

OSHA[®] FactSheet

Outreach Training Program

Each year, OSHA's Outreach Training Program provides thousands of employees training in basic occupational safety and health practices they can use at their work sites.

General Facts

- In FY 2008, over 680,000 students were trained in over 43,000 classes.
- In the past three years, the number of students trained has increased by 80%.
- 80 percent of the students trained work in construction.
- Training is conducted nationwide, in other languages, and beyond the U.S. borders.
- Participation is voluntary.

Who is the training for?

- Employees
- Supervisors
- Youth
- Contractors
- Spanish-speaking individuals
- Small businesses

Courses Covered

- Construction and general industry safety and health.
- 10-hour and 30-hour courses.
- Maritime industry and disaster site.
- General awareness training for employees on primary safety and health matters at their work sites.
- The training content is flexible. Trainers follow OSHA guidelines that enable them to cater the courses to their specific audience.
- Employees are taught to recognize, control and prevent safety and health hazards.
- Employees must receive additional training on specific hazards of their job.

About the Trainers

- They are authorized trainers from all fields who have completed a one-week OSHA training course in either:
 - 500 – Construction
 - 501 – General Industry
- Trainers meet both experience and educational prerequisites:

- Five years of safety and health experience
- 30 hours of prior safety and health training
- Trainer courses are conducted by the OSHA Training Institute (OTI) and OTI Education Centers.
- Trainers are authorized to teach 10-hour or 30-hour courses in construction or general industry.

Classes Conducted

- Trainers assemble their class materials from many sources, including OSHA's Outreach website.
- Trainers are provided a 10-hour PowerPoint CD to use.
- OSHA maintains a Spanish-language reference list to support training in Spanish.
- Trainers document their training and receive OSHA course completion cards for their students.

Training Locations

- www.OutreachTrainers.org is a free website that assists employees looking for outreach training classes.
- OSHA and its Education Centers distribute lists of active outreach trainers by state. Use these lists to contact trainers for information on training.
- Education Center outreach contact(s) - www.osha.gov/fso/ote/training/outreach/construction.html#attachment_b
- Provide the following information:
 - State(s) you are considering training.
 - Specify whether you want the trainers list for construction and/or general industry.
 - Your e-mail address, fax number or mailing address.
- Check with your OSHA state office or OSHA Consultation office.
- Search the Internet for – "10-hour Outreach," "OSHA Outreach Training."

- On-line training. For a current list, e-mail outreach@dol.gov.
- Check with:
 - Community colleges
 - Voc-ed schools
 - Union groups, especially building trades
 - Contractor groups
 - Safety and health organizations
 - Chambers of commerce
 - Your company

Program Growth

- In the past three years, over 1.65 million students were trained.
- Many employees who took the 10-hour course are advancing to 30-hour. In the past two years, there has been a 50 percent increase in 30-hour students.
- Although OSHA has stringent guidelines, we allow online outreach training. Less than five percent of outreach students receive their completion card via on-line training. Spanish and youth outreach training are now available in this format.
- Alliance and partnership programs often include a goal of providing the 10- or 30-hour outreach training specific to their audience.

Program Benefits

- Delivers safety and health information to employees and instills the value of safety and health.

- Receive training in other languages.
- Training has flexibility, allowing specific audience needs to be met.
- The training implies a certain level of safety training and the program has become a widely known standard for OSHA orientation training.
- The completion card signifies that an employee has received training in specific core elements of safety and health.
- The program has grown from a grass roots level – based on backing from significant groups (unions, contractors, associations) and companies. The endorsement by these groups results in the training of their own employees or members, with others often following.
- OSHA recognizes the completion card as an indication of the importance of safety and health at an organization.
- Laws enacted in a number of states, including New York, Massachusetts, and Missouri require 10-hour construction training for public project work.

Additional Information

For more information on this program, contact outreach@dol.gov or the OSHA Directorate of Training and Education, 2020 South Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, (847) 297-4810 or see “Training” on OSHA’s website at www.osha.gov.

This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.

For more complete information:



U.S. Department of Labor

www.osha.gov

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