

Lesson: Introduction to OSHA

- Lesson Objectives:**
- Describe the history and purposes of OSHA and the OSH Act
 - Summarize the services provided by OSHA
 - Describe the OSHA standard-development process and how to read the standards
 - State OSHA's General Duty Clause and list the general duties of employers and employees

- Topics:**
- The OSH Act
 - OSHA Services
 - OSHA Standards
 - General Duties

Topic: The OSHA Act

This topic addresses the need for the OSH Act, the history of OSHA, and its purpose. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- Explain the need for the OSH Act
- Describe the OSH Act
- State the mission of OSHA
- State the mission of NIOSH
- State the mission of OSHRC
- Describe OSHA's history

Topic summary:

Please take a moment to review these major points before you continue with the next topic.

- On December 29, 1970, President Richard M. Nixon signed The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.
- The OSH Act established three permanent agencies: OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health), and OSHRC (Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission).
- The mission of OSHA is to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect the health of America's workers.

Topic: OSHA Services

This topic addresses the OSHA safety services. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- List the three main services provided by OSHA
- Describe OSHA Consultation Services

- Describe the Voluntary Protection Programs
- Summarize the services offered by OSHA Training Institutes

Topic summary:

Please take a moment to review these key points before you continue with the next topic.

OSHA provides three main services to promote safety and health in the workplace:

- OSHA Consultation: Consultation assistance is available to employers who want help in establishing and maintaining a safe and healthful workplace.
- Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP): The Voluntary Protection Programs represent one part of OSHA's effort to extend worker protection beyond the minimum required by OSHA standards.
- OSHA Training Institute: The OSHA Training Institute provides basic and advanced training and education in safety and health.

Topic: OSHA Standards

This topic teaches what OSHA standards are, the development process for standards, and how to read them. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- Explain the differences between vertical standards and horizontal standards
- Describe the process of setting up OSHA standards
- Explain the system of references to OSHA standards

Topic summary:

Please take a moment to review these major points before you continue with the next topic.

- One of OSHA's primary responsibilities under the Act is to develop workplace safety and health standards.
- A rigid process governs the development of standards.
- All federal standards use a numbering system. OSHA standards relevant to the construction industry are under the 29 CFR 1926 section.

Topic: General Duties

This topic addresses the general duties of employers and employees, and their rights and responsibilities. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- Restate the General Duty Clause
- List five rights and five responsibilities that employees have
- List five rights and five responsibilities that employers have

Topic summary:

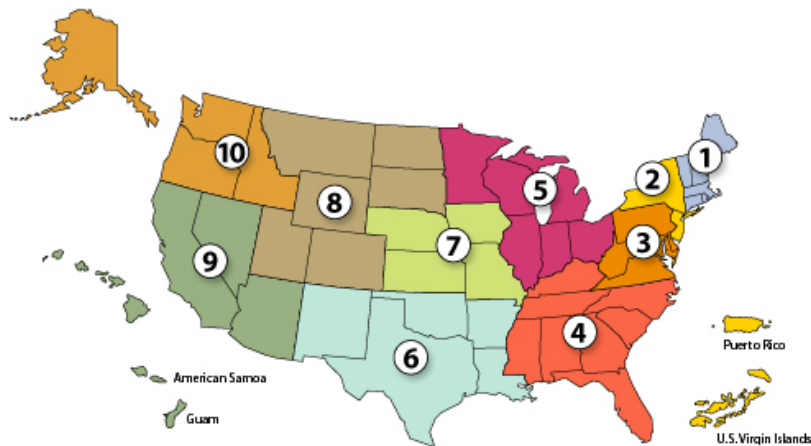
Please take a moment to review these major points before you continue with the next topic.

- The OSH Act establishes general rights and responsibilities for both employers and employees in the workplaces of this nation.
- The employers' general duties are to become familiar with the OSHA standards that apply to their workplace and comply with those standards.
- The employees' general duties are to comply with all the rules and regulations that apply to the work they perform.

OSHA Regional Office Contact Information

Contact information for the regional OSHA offices can be found below.

In case of emergency, call: 1.800.321.OSHA



Region 1

Regional Office
JFK Federal Building, Room E340
Boston, Massachusetts 02203
617.565.9860 / 617.565.9827 (fax)

Region 2

Regional Office
201 Varick Street, Room 670
New York, NY 10014
212.337.2378 / 212.337.2371 (fax)

Region 3

US Dept. of Labor/OSHA
The Curtis Center – Suite 740 West
170 S. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3309
215.861.4900 / 215.861.4904 (fax)

Region 4

Regional Office
61 Forsyth St., SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404.562.2300 / 404.562.2295 (fax)



Region 5

Regional Office
230 S. Dearborn St. Room 3244
Chicago, IL 60604
312.353.2220 / 312.353.7774 (fax)

Region 6

Regional Office
525 Griffin St. Room 602
Dallas, TX 75202
214.767.4731 / 214.767.4137 (fax)

Region 7

Regional Office
City Center Square
1100 Main St. Suite 800
Kansas City, Missouri 64105
816.426.5861 / 816.426.2750 (fax)

Region 8

Regional Office
1999 Broadway, Suite 1690
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Denver, CO 80201-6550
303.844.1600 / 303.844.1616 (fax)

Region 9

Regional Office
71 Stevenson St. Room 420
San Francisco, CA 94105
415.975.4310 / 415.975.4319 (fax)
800.475.4019 (Technical Assistance)
800.475.4020
(Complaints/Accidents/Fatalities)
800.475.4022 (Publication Requests)

Region 10

Regional Office
1111 Third Avenue, Suite 715
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206.553.5930 / 206.553.6499 (fax)