

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library



Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Grant program

BWC is funding the Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Grant program in collaboration with the Office of the Ohio Attorney General. The program provides money to eligible law enforcement organizations (LEOs) for the purchase of body armor vests to enhance the safety and prevent injuries among law enforcement officers. The program is open to LEOs with an active Ohio State Insurance Fund policy with BWC. An eligible local law enforcement agency may request up to \$40,000 of grant money during fiscal year 2019 for the purchase of body armor vests, with a local match of 25 percent. The Office of the Ohio Attorney General administers the program. Information about the grant is available through the portal for LEOs found at the [Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway \(OHLEG\) website](#).

Email questions about the program to the [Office of the Ohio Attorney General](#).

NIOSH/CDC News

New National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Publication

[A Guide to Air Purifying Respirators](#) describes various types of air purifying respirators, their uses and protection factors.

Resources for Rhabdomyolysis Identification

Firefighters are at increased risk for rhabdomyolysis on the job. Rhabdomyolysis is a breakdown of muscle tissue that releases proteins and electrolytes into the blood stream. It can cause heart and kidney damage. If left untreated, it may be fatal or result in permanent disability. NIOSH has [fact sheets](#) for both structural and wildlands firefighters to assist them and their physicians in recognizing the symptoms of rhabdomyolysis.

Behind the Wheel at Work

NIOSH issued [Volume 3 Number 3](#) of its newsletter on workplace driving. This issue discusses automated vehicles and contains links to the Drive Safe at Work Week campaign occurring Oct 1-5.

Two New Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) QuickCards

OSHA has released an updated QuickCard on Trench Safety. The card, Working Safely in Trenches, is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and contains information on basic trench safety.

Safe Work Practices in Poultry Processing describes the precautions that workers should take in this industry. The card is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Training Requirements by Standard

Do you have questions about OSHA training requirements? You can find answers in the [Training Requirements in OSHA Standards](#) publication. Organized by standard, this publication has all the training sections in the OSHA standards in one place. Stay in compliance with this handy reference.

Other News

BWC Policy Activity Rebate for Safety Activities

The Policy Activity Rebate (PAR) program provides an opportunity for employers to receive a 50-percent premium rebate (up to \$2,000) while promoting a safe work environment and improving claims and policy management.

Employers must complete 11 credits by choosing from a wide array of 33 activities.

The following employers are eligible for PAR.

- State-fund employers who have an active, reinstated or debtor-in-possession status.
- State-fund employers with an experience modifier equal to or greater than 1.
- State-fund employers who have at least \$350 in premium for the applicable policy year.

Enrollment periods

- Private employers – June 1, 2018, through Jan. 31, 2019
- Public employers – Dec. 1, 2018, through July 31, 2019

Go to the [enrollment service offering](#) to sign up.

Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has published [guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain](#). The CDC developed this guidance to assist providers with information to manage chronic pain using evidence-based guidelines and other measures. The guidelines give flexibility to health-care systems to react to their unique situations and patients.

Recalled Flashlight

There is a Consumer Product Safety Commission [recall](#) for Koehler-Bright Star flashlights. There is a risk that it can ignite hazardous atmospheres when used in confined spaces. The Koehler-Bright Star WorkSafe Model 2224 LED 3-D cell flashlight, marketed as safe for hazardous environments, was available at Koehler-Bright distributors, Grainger retail stores and on Amazon.

Health Culture Class

The Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health has developed a Massive Open Online Course: [Improving Your Business Through a Culture of Health](#). The school designed the class for small to midsize companies. The class informs employers on the “protection and promotion of employee health, safety and well-being.” The class is available online to the public for free.

Quarterly Construction Data Report

The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) released its second quarter data report [Fatal Injuries at Road Construction Sites among Construction Workers](#). The findings indicate half the deaths happen to workers on foot struck by a vehicle. Laborers had the most fatalities on these job sites, and crossing guards (flaggers) had the highest risk of death. Users can download the entire report as well as a separate PowerPoint file of the charts.

Best Built Plans

A [new program](#) from CPWR aims to prevent injuries at construction sites by reducing manual material handling. The program includes:

- A site planning tool that goes from bid to completion.
- Training resources with exercises to help workers understand how to plan lifts and use lifting equipment.
- Interactive exercises for warm-up activities.
- Lifting fundamentals.

New Material Added to ToxTutor

Are you interested in learning about toxicology? The National Library of Medicine just updated its [ToxTutor](#), a self-paced tutorial covering the key principles of toxicology. The National Library of Medicine has added new sections on Intuitive Toxicology, Risk Communication, Environmental Toxicology, Environmental Health and One Health. It has also updated and expanded materials in other sections.

AgrAbility

The National [AgrAbility](#) Project provides services and information to disabled agricultural workers in the U.S. The project has an [Assistive Technology Database](#) with information on tools, equipment, machinery and buildings for farmers and ranchers with physical disabilities.

Please contact the library@bwc.state.oh.us or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.