

Loss Control Bulletin

Federal and state laws require employers to provide their employees with ready access to medical and first aid services. This obligation is satisfied if a workplace is in close proximity to an infirmary, clinic, or hospital. At any fixed or temporary workplace that is not located close to an independent medical facility or where because of shift work employees cannot access nearby medical facilities, employers must provide their employees with ready access to medical and first aid services in the following manner:

- When an infirmary, clinic, or hospital, is not in close proximity to the workplace, which is used to treat all injured employees, a person or persons shall be adequately trained to render first aid. Training shall be equal to that of the American Red Cross or the Mine Safety and Health Administration.
- The worksite must be supplied with adequate first aid materials approved by a consulting physician, that are readily accessible to all employees.
- First aid materials must be sanitary, usable, frequently inspected and replenished as necessary.
- Supplies and facilities for drenching or washing the eyes and body must be provided in work areas where employees may be exposed to caustic or corrosive materials.
- Stretchers, blankets, or other warm covering must be provided in areas where ambulance service is not available within 30 minutes under normal conditions.
- At remote, isolated worksites, employers must make advance preparations to deliver prompt medical attention to seriously injured employees. This may involve:
 - setting up on-site facilities
 - providing special transportation arrangements to a medical facility or doctor, or
 - a telephone communication system to contact a doctor or ambulance transportation.

If it is reasonable to anticipate that an employee providing first aid to an injured employee may come into contact with blood or other body fluids, the employer must also comply with the requirements of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, which at a minimum, includes establishing and annually reviewing and updating an Exposure Control Plan, and providing first aid trained employees with personal protective equipment.

Additional information can be obtained at these websites:

California General Safety Orders on First Aid Requirements

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8/3400.html>

Federal OSHA First Aid Requirements

https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=9806

Federal OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10051

The guidelines provided in this bulletin are only intended to provide an overview of some of the more important steps that can be taken by management to establish a safe workplace. The guidelines are not considered exhaustive of all measures and controls that can be implemented by management to address all potential loss or injury producing causes. Ultimately it is the responsibility of management to take the necessary steps to provide for employee and customer safety. It is not intended as an offer to write insurance for such conditions or exposures. The liability of Republic Indemnity Company of America and its affiliated insurers is limited to the terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies underwritten by any of them. © 2022 Republic Indemnity of America, 4500 Park Granada, Suite 300, Calabasas, CA 91302.