



Cal/OSHA

Cal/OSHA Enforcement Branch

The Cal/OSHA Enforcement Branch is responsible¹ for the following:

- **Complaint and accident investigations.** Cal/OSHA investigates:
 - Complaints of workplace hazards filed by employees, employee representatives, and others²
 - Reports of serious violations received from law enforcement³
 - Reports of accidents resulting in serious injury or illness or death⁴
- **Targeted and programmed inspections.** Cal/OSHA conducts targeted inspections of employers in [high hazard industries](#) with high rates of preventable injuries and illnesses and workers' compensation losses⁵ Cal/OSHA conducts programmed inspections in mining and tunneling⁶, petroleum refining⁷, and the underground economy
- **Citations, special orders, and orders to take special action.** Cal/OSHA issues citations, special orders, and orders to take special action after investigation of hazards in a workplace⁸
- **Orders prohibiting use.** Cal/OSHA issues orders prohibiting use (OPUs) where there is an imminent hazard⁹
- **Permits, certifications, licenses, approvals, and classifications.** Cal/OSHA issues project permits and annual permits to employers for major activities in construction and permits allowing use of diesel engines in mining and tunneling¹⁰ For information about the permitting process, see Title 8 regulations, [section 341.1](#) Cal/OSHA also issues certifications, licenses, approvals, and classifications¹¹

File a Workplace Safety Complaint

Right to File a Complaint: The California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 gives workers the right to file a complaint about workplace safety and health hazards

Names of Complainants Must Be Kept Confidential: The name of any person who submits a complaint to Cal/OSHA must be kept confidential by law, unless the person requests otherwise

- See [instructions for filing a complaint](#).

Report a Workplace Accident as Required by Law

Employer and responding fire and police agencies must immediately report any accident resulting in a serious injury or illness, or death. "Serious injury or illness" is defined in subsection (h) of Title 8 regulations, [section 330](#)

- See [instructions for employers to report an accident](#)
- See [instructions for responding fire and police agencies to report an accident](#)

Notify Cal/OSHA as Required by Law

Report to the [Cal/OSHA Enforcement district office](#) that serves your industry or job location

Construction Employers

- Construction employers holding an annual permit must report the start of permit-required activities at a new site¹⁴
- Construction employers registered to work with asbestos must report the start of asbestos-related work.¹⁵
- Construction employers must report planned work potentially involving exposure to lead.¹⁶

Mining and Tunneling Employers

Mining and tunneling employers must notify the nearest office of the [M&T Unit](#) to obtain classification of environmental hazards prior to bidding a project and to conduct a pre-job safety conference prior to beginning the project⁷, and to report excessive gas levels, fires, or other hazards¹⁸.

Petroleum Refinery Employers

Petroleum refinery employers must submit to the [PSM Unit](#) every September 15 a full schedule of planned turnarounds for all affected units for the following calendar year¹⁹.

Employers Using a Carcinogen

Employers using a carcinogen must report a carcinogen release incident.²⁰ Also notify the Cal/OSHA Asbestos and Carcinogen Unit: ACRU@dir.ca.gov (916) 574-2993

Apply for a Permit, Certification, or License

- To apply for a project permit for construction activities listed below²¹, project administrators should contact the nearest [Cal/OSHA Enforcement district office](#) with jurisdiction over the project site.

- 1 Construction of trenches or excavations that are five feet or deeper and into which a person is required to descend
 - 2 The construction of any building, structure, falsework, or scaffolding more than three stories high or the equivalent height
 - 3 The demolition of any building, structure, falsework, or scaffold more than three stories high or the equivalent height. For demolition using explosives, contact the nearest office of the M&T Unit.
- To apply for an initial annual permit²², employers (other than the project administrator) engaging in the construction activities listed below should contact the nearest [Cal/OSHA Enforcement district office](#) where the employer's headquarters is located
 1. Erection and placement of structural steel or erection and placement of structural members made of materials other than steel. Note: No permit is required for work limited to the erection or placement of reinforcing bars used in reinforced concrete construction.
 2. Installation of metal decking or decking made of substitute materials.
 3. Installation of curtain walls, precast panels, or fascia.
 4. Forming or placement of concrete structures or concrete decks on steel structures.
 5. Installation of structural framing, including roof framing, or the installation of panelized roof systems. Note: No permit is required for work limited to the installation of interior partitions.

If the employer does not have a California headquarters, contact:

Chief's Office
 Cal/OSHA Headquarters
 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1901
 Oakland, CA 94612
 Phone: (510) 286-7000

- To apply for a renewal²³, annual permit holders should contact:

Permit Unit
 Cal/OSHA Headquarters
 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1901
 Oakland, CA 94612
 Phone: (510) 286-7022
 Email: blow@dir.ca.gov
- To apply for a permit to operate a diesel engine underground in a mine or tunnel²⁴, contact the nearest [M&T Unit](#) district office in Region 5
- To obtain certification as a safety representative or gas tester in mining and tunneling²⁵ or to obtain a blaster license²⁶, candidates should contact the nearest office of the [M&T Unit](#) district office

Pay a Penalty or Conduct an Establishment Search

- To pay a citation penalty, see [Cal/OSHA invoice payment options](#)
- To see if a particular employer has a history of Cal/OSHA inspections or citations, you can conduct an establishment search on the [OSHA Website](#)

¹ Labor Code sections 60 5-60 9, 142, and 6300-6104	¹⁵ Labor Code section 6501.5
² Labor Code section 6309	¹⁶ Labor Code section 6717
³ Labor Code section 6309	¹⁷ Labor Code sections 7955 and 7956
⁴ Labor Code section 6313	¹⁸ Labor Code sections 7967, 7972, and 7997
⁵ Labor Code section 6314.1	¹⁹ Labor Code sections 7872-7873
⁶ Labor Code section 7953	²⁰ Labor Code section 9030
⁷ Labor Code sections 7870-7873	²¹ Labor Code sections 6500-6501
⁸ Labor Code sections 6305, 6308, and 6317	²² Labor Code sections 6500-6501
⁹ Labor Code sections 6325, 6325.5	²³ Labor Code sections 6500-6501
¹⁰ Labor Code sections 6500-6501	²⁴ Labor Code sections 6500-6501
¹¹ Labor Code sections 6500-6501, 6710, 7962, 7966, 7990, 7991, and 7999	²⁵ Labor Code sections 7962, 7966, and 7999
¹² Labor Code sections 6309	²⁶ Labor Code section 6710, 7990, and 7991
¹⁴ Labor Code sections 6500-6501	

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