



A Campaign Addressing Traffic & Safety Concerns

Why Texas Employers Should Get to Know What OSHCON Offers

OSHCON stands for Occupational Safety & Health Consultation and is a free service provided by the Texas Department of Insurance Division of Workers' Compensation. The following are FAQs on how participation with the [OSHCON program](#) can help small- and medium-sized businesses in Texas:

How can OSHCON help me?

OSHCON consultants can provide a variety of services, including:

1. Identification and evaluation of safety and health hazards;
2. Industrial hygiene services such as noise level monitoring and air sampling;
3. Problem solving and hazard correction assistance;
4. Technical updates on Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) standards;
5. Hands-on training;
6. Safety and health program assistance; and
7. Safety training materials, DVDs, and publications.

Is my company eligible to participate?

Your company is eligible for OSHCON assistance if it:

1. Does business in Texas;
2. Is a private-sector employer;
3. Employs fewer than 250 people onsite, and
4. Controls no more than 500 employees nationwide.

I'm a small employer. Do I need to comply with safety and health standards?

By law, all employers are required to provide a safe and healthy work environment for their employees. The OSHCON program can be especially helpful to small employers who have limited staff or resources to devote to the development and implementation of a safety and health program.

What is the process involved with an OSHCON consultation?

Step 1: Request a Consultation:

- [Complete the OSHCON Online Request form](#)
- Call OSHCON toll-free at 1-800-687-7080
- E-mail OSHCON at oshcon@tdi.texas.gov



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- Contact an OSHCON consultant directly [from our directory](#).

Step 2: The On-Site Visit

The OSHCON consultant will meet with you at your workplace at an agreed-upon time. A comprehensive visit includes four elements.

- An opening conference where the consultant explains his/her role and your obligations as an employer.
- A walk-through survey of your workplace to identify hazards and observe work practices.
- An assessment of your existing safety and health policies and procedures to determine if OSHA required programs are in place.
- A closing conference is conducted where the consultant will review both positive findings and describe areas to be improved. Timelines for correction of serious hazards are discussed at this point.

Step 3: Other Findings and Recommendations

After the consultation, the consultant sends you a detailed written report based on all information reviewed, List of Hazards identified at the facility and other findings and recommendations.

Step 4: Hazard Correction

You correct any hazards identified as “serious” during the consultation within the mutually agreed-upon abatement period. Hazard abatement is required in order to reach the objective of the consultation – effective employee protection.

What will the OSHCON consultant want to see during the consultation visit?

1. Total number of employees working at the facility and/or total number of employees working at other facilities controlled by the employer.
2. Assigned Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) or Texas tax ID number.
3. You will need to provide your North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code.
4. The OSHA 300 documentation or equivalent injury and illness logs.
5. Also, any written safety programs, policies and procedures will be reviewed; including complementary programs such as lock out/tag out, fall protection, hazard communication, confined space entry, blood borne pathogens, and employee bulletin board postings.
6. The consultant will want to view the physical worksite involved and speak with several employees.



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How long will a consultation take?

The consultation can vary from a couple of hours to a full day, depending on the size and complexity of your business. In some cases, a follow-up visit may be necessary.

What are my obligations if I request a consultation?

You agree to correct any serious hazards or imminent danger conditions that might be identified. Imminent danger situations must be addressed immediately. The time frame for correction of serious hazards is mutually agreed-upon between you and the consultant. Extensions may be granted in unusual circumstances.