

Stay Safe on Foot: Tips for Navigating Campus (Fall & Winter)

Fall and winter conditions on campus require some extra consideration and caution. Please take extra care when moving across campus at this time of year for your safety and security. Remember that the ground surfaces can become hazardous with fallen leaves, puddles, or ice/snow with cooler temperatures. This is also compounded by low light levels at this time of year. These conditions can contribute to *slip, trip & fall hazards* and *fall at same level* type incidents.

Basic points to consider during this time of year when walking across campus to help prevent *slips, trips & falls*.

- Stay aware of weather conditions when coming into campus.
- Wear appropriate footwear for your day or have a spare pair stowed at your office.
- Remain alert of your surroundings as you walk across campus. Avoid use of personal devices that may cause distraction.
- Give yourself extra time to get to the destination(s).
- Only choose travel paths that are maintained and well lit. These are designed for safety.
- Be mindful of slip hazards on walkways, around building exteriors and exterior stairwells due to rain, ice or debris.
- Also be mindful of the interior lobbies, hallways and stair landings that may be wet.
- Keep your hands free and avoid carrying additional items or personal devices that would hinder your balance recovery or personal awareness of the environment.
- Consider how much you are carrying. Are these items required in best practice and can you manage the items safely and ergonomically? If you require to bring personal support items to work or between spaces transport these in a safe, appropriate manner. Consider getting assistance and use a safe and ergonomic office transport apparatus like a foldable caddy or shopping trolley/bag on wheels when appropriate.
- If you have to use stairs choose stairwells that have supporting handrails and make sure your hands are actually free to use these support devices to assist with your balance recovery as required.
- Use an elevator when available, particularly when travelling with additional items.
- Report any safety or slip, trip & fall hazards to your supervisor and Local Safety Team.
- Be extra conscious of your own Personal Safety & Security when moving across campus.

Additional Resources for your Safety & Security

- ❖ Report any ice or slip/trip hazards you notice to UBC as soon as possible so that these can be addressed quickly for all of our safety to the **UBC Building Operations Service Centre (604 822 2173)** or submit a service request online.
- ❖ If you experience or witness a fall and require first aid, call **UBC Mobile First Aid for Employees of UBC (604 822 4444)**. If you require **emergency medical** assistance call 911 and then dial 604 822 4444 (if UBC employees are affected).
- ❖ If you need to report an incident or accident at work, tell your supervisor what happened and then complete a **CAIRS** report at www.cairs.ubc.ca.
- ❖ **Blue Phones** are a personal and public safety resource around campus. Please see the [UBC blue phone map \(link\)](#) or search <https://security.ubc.ca/campus-security-services/blue-phones>.
- ❖ In an **emergency always dial 911**.
- ❖ There is *safety in numbers*. We recommend a work together/leave together system. If you have concerns for your safety, **AMS Safewalk (604.822.5355)** is available until 2 AM to accompany you to your destination. If AMS Safewalk is unavailable, **Campus Security (604.822.2222)** will be happy to escort you to your location.

