

Teaching students to drive tractors

Instructors prohibited from standing on tractor stepping plates

A prohibition notice issued by Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) prohibits all teachers (and instructors) from standing on the stepping plate of a tractor while teaching students to drive tractors.

Standing on the tractor stepping plate while teaching students to drive tractors presents 'imminent risk of death or serious bodily injury' if the teacher were to fall off the step and land in front of the large moving rear tractor wheel.

Consequences of an incident could include loss of life for the teacher, severe emotional trauma for the student and others, and significant compensation costs.

What should schools do?

Ensure staff, students or others do not stand on the step plate while the tractor is moving.

Ensure that the procedure: [Managing risks in school curriculum activities](#) is followed including the associated curriculum activity risk assessment (CARA) guideline – [Tractor Driving](#).

More Information

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland links:

- [Tractor safety precautions](#)
- [Safe design and operation of tractors – Code of Practice 2005](#)

Contact

Fleet Management for information on registering and insuring your school tractor.

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