

All workers have a right to a safe and healthy workplace.

What is OSHA?

OSHA is the federal agency that ensures safe and healthy working conditions for all workers in the United States. Employers must follow federal OSHA laws or approved state plans.

Common workplace hazards

Some common workplace hazards are wet surface conditions, exposure to harmful chemical substances, bacteria and viruses, and violence in the workplace. Under federal law, you are entitled to a safe workplace. Your employer must provide a workplace free of known health and safety hazards.

Employers

Employers must provide health and safety training in a language that workers can understand. An employer cannot retaliate against you for raising a safety concern or for reporting a work-related injury or illness. Your employer may be required to provide medical care and compensation for missed work related to your case.

You have the right to be provided required safety gear, to be protected from toxic chemicals, to request an OSHA inspection and to speak to the inspector. You are also entitled to report an injury or illness, get copies of your medical records, see copies of the workplace injury and illness log, and review records of work-related injuries and illnesses. If you believe working conditions are unsafe or unhealthful, you may file a confidential complaint with OSHA and ask for an inspection.

Your rights

Regardless of status, all workers have rights, protections and free access to assistance from OSHA. You have a right to raise a safety or health concern without fear of retaliation from your employer. If you have an accident at work, notify your employer immediately. You have only 30 days to report a work-related incident. OSHA and PhilaPOSH are available to assist you and your information is confidential.

For more information

PhilaPOSH www.philaposh.org 215-386-7000 OSHA www.osha.gov 1-800-321-6742