

OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, was designed to “assure, as far as possible, every working man and woman in the nation safe working conditions and to preserve our human resources.” It attempts to achieve this end through a set of uniform national standards for workplace safety and health practices throughout the country.



There are OSHA rules that cover general industry workplaces, construction, maritime, marine terminals, shipbuilding, agriculture, longshoring, and more.

Not covered: State and local government (public sector) employers are not regulated under federal OSHA; and also not covered are self-employed individuals, family members operating farms, and domestic household workers.

The 4 Main Roles of OSHA

- > Create the rules (standards) for workplace safety and health in private sector workplaces.
- > Monitor compliance with the standards through inspections, tests, and measurements.
- > Enforce the standards through penalties ranging from fines to imprisonment.
- > Develop safety and health education, training, and information programs for employers/employees.

HELP FOR EMPLOYERS

OSHA offers free confidential advice. Several programs and services help employers identify and correct job hazards as well as improve their injury and illness prevention programs.

Free On-Site Consultation

OSHA provides a free service, On-Site Consultation, for small businesses with fewer than 250 workers at a site (and no more than 500 employees nationwide). On-site Consultation services are separate from enforcement and do not result in penalties or citations. Each year, OSHA makes more than 29,000 consultation visits to small businesses to provide free compliance assistance. By working with the OSHA Consultation Program, certain exemplary employers may request participation in OSHA's Safety and Health Recognition Program, SHARP. To locate the OSHA Consultation Office nearest you, visit www.osha.gov/consultation or call 1-800-321- OSHA (6742).

Compliance Assistance

OSHA has compliance assistance specialists throughout the nation who can provide general information about OSHA standards and compliance assistance resources. Contact your local OSHA office for more information or visit www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/cas.html.

Cooperative Programs

OSHA offers cooperative programs to help prevent fatalities, injuries, and illnesses in the workplace. Alliance Program – OSHA works with groups committed to worker safety and health to develop compliance assistance resources and educate workers and employers. OSHA Strategic Partnerships (OSP) – Partnerships are formalized through tailored agreements designed to encourage, assist, and recognize partner efforts to eliminate serious hazards and achieve model workplace safety and health practices. Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) – The VPP recognize employers and workers in private industry and federal agencies who have implemented effective safety and health management programs and maintain injury and illness rates below the national average for their respective industries. In VPP, management, labor, and OSHA work cooperatively and proactively to prevent fatalities, injuries, and illnesses.

For more information, contact OSHA or your Loss Prevention Representative. Check out the resource page at www.fcbifund.com/documents-and-resources/

Sources: osha.gov, safety.blr.com