and monitoring is conducted for identified asbestos areas/equipment within the responsibility as per legislation, and that senior management is informed of these reports

• develop appropriate safe work procedures and communicate them to employees if there is a requirement for asbestos removal within their area of responsibility

• provide adequate resources for employees to meet legislated obligations and to comply with this policy and procedure

• maintain the Asbestos Register

• budget for and manage all CQUniversity asbestos removal programs

• provide appropriate notification to the OHS Unit of any asbestos removal work, and

• ensure that the appointed responsible persons receive appropriate training to enable them to competently manage assigned asbestos management projects on behalf of the University.

**Appointed responsible person**

5.6 The CQUniversity appointed responsible person will:

• be responsible for ensuring that the particulars contained within the policy and procedure are implemented when people under their control are working with asbestos containing material

• ensure that project personal/contractors are made aware of and meet requirements of this policy and procedure, have the appropriate licences, and undertake the online contractor induction program prior to asbestos work commencing

• provide appropriate notification to the National OHS Manager (or nominee), Security and any cleaning managers or works involving asbestos

• ensure that all Asbestos Removal Control Plans and Work Method Statements have been received prior to asbestos work commencing

• report any incidents that occur within their area of responsibility, implement control measures to eliminate or reduce the case and participate in any subsequent investigation, and

• initiate the Asbestos Permit to Work prior to performing asbestos removal work.

**Competent person**

5.7 Competent persons (as defined under legislation) will:

• make themselves aware of their responsibilities as outlined in this policy and procedure before the commencement of work

• have appropriate training and hold relevant certification for asbestos removal

• notify the responsible person of any suspect material

• submit the Asbestos Permit to Work to the Responsible Person prior to performing asbestos removal work

• undertake the online contractor induction program prior to performing asbestos removal work

• develop a site specific Asbestos Removal Control Plan and Work Method Statement prior to performing asbestos removal work

• ensure that the person in charge of the team has been issued with the Asbestos Permit to Work and be responsible for ensuring that the workers are aware of their responsibilities

• communicate and report hazards/incidents associated with the work process

• participate in the investigation of any incidents, and

• use personal protective equipment as required.
Reporting

5.8 This reporting procedure has been established by CQUntiversity to ensure the safety of individuals and compliance with legislative requirements.

Individuals

5.9 Will initiate urgent corrective action to ensure the safety of all for incidents deemed to have potential to cause concern, injury or results in an individual being injured. Then report the incident to the Work Area Supervisor.

5.10 Following reporting to the Work Area Supervisor, report the incident to the National OHS Manager (or nominee) and the Facilities Management Director (or nominee).

Work Area Supervisor

5.11 Will assess the corrective actions and re-assess the situation to ascertain the safety of all, and ensure the preservation and security of the site for relevant authorities.

National OHS Manager and Director, Facilities Management

5.12 Investigate and compile the any necessary incident reports as defined by legislation.

Records management

5.13 Staff must maintain all records relevant to administering this policy and procedure in a recognised University recordkeeping system.

5.14 The Facilities Management Directorate shall maintain detailed records of all activities relating to asbestos containing material works which have been undertaken on CQUntiversity premises. The records kept will include:

- copies of all asbestos survey/audit reports, including updates and amendments
- copies of all ‘Permit to Work’ documents
- site induction records pertaining to the informing of contractors about the presence of asbestos on site
- records of any CQUntiversity employee trained in identification and safe handling of asbestos and asbestos containing material for a period of five years after the worker ceases working for the University
- Clearance certificates indicating areas are safe to reoccupy after asbestos abatement works
- airborne fibre monitoring results, and
- previous versions of the Asbestos Register.

5.15 All asbestos related records and documents will be retained for a period of 30 years. Health monitoring reports must be kept as a confidential record for at least 40 years after the record is made and identified as a formal record for the particular worker.

6 DEFINITIONS

6.1 Terms not defined in this document may be in the University glossary.

6.2 Other definitions in relation to Work Health and Safety can be located in the respective legislative documentation (e.g. Work Health and Safety Act, Work Health and Safety Regulations, Codes of Practice, Guides).

7 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

- Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in the Workplace [NOHSC:2018 (2005)]
- Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld)
- Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 (Qld)

How to Safely Remove Asbestos Code of Practice

How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace Code of Practice

Safe Work Practices (these are internal documents which can be requested from the OHS Unit):

- SWP No. 1 Drilling of Asbestos Containing Materials
- SWP No. 2 Working on Electrical Mounting Boards (Switchboards) Containing Asbestos
- SWP No. 3 Patching, Sealing, Painting, Coating and Cleaning of Asbestos Cement Products
- SWP No. 4 Selection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- SWP No. 5 Removal of Asbestos Cement Sheeting
- SWP No. 6 Replacing Cabling in Asbestos Cement Conduits or Boxes
- SWP No. 7 Sampling of Non Friable Asbestos Containing Materials

Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cwlth)

Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Cwlth)

Work Health and Safety Roles and Responsibilities Procedure

8 FEEDBACK

8.1 University staff and students may provide feedback about this document by emailing policy@cqu.edu.au.

9 APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

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<td>This document replaces the Safety Health Environment Workcover Sustainability (SHEWS) Asbestos Management Procedure (Asbestos Management Plan) (14/03/2013).</td>
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Appendix 1: General principles of an asbestos management plan

Source: Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in Workplaces [NOHSC: 2018(2005)]
Appendix 2: Incident response flowchart

Potential asbestos problem identified
STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY

CQUniversity Facilities Management Directorate and/or OHS Unit Staff conducts a visual assessment of site and check register for ACM

YES

Is asbestos or suspected asbestos material present?

YES

Is the asbestos or suspected asbestos material damaged or deteriorated?

YES

Are personnel in the vicinity of the material and at risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres?

YES

Evacuate all unprotected personnel from the immediate area and restrict access by use of barricades and signage

YES

Has the damaged material been positively identified as containing asbestos?

YES

Collect sample of material and/or engage qualified consultant to provide definitive analytical result ASAP

NO

Resume normal work activities

NO

Resume normal work activities only if the asbestos will remain undisturbed and in sound condition.

NO

Otherwise manage the asbestos hazard in accordance with the requirements of CQUni Asbestos Management Plan

YES

Utilize trained personnel, approved equipment and PPE to effect cleanup/ remediation of asbestos material

NO

Investigate the cause of the emergency situation and implement changes to work practices if necessary

YES

Engage a licensed reputable asbestos removal contractor ASAP to effect cleanup and disposal of asbestos material. Engage an occupational hygienist to perform air monitoring and inspections and provide clearance certification if required

NO

Investigate the cause of the emergency situation and implement changes to work practices if necessary

NO

Resume normal work activities

Is cleanup/ remediation required?

YES

Obtain an Asbestos Permit to Work Document

NO

Resume normal work activities only if personnel will not be at risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres

YES

Arrange disposal of asbestos waste at an approved landfill

NO

Resume normal work activities

NO

Does sample contain asbestos?

YES

Facilities Management Directorate performs cleanup of asbestos materials. Engage an occupational hygienist to perform air monitoring and inspections and provide clearance certification if required

Resume normal work activities