



CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The California Occupational Safety and Health Act, passed in 1973, establishes the California Occupational Safety and Health Program (Cal/OSHA), which is administered by the California Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Occupational Safety and Health (*Title 8, Code of California Regulations, Chapter 3.2*). The purpose of the program is to provide safe and healthful working conditions for California workers. Cal/OSHA covers virtually all California workplaces including state and local government agencies. It does not cover federal workplaces, which are covered by Federal OSHA laws (29 CFR 1900).

The Functions of Cal/OSHA

Cal/OSHA adopts and enforces workplace safety and health standards to protect workers from work-related injuries and illnesses. The Compliance Office conducts inspections in response to employee complaints or as part of a targeted inspection program initiated by Cal/OSHA to ensure that workers and the public are protected from safety hazards. Cal/OSHA's Standards Board sets standards relating to specific hazards such as noise, chemicals and electrical safety as well as standards that describe an employer's general legal obligation to provide a safe and healthful workplace (*Title 8, CCR, Chapter 3.4*). Cal/OSHA also has a Consultation Program. The Consultation Program provides employers with free on-site assistance. This may include information about specific hazards, help setting up injury and illness prevention programs and training to recognize and correct safety and health hazards.

Employee Rights Under Cal/OSHA

All employees, including student employees, are entitled to receive information and training about the specific hazards on the job, to report hazards without reprisal and to have hazards corrected under Cal/OSHA. (*Title 8, CCR, Chapter 3.2, Sections 1509, 3202 and 5194*).

Regulatory Authority

Cal/OSHA is administered by the California Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Occupational Safety and Health (*Title 8, Code of California Regulations, Chapter 3.2*).

For more information visit:

Cal/OSHA
California Law, Education and Labor Code

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/>
<http://www.lginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>