

SAFETY ALERT

No Ladders for Above-Ground Work on Campus

A recent tragic incident serves as a critical reminder of the critical importance of adhering to safe work at height procedures.

In March 2026, a fatal accident occurred at a commercial building at Tsuen Wan. A 65-year-old air-con technician fell approximately 1.9 meters from a 3-meter ladder. Despite immediate medical attention at hospital, he passed away the following day.

Investigations reveal by the “Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims” that in the past three years, there have been at least 5 serious accidents involving falls from ladders, resulting in 4 fatalities and 1 serious injury happened in Hong Kong.



A [safety alert](#) regarding work-above-ground safety was previously issued in June 2025. However, over a year later, it has been observed that some university members and contractors are still using ladders to conduct above-ground works. The statistics above highlight the inherent dangers of using ladders for such tasks, and their use in this manner is a violation of safety regulations.

We urge everyone to strictly follow work-above-ground safety requirements.

All University Members

- Do not use Ladder to conduct above-ground works. Ensuring the proper use of a suitable step platform (梯台) or hop-up platform (功夫橈) as appropriate if light duty above-ground work has to be carried out.
- In rare and unavoidable circumstances where the use of a ladder is absolutely necessary, the [University safety policies](#) for above-ground-work must be strictly followed, including to conduct a thorough [risk assessment](#) and implement a [permit-to-work](#) system.
- Fence off the work area is essential to prevent unauthorized access and ensure the safety of all personnel during above-ground work activities.

Thank you for your immediate and serious attention to these critical matters.

Reference

- [Air-con technician critically injured after fall from ladder in Tsuen Wan](#), 26 March 2026; South China Morning Post
- [Statutory Requirements about Work-above-ground Safety](#), (51) in LD/1-55/30 Pt.4; Labour Department (Headquarters)
- [Work Safety Alert - Fall from Folding Ladder](#), March 2026; Labour Department
- [Work Safety Alert - Fall from Wooden Folding Ladder](#), January 2025; Labour Department
- [Work Safety Alert - Fall from Wooden Folding Ladder \(Animation\)](#); Labour Department
- [Work Safety Alert - Fall from a Metal Ladder](#), July 2024; Labour Department
- [Employer fined for violation of safety legislation](#), February 2026, HKSAR