



OSHA Auditing: Federal Compliance Guide: Facilities

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new and noteworthy

- **OSHA Removes Requirements of 29 CFR 1910 Subpart U:** The Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) at 29 CFR 1910 Subpart U was adopted on June 21, 2021. Under the OSH Act, an ETS is effective until superseded by a permanent standard—a process contemplated by the OSH Act to occur within six months of the ETS's promulgation.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has announced that it intends to continue to work expeditiously to issue a final standard that will protect healthcare workers from COVID-19 hazards, while continuing to consider its broader infectious disease rulemaking. However, given that the agency does not anticipate that a final rule can be completed in a timeframe approaching the six months contemplated by the OSH Act, it has withdrawn all of 29 CFR 1910 Subpart U with the exception of requirements for a COVID-19 log and associated reporting.

Module U COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard has been updated to reflect the OSHA changes to 29 CFR 1910 Subpart U.

highlights of this release

- **Module U COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard:** Requirements of the Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) at 29 CFR 1910 Subpart U, that have been withdrawn by OSHA, were removed from Section 1 of the rulebook; Section 2 was removed entirely. The Applicability Table, Pre-audit Preparation, and Acronyms and Abbreviations have also been revised accordingly.
- **Review of OSHA Compliance Guidance:** As part of ongoing quality control efforts, OSHA Letters of Interpretation and Compliance Directives discussed in this guide are being reviewed to ensure they are current, accurate, and add value for users. Obsolete guidance has been removed, new guidance has been added, and other edits have been made accordingly in the rulebooks for the following modules:
 - Module R1 Telecommunications
 - Module T Diving Operations
 - Module Z1 Hazard Communication – Part A Hazard Communication Standard
 - Module Z2 Chemical, Biological, and Physical Exposure Control – Part A General Air Contaminants
 - Module Z2 Chemical, Biological, and Physical Exposure Control – Part B Asbestos

release notes

please review

did you know?

- **OSHA Withdraws COVID-19 ETS:** The Supreme Court struck down OSHA's Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) mandating that employers with 100 or more employees require employees to be vaccinated or undergo routine testing. In response, OSHA has withdrawn most of the requirements of the standard (see New and Noteworthy, above).
- **OSHA Increases Penalties:** OSHA has increased the maximum penalties for violations of regulations, effective January 16, 2022. The new maximums are available at <https://www.osha.gov/penalties>.
- **2020 Fatal Occupational Injuries Decline:** The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the fatal injury rate for all workers declined in 2020; however, the rate for Hispanic or Latino workers rose. The 2020 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) is available at <https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm>.
- **NIOSH Studies Potential Hazards of 3D Printing:** The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is conducting on-site assessments to gain knowledge about exposures and controls pertaining to 3D printing. NIOSH has published two posters—one poster focused on 3D printing with metal powders and another poster on 3D printing with filaments—outlining pertinent health and safety questions to ask and various control options to choose from to help reduce exposure and potential hazards. The posters are available at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2020-114/default.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2020-115/default.html>, respectively.



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