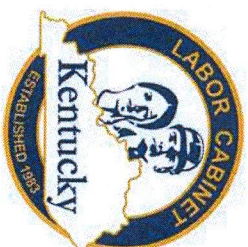


Safety and Health on the Job



Occupational Safety and Health

Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) Chapter 338 establishes a program for protecting occupational safety and health. This notice details the safety and health protections for public and private sector employees working in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and must be prominently displayed in the workplace.

Employer Responsibilities: Employers shall furnish employment and places of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing, or are likely to cause, death or serious physical harm to employees; and comply with the occupational safety and health regulations, standards, and rules issued pursuant to KRS 338. Employers must provide information and training on hazards in the workplace including all hazardous substances. Required training must be provided to all employees in a language and vocabulary they understand. It is illegal to retaliate against an employee for exercising any of their rights under the law, including raising a safety and health concern or reporting a work-related injury or illness.

Employee Responsibilities: Employees shall comply with the occupational safety and health regulations, standards, and rules issued pursuant to KRS 338 which are applicable to their own actions and conduct.

Records: Employees may request from their employer copies of their medical records, tests that measure hazards in the workplace, as well as the injury and illness log.

Standards: Kentucky's occupational safety and health standards are adopted by the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board. The Board consists of 13 members, comprised of the Secretary of Labor who serves as Chair, and 12 other members equally representing agriculture, industry, labor, and the safety and health profession. The Board meets annually and additionally as needed. All meetings are open to the public.

Inspections: The Division of Occupational Safety and Health Compliance conducts workplace inspections to determine the cause or prevent the occurrence of occupational injuries and illnesses. During an inspection a representative of the employer and a representative authorized by the employees are given an opportunity to accompany the Compliance Officer for the purpose of aiding the inspection. Where there is no authorized employee representative, the Compliance Officer must consult with a reasonable number of employees regarding safety and health at the workplace.

Complaints: Employees or their authorized representative have the right to file a complaint with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health Compliance requesting an inspection if they believe a hazardous condition(s) exists in their workplace. The name of the complainant will be kept confidential upon request.

Discrimination Protections: Employees are protected against discharge and other discriminatory actions for having filed complaints and exercising any other right provided by the occupational safety and health laws. Employees who feel they have been so discriminated against may file a complaint with the Kentucky Labor Cabinet within 120 days of the alleged discrimination. Private sector employees also have the option of filing discrimination complaints with the U.S. Department of Labor within 30 days of the alleged discrimination. Complaint forms are available at www.labor.ky.gov.

