

Regulations Applicable To Public Sector Workplaces

The Oklahoma Occupational Health and Safety Standards Act (Title 40 Section 401 et seq.) and the Oklahoma Occupational Health and Safety Rules (OAC 380:40) are applicable in Public Sector workplaces in Oklahoma.

Through the Act, Federal OSHA Standards, as well as many industry consensus standards, such as NFPA, ANSI and ASME, have been adopted and are used by PEOSH to ensure employers provide a safe and healthful workplace, free from *recognized* hazards.

To view these regulations, visit our website at: www.ok.gov/odol/Transparency/Agency_Rules



For every \$1 invested in safety, there is a return between \$3 and \$6 on the investment.

*Liberty Mutual
US Department of Labor*

"Injuries and illnesses cost money. Entities that provide a safe and healthful workplace not only protect their employees, but are good stewards of the public's trust."



*Commissioner Melissa
McLawhorn Houston*

The Oklahoma Department of Labor

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Safety PAYS

**Public Employee
Occupational Safety & Health
(PEOSH)**



Oklahoma Department of Labor

What is PEOSH?

The Public Employee Occupational Safety & Health Unit (PEOSH) is responsible for inspection, compliance, consultation, rulemaking, education and training activities involving occupational safety and health for all public employees in Oklahoma, including city, county, state, schools and municipal trusts. These public entities are not included within the jurisdiction of Federal OSHA.

What are my obligations?

PEOSH Inspections are unannounced and Inspectors have the authority to conduct their inspections without delay. Refusal to permit an inspection is grounds for a violation and a subpoena may be obtained to require employers to submit to an inspection per 380:40-1-9 of the Oklahoma Occupational Safety & Health Act Rules.



- Safety professionals conduct over 250 of inspections per year.
- Trained on OSHA Standards in the same manner as federal OSHA compliance officers.

The Public Employees Occupational Safety & Health Division

HOW ARE EMPLOYERS SELECTED FOR AN INSPECTION?

Inspection priorities are given to: fatalities/catastrophes, formal employee complaints, site specific targeting (employers with higher than average injury rates), referrals from other enforcement agencies and informal employee complaint.

FATALITY/CATASTROPHE INSPECTIONS

Public Sector employers are required to notify the Oklahoma Department of Labor, PEOSH Division, within 48 hours of a fatality of even one employee, or the hospitalization of five or more employees, for medical treatment. (A mandated reporting form is available on our website.) All fatalities are investigated as promptly and as expeditiously as is feasible.

SCHEDULED INSPECTIONS

A scheduled inspection is conducted based on the site-specific targeting list. Scheduled inspections include: An opening conference, review of the OK300



OK301 and OK300A records to ensure proper recordkeeping is maintained in compliance with the applicable standards. Trend analysis from the Public Sector Survey, when available, is reviewed with the employer.

Written safety and health programs are thoroughly reviewed. Employee training records are also reviewed to ensure quarterly safety and health training is being provided, as required. Other records may be reviewed to ensure routine inspections and proper preventative maintenance is being conducted as well. A walkthrough inspection of the facility is conducted to identify physical hazards that may pose harm to employees. Informal training may also be provided during the course of the visit. A closing conference is conducted to review the findings of the inspection and a written report is provided to the employer. Employers typically have 45 days to correct hazards, unless imminent dangers are found, which must be corrected immediately.

COMPLAINT INSPECTIONS

Employees have a right to file a complaint with the PEOSH Division without fear of reprisal or retaliation. Complaint inspections are conducted to determine the validity of an employee's complaint and to ensure the employer is providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees.

CONSULTATION

Limited Consultation Services are provided upon request, and as resources are available, however, should any violation of the standards be identified, the inspection immediately converts to an enforcement inspection.

CONTACT

If you have compliance questions or need any assistance related to workplace safety, help is just a phone call away. You can reach our offices at (405) 521-6140.

- Inspectors statewide with expertise in Public Sector industries
- Inspectors will work with you to help improve your safety & health management systems.

www.labor.ok.gov

