Chapter 57: Heat Illness Prevention

Quick Start Summary

1 Who needs to know about these requirements

The requirements of Heat Illness Prevention apply to workers, supervisors, field construction and service managers and points of contact, the heat illness prevention program manager, and subcontractors. They cover identifying high-heat working conditions and implementing controls to mitigate the hazards of working in those conditions. These requirements must be followed when work activities (outdoor or indoor) could reasonably be expected to expose workers to the risk of heat illness, namely, when temperatures exceed 80°F.

2 Why

Workers who are exposed to extreme heat or work in hot environments indoors or outdoors, or even those engaged in strenuous physical activities, may be at risk of heat stress. Exposure to extreme heat can result in occupational illnesses caused by heat stress, including heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat syncope (fainting), heat cramps, heat rashes, or even death.

3 What do I need to know

Workers, and their supervisors, whose work tasks or assignments should reasonably be anticipated to result in exposure to the risk of heat illness must complete ESH Course 416, Heat Illness Prevention (ESH Course 416). Workers must drink adequate water, take preventative cool down breaks, and notify their supervisor if they suspect their work activity will expose them to excessive heat or they are experiencing any symptoms of heat illness.

Supervisors must ensure access to water and shade and that communication, oversight, and emergency response requirements for high heat are met. They must also ensure that any worker exhibiting signs or symptoms of heat illness is monitored, not left alone, or sent home without being offered first aid and/or provided emergency services.

4 When

These requirements take effect 22 June 2021.

5 Where do I find more information

SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001)
- Chapter 57, “Heat Illness Prevention”

Or contact the program manager.