

Public Employee Safety and Health

Authority

Wisconsin statute section 101.055 requires the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services to adopt and enforce safety and health standards that will provide protection to public employees at least equal to that provided to private sector employees under standards promulgated by Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Inspection

A public employee or public employee representative who believes that a safety or health standard is being violated, or that a situation exists which poses a recognized hazard likely to cause death or serious physical harm, may request the department to conduct an inspection. If the requestor so designates, the identity of the requestor will be kept confidential. If the department decides not to make an inspection, the requestor will be notified.

A representative of the employer and a public employee representative will be permitted to accompany the department inspector during the inspection. The employee shall not be discriminated against with respect to either pay received or withheld for time spent on the inspection.

Enforcement

If the department finds a violation of state standards, abatement orders will be issued to the employer. The employer shall post a copy of the orders at or near the site of the violations for 3 days or until the violation is corrected, whichever is longer. Copies of the order will be sent to the top elected official, the bargaining unit and to the person requesting the inspection.

If the department decides not to issue orders in response to a request, a written notice of that decision shall be sent to the public employee who requested the investigation. If decisions are disputed they will be reviewed.

Discrimination

No public employer may discriminate against or discharge any public employee for exercising any right afforded by his section. A state employee who believes he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint with the personnel commission within 30 days of employee's receipt of knowledge of the discrimination. A public employee, other than a state employee, may file a complaint with the state Division of Equal Rights within 30 days.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION

PO Box 7302

4822 MADISON YARDS WAY

MADISON, WI 53707

PHONE 608-266-2112

WEB [HTTPS://DSPS.WI.GOV](https://dspd.wi.gov)

**PUBLIC EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED TO POST THIS NOTICE
WHERE NOTICES TO EMPLOYEES ARE USUALLY POSTED**

SBD-9301P

REV. 10/2/2023

Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace?

You as a public employee have the right, under the Wisconsin public employees' right-to-know law, to be informed about hazardous chemicals and substances in the workplace. *

EMPLOYEES MUST BE PROVIDED WITH:

- A list of all hazardous chemicals and information on toxic substances, pesticides, and infectious agents in the workplace.
- Access to Material Safety Data Sheets and container labels.
- Formal training in proper procedures for managing hazardous chemicals.
- A written chemical hazard communication program.

For more information contact:

Wis. DEPT. OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION

1400 E WASHINGTON AVENUE

MADISON, WI 53703

608-266-2112

* State Statute 101.581(1)

SBD-6894-P

REV. 01/2017

