

Government Affairs

Cal-OSH Fund Assessments up by 240% for 2025-26

December 12, 2025

The OSH fund was established in 2008 to stabilize Cal-OSHA's funding and provides the majority of state funding for the program. It is one of six mechanisms paid for by surcharges on employers' workers comp premiums.

Cal-OSHA Appeals Board drops two citations to \$300

December 2025

August 2024 Cal-OSHA cited a homeowner after an unlicensed roofing contractor working to replace the roof system (of the home) was transitioning to a ladder to descent the roof when he fell 19-ft and suffered fatal head injuries. Cal-OSHA enforcement cited the homeowner for two general violations: CSO 1675(b): Non-compliant use of a portable ladder, and CSO 1509(a): failing to have an effective construction IIPP. The Appeals Board reduced the penalties to \$300.

Dry-cutting Engineered Stone a Crime?

Cal-OSHA is considering making prohibited activities, involving engineered stone with high silica content, a crime; one that would allow County District Attorneys to pursue criminal charges against employers who allow a "prohibited" activity, e.g., dry-cutting, dry-sweeping, and/or using compressed air to blow silica dust.

Cal-OSHA's fix for First Aid Kits

December 2025

The Cal-OSHA Standards Board has published a proposal that requires first-aid kits to meet the ANSI Z308.1 standard, and revise the requirement that a physician approve contents of the kits. If passed, this change will make it easier for employers to be in compliance.

Cal-OSHA changes to Confined Space go into Effect January 1, 2026

Revisions to CSO 1951, 1952, and 1953, and GISO 5156 date back to 2015 when the Standards Board adopted Fed-OSHA rules to separate construction-related confined space rules from general industry rules. The revised rules include:

- Removed all references to construction activities in the GISO
- Clarifies employer definitions as an "entry employer" if there is a CS at the workplace.
- Redefined "hazardous atmosphere" and several other terms
- Revised requirements for identifying CS and for permit-required CS programs, and
- Clarified procedures for entry permits, permit space rescue, and emergency medical procedures.

Fed-OSHA – News Release: 7 Letters of interpretation

<https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/osha-national-news-release/20251210>

Including: Permit-required confined spaces, COVID recordkeeping and reporting, powered industrial trucks, audiometric testing, software for OSHA 300 recordkeeping, engineering controls for benzene and 1,3 butadiene, and stain tred / angle requirements.

2025 Fatalities by Industry

as of 11/24/2025



