

**NOTE:** This is a sample of a risk rating grid and criteria. If you are going to use a tool like this, the ratings and criteria need to be developed and agreed-upon with decision-makers within your own department/organization.

## Overall Risk Rating Grid

IMPACT	Catastrophic	High	High	Very High	Very High	Very High
	Significant	Medium	Medium	High	Very High	Very High
	Moderate	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
	Limited	Very Low	Very Low	Low	Medium	Medium
	Minimal	Very Low	Very Low	Very Low	Low	Low
		Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
		LIKELIHOOD				

### IMPACT RATING:

**Minimal:** Issues are easily and quickly addressed; event and campus objectives still met; no media/press attention likely; no impairment to operations or systems likely; little to no financial impact; minor injury requiring only first aid; general “everyday risk.”

**Limited:** May cause some minor/limited disruption to objectives or operations; small financial impact (less than \$500); handled on site/locally; may get media attention, but limited to local press (campus, local city); may require an incident report; injuries limited to on-site treatment.

**Moderate:** Requires higher levels of involvement (PD, emergency responders, Administrative involvement); objectives (organizations and/or University’s) may be temporarily impaired; moderate financial impact \$500 - \$3,000); may get media attention, including County-wide or larger interest; limited data breach of sensitive, confidential or protected information (<20 people impacted); injuries may include EMT/paramedic response and ambulance transport.

**Significant:** Requires senior level administration attention; significant operational disruption to one or more areas of campus for more than 24 hours; likely to draw significant media attention (extended in reach and/or duration); University’s objectives not being met and/or University’s integrity is significantly questioned or impaired; may result in external government agency involvement (sanctions, regulatory scrutiny, program suspension, etc.); financial impact of \$3,000 - \$10,000; significant injuries requiring hospitalization; major breach of sensitive, confidential or protected information (21+ people impacted).

**Catastrophic:** Significant disruption to operations/business objectives for one week or longer; significant and widespread negative media attention; financial impact of \$10,000+; any fatalities or multiple severe injuries; loss of governmental funding; anything that puts the University into “crisis mode.”

### LIKELIHOOD RATING:

Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
It would be very unusual for this to happen	It would be unusual for this to happen, but not unheard of	About as equal a chance that it will happen as won't happen	More likely that it will happen than won't	It would be unusual for it not to happen

## Risk Rating Considerations for Determining Appropriate Impact & Likelihood Ratings:

- Ratings should be based on “residual risk” (whatever the impact and/or likelihood are with current controls/processes/mitigation strategies already in place).
- Picking the right rating should be based on meeting any *one* of the criteria in a definition, not all criteria.
- Use *credible* worst case scenarios, and not necessarily the *absolute* worst case scenario.
- If you are struggling between two ratings, it is generally best to err on the side of caution and go with the higher rating. As you analyze and discuss the risk and potential controls, a fairly accurate rating will generally emerge.
- The scales are not intended to progress evenly/proportionately as you go up in impact or likelihood. For example, the difference in a “significant” versus “moderate” severity may be far more impactful than the difference in a “limited” versus “minimal” severity risk.
- Impact can be qualitative and/or quantitative.
- This is more art than science; try not to get too hung up on the quantitative aspect of the rating. The point is to identify things that may present the most risk, to rank/prioritize your risks, and to have conversations about them that will result in taking the right action.

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