

# Religious Practice Safety Advisor

## Where are the slip and fall conditions on school campuses?



Mats at entrance way.



Different types of floor surfaces.



Water fountain area.

The leading causes of injuries to workers are slip and falls on same-level floors. The school district spends tens of thousands of dollars every year on slip/fall claims. Based on data from slip and fall accidents/injuries, there are several contributing factors that lead to these falls:

- **Type of Floor Surface Characteristics.** Rougher surface projections offer better resistance.
- **Environmental Elements.** Contaminants like water, dirt, and grease interfere with foot contact.
- **Type of Footwear.** The shoe's sole material (rubber, plastic, leather) and contact impact slips.
- **Human Activity.** Certain activities, such as running, pushing, and walking fast, can contribute to falls.

Typically, we do not pay attention to these contributing factors or we think they will not affect us or cause us to slip, so we disregard them. However, the accident and injury statistics provide quantifiable data disproving these assumptions.

We must identify the locations on school campuses where slip hazards exist that can increase the likelihood of a slip/fall and take appropriate action to avoid, report, or clean up the conditions. Possible locations of slip hazards may include:

- **Building Entrances.** Wet Conditions from rain and dirt being tracked onto the entrance floor.
- **Restrooms.** Water on floor from washing hands, leaking plumbing, and/or splashing water.
- **Cafeteria.** Food and/or spilled drinks on the floor.
- **Water Fountains.** Water splashing onto the floor in hallways or outside of restrooms.
- **Stairs.** Spills and accumulation of water/dirt on stair steps/landings.
- **Walkways.** Water/wet accumulation (puddling), algae buildup, dirt/oil/grease or spills.



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