

Responsibilities

Explain dangers

Construction can be a dangerous business if people don't fulfill their responsibilities for on-site health and safety.

Learning your responsibilities is the first step. You should also be aware of other people's responsibilities so you know who to talk to if you see a hazard.

Identify controls

Health and safety hazards could be controlled if everyone knew their own responsibilities and acted on them.

The *Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Construction Projects* (O. Reg. 213/91) define the responsibilities of workplace parties such as constructor, employer, supervisor, and worker. You can get a copy of the Act and Regs from IHSA or by visiting ihsa.ca.

Examples of workplace party responsibilities:

CONSTRUCTOR (See OHSA, s. 23)

- Ensure that everyone and all work processes comply with the law. This includes all employers (subcontractors) and their workers.
- Ensure that all workers' health and safety are protected.
- Provide notification of project to the Ministry of Labour.

EMPLOYER (See OHSA, s. 25)

- Provide equipment, materials, and protective devices, and maintain them.
- Ensure that everyone and all processes comply with the requirements of the law.
- Provide information and instruction to protect workers' health and safety.
- Provide competent supervision.
- Acquaint workers with hazards.
- Take every precaution reasonable to protect workers.
- Ensure that all workers on a jobsite are at least 16 years old.

SUPERVISOR (See OHSA, s. 27 and 32)

- Ensure that the health and safety of workers are never in danger.
- Ensure that workers work safely and according to the law and company policies.
- Ensure that workers use and wear any protective equipment or clothing required by the law or the employer.
- Advise workers of any possible danger to their health and safety on the job. This includes the risk of workplace violence from a person with a history of violent behaviour.
- Provide workers with written instructions when required about the measures and procedures to be taken for their protection.

WORKER (See OHSA, s. 28)

- Work safely at all times. Follow the company rules and the occupational health and safety regulations.
- Wear any protective equipment or clothing as required by your employer or the regulations.
- Never remove or make ineffective any safety guard or protective equipment.
- Report to your employer or supervisor any hazard or unsafe conditions in the workplace and any protective device that is missing or not working properly.
- Report all incidents, injuries, and near misses or any violations of the law.

Demonstrate

Hold up the "green book" (*Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Construction Projects*) and ask your crew what they know about it.

Ask your crew to name:

- Two responsibilities of employers
- Two responsibilities of supervisors.