



UNDERSTANDING YOUR RIGHT TO A SAFE WORKPLACE

Every worker has the right to a safe and healthy working environment. Employers have a legal and moral responsibility to provide workplaces where hazards are identified, risks are controlled, and employees are protected.

Understanding your rights and responsibilities helps ensure that everyone works in conditions that protect their health and safety.

Your Right to a Safe Workplace

Every employee has the right to:

- Work in an environment where hazards are controlled.
- Receive proper training for the tasks they perform.
- Be informed about workplace risks.
- Be provided with appropriate PPE where required.
- Report hazards or unsafe conditions.
- Stop work if a situation poses serious danger.

Safety should never be compromised for speed or convenience.

Employer Responsibilities

Employers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of employees by:

- Identifying and controlling workplace hazards.
- Providing safe equipment and tools.
- Ensuring employees are properly trained.
- Maintaining safe work procedures.
- Providing PPE where required.
- Investigating incidents and correcting unsafe conditions.

A safe workplace is achieved when management actively supports safety practices.

Employee Responsibilities

While workers have the right to a safe workplace, they also have responsibilities to maintain safety.

Employees must:

- Follow safety procedures and instructions.
- Use equipment and PPE correctly.
- Report hazards and unsafe conditions.
- Avoid unsafe acts or shortcuts.
- Cooperate with safety programs and training.

Safety is a shared responsibility between employer and employees.

Speaking Up About Safety

If you notice unsafe conditions or practices:

- Report them to your supervisor.
- Follow the site reporting process.
- Participate in safety discussions or meetings.
- Do not ignore hazards that could cause injury.

Reporting hazards early helps prevent incidents and protects everyone.

Summary

A safe workplace is a right for every worker, but it also requires active participation from everyone on site. Employers must provide safe conditions, and employees must follow procedures and report hazards. When everyone understands their rights and responsibilities, workplaces become safer for all.

Discussion Points

1. What does a safe workplace mean to you?
2. What should you do if you notice a serious hazard?
3. How can workers help improve safety in the workplace?

