MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR STANDARDS | SafetyWorks Consultation

Free Safety and Health Consultation

from the Massachusetts SafetyWorks Consultation Program







For additional information, visit
mass.gov/safetyworks-consultation
or call (508) 616-0461

Providing a Safe and Healthy Workplace Pays Great Dividends!



The costs associated with workplace accidents and work-related illnesses include:

- Increased workers' compensation rates
- Increased insurance premiums
- OSHA citations
- Repair or replacement of damaged equipment
- Production downtime or disruption due to worker absenteeism
- Administrative time filing claims and reports
- Poor employee morale
- Bad publicity for your business



Establishing an effective safety and health program is the solution, and a free SafetyWorks Consultation visit will help you achieve this goal!

SafetyWorks Consultation:

The Massachusetts SafetyWorks Consultation Program offers **free** consultation services to help employers identify and control potential safety and health hazards at their worksites, improve their safety and health programs and identify training needs. SafetyWorks Consultation primarily services establishments with **fewer than 250 employees** in high-hazard industries, such as manufacturing, construction, and public utilities. Larger establishments are welcome to request a consultation, however, priority will be given to the smaller establishments.

Consultations Are Confidential:

SafetyWorks Consultation, which is jointly funded by the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards and the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), is a confidential service in which your establishment's name, and any other information you provide, including any **unsafe or unhealthy working conditions found, will not be shared with anyone, including OSHA or other enforcement agencies.**

SafetyWorks Consultation is completely separate from any enforcement inspection effort. SafetyWorks Consultation consists of highly-trained safety and health (industrial hygiene) professionals with many years of experience. Consultants issue no citations or penalties for non-compliance. Your only obligation will be to agree to correct all serious safety and health hazards in a timely manner. An enforcement agency will be notified only if identified serious hazards or imminent dangers are not corrected.

How Consultation Can Help:

Our safety and health consultant staff will:

- Help you recognize hazards in your workplace.
- Suggest control measures and options for solving a safety or health problem.
- Provide technical support and guidance.
- Monitor worker exposures to air contaminants and other potential health hazards.
- Inform you and your employees about relevant safety and health regulations.
- Provide templates and review required safety and health written programs.
- Provide a written report summarizing all findings.

Our safety and health consultant staff will not:

- Issue citations or propose penalties for violations of safety and health standards.
- Report possible violations to enforcement staff except for unabated serious hazards.
- Guarantee that your workplace will "pass" an enforcement inspection.

SafetyWorks Consultation Options:

Occupational safety and health consultations are free to any private-sector business and public-sector establishments in Massachusetts. Employers can request a comprehensive (wall-to-wall) SafetyWorks Consultation, or may limit the site visit to specific operations. Employer and employee representatives are encouraged to accompany the consultant during the walk-through of your worksite. Although the principal assistance SafetyWorks Consultation provides is consultation, other assistance is also available. Contact our office, and we will be glad to assist you in any safety or health-related matter.





The SafetyWorks Consultation Process:

1. Requesting Assistance

Since this service is voluntary you must request a consultation visit. Your request sets the consultation process in motion.

2. The SafetyWorks Consultation

Once the request has been made, we will contact you to schedule a visit to your workplace. One of our consultant staff will review the entire consultation process during the opening conference. During the walk-through of the work areas you specify, the consultant will assess conditions at your workplace, point out potential safety and health hazards, discuss applicable OSHA standards or interpretations and recommend possible control measures.

The SafetyWorks walk-through includes a review of written safety and health programs, such as hazard communication and lock out/tag out programs, and an assessment of your health and safety programs. At the closing conference, the consultant explains preliminary findings, reviews possible solutions, and schedules abatement periods to eliminate or control identified hazards.

3. The Written Report

Following the visit, the consultant will send you a detailed written report explaining all findings, possible control measures, and confirming abatement periods discussed in the closing conference. At your request, the consultant may provide follow-up services such as noise monitoring or air sampling at your establishment.

4. Correcting the Hazards

Employers are obligated to correct all serious and imminent safety and health hazards in an agreed upon timeline.

5. Abatement Verification

We ask that employers inform us of actions taken to correct serious and imminent danger hazards and agree to post the “List of Hazards” and correction due dates.

To request a consultation for private-sector workplaces:

Call (508) 616-0461, extension 2, or email your request to: MA-OSHAConsultation@mass.gov

To request a consultation for public-sector workplaces: (city, town, state)

Call (508) 616-0461, extension 1, or email your request to: SafePublicWorkplacemailbox@mass.gov