

Alcohol and work

Alcohol-related issues can occur in any industry, occupation or workplace and may affect work performance, occupational health and safety and working relationships

Alcohol use can have an impact on the workplace. This is not only related to people drinking on the job but also from people drinking too much the night before or having one too many during lunch.

Problems from alcohol use can extend to any workplace through risk of accidents and injuries, increased absenteeism and loss of productivity.

Legal obligations to address alcohol or other drug issues at work arise through the general "duty of care" provisions that require employers to take all "reasonable" or "practicable" steps to ensure the health and safety of all workers and any other people who may be affected by the undertakings of the employer.

General employer/worker obligations in relation to workplace health & safety laws (including inappropriate use of alcohol and/or other drugs) exist under:

- the Work Health & Safety Act 2011 (NSW) and
- the Work Health & Safety Regulations 2011 (NSW)

