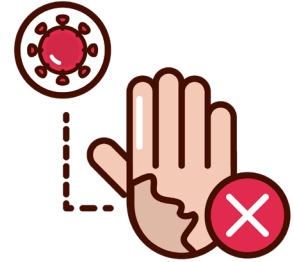


COVID-19 SAFETY

OSHA Temporary Changes

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1 - JUNE 30

Now more than ever, employers are responsible to ensure employees are adequately protected from potential hazards. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, Oregon OSHA has issued some temporary changes as outlined here. These temporary changes are effective March 1 through June 30. OR-OSHA will reevaluate the timeframe periodically to identify if any additional adjustments need to be made as the pandemic evolves.



SAFETY COMMITTEES & MEETINGS

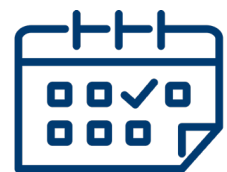
Employers can look at alternatives to meeting in person (such as teleconferencing, web-based meetings, etc.).

IF an employer determines (after due diligence evaluations) that alternatives to in-person meetings simply don't work, OR-OSHA will allow for a suspension of those meetings from March 1 through June 30, 2020, so long as all of the following are met:

- The employer has a reliable method for employees to report hazards AND members of the safety committee evaluate those reported hazards, or the employer evaluates the reported hazards when there is no safety committee.
- The employer ensures that the findings of the reported hazard are clearly communicated to all affected employees, including safety committee members.
- When operations return to normal, the safety committee compiles all issues and hazards reported during this time period to evaluate if any further action is necessary. When there is no safety committee, the employer will perform this evaluation.

QUARTERLY INSPECTIONS

OR-OSHA will not be enforcing the requirement for quarterly inspections under the safety committee/safety meeting requirements from March 1 through June 30, as long as the employer has systems in place for employees to report hazards and a mechanism to evaluate and follow-up on those reports.



INITIAL TRAINING

Employers that normally provide in-house trainings (such as hazard communication or silica), OR-OSHA expects the employer to continue as normal while keeping in mind social distancing and making use of teleconferencing techniques. Genuine feasibility and “greater hazard” issues related to such training must be addressed on a case-by-case basis.



ANNUAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

(Due between March 1st and June 30th, 2020)

For annual training requirements or operator certifications that become due between March 1 and June 30, OR-OSHA will accept the employer’s declaration that such training is not feasible at the present and therefore, will not cite it. The same holds true for re-certifications and annual testing (such as forklifts and cranes) that expire between March 1 through June 30 and that require outside expertise or other outside providers. Those that the employer can perform in-house must still be done.



For annual/periodic medical monitoring (such as audiograms or blood lead level testing) and annual respirator fit testing that the employer chooses not to conduct for the safety of workers relating to COVID-19 or because medical services are not able to be conducted due to COVID-19 restrictions, rescheduling this testing after June 30 is acceptable. Provisions should be made to reschedule this monitoring after June 30. For initial medical monitoring and fit testing, OR-OSHA will address genuine feasibility and “greater hazard” issues related to such training addressed on a case-by-case basis.

