



Indiana

Department of Labor

Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IOSHA 30th ANNIVERSARY FACT SHEET

INDIANA STATE PLAN CERTIFICATION

General Information

The Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA) is a division of the Indiana Department of Labor. IOSHA works to change workplace culture to increase employer and worker awareness of, commitment to, and involvement in workplace safety and health while securing public confidence through excellence in the development and delivery of its programs and services.

IOSHA consists of two divisions that conduct inspections to ensure compliance with IOSHA standards. The [Industrial Compliance Division](#) is responsible for public and private sector safety and health in the commercial, agricultural, and industrial sector of the Indiana economy. This includes the recognition and evaluation of exposure to occupational health hazards such as atmospheric contaminants, chemical, biological, physical, and ergonomic hazards. The [Construction Safety Division](#) is responsible for safety in the construction industry in Indiana.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act) of 1970 encouraged states to develop and implement their own safety and health program. The state of Indiana did just that and earned federal OSHA final approval status on September 26, 1986.

Coverage

With some limited exceptions, the Indiana State Plan applies to all private and public sector (state agencies, city and local governments, and municipalities) workplaces in the state.

The Indiana State Plan also applies to state and local government employers. It does not apply to federal government employers including the United States Postal Service. Federal OSHA covers the issues not covered by the Indiana Plan except for the enforcement of the field sanitation and temporary labor camp standards, which is the responsibility of the Wage-Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor.

In addition, federal OSHA retains enforcement of the anti-retaliation provision of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Section 11(c), 29 USC 660(c), with respect to the private sector. IOSHA also investigates private and state and local government workplace retaliation cases under a provision analogous to Section 11(c).

Indiana State Plan Standards

IOSHA adopts all OSHA standards and regulations. However, IOSHA does have a unique excavations standard.

Enforcement Programs

The Industrial Compliance Division of IOSHA conducts safety and health inspections in all places of employment within the state of Indiana with the exception of those covered by IOSHA's Construction Safety Division. IOSHA conducts inspections in accordance with established priorities including reports of imminent dangers, fatalities, and catastrophes; complaints from workers or their representatives; and referrals from other agencies. IOSHA's Whistleblower Protection Unit enforces the whistleblower protection provision of the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Act. In addition, IOSHA conducts unannounced inspections of private sector, state and local government general industry, and construction employers in accordance with current enforcement program priorities. For more information, please visit www.in.gov/dol.

Voluntary and Cooperative Programs

IOSHA offers voluntary and cooperative programs that focus on reducing injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. INSafe, a division of the Indiana Department of Labor, provides onsite workplace safety and health consultation services which help employers comply with IOSHA standards and identify and correct potential safety and health hazards. For more information on these programs, please visit the Indiana State Plan website at www.in.gov/dol or www.in.gov/dol/insafe.

Informal Conferences and Petitions for Review

IOSHA management personnel conduct informal conferences in an effort to resolve cases. Petitions for review of safety orders and proposed penalties may be filed with the Board of Safety Review, an independent board within the Indiana Department of Labor. For more information, please visit www.in.gov/dol.