Do you have the required training to work in construction?

Health and safety training is important for workers in all sectors. But it’s especially important for those involved in high-risk work such as construction. Over the past 5 years, 97 construction workers in Ontario have lost their lives on the job, over 1,500 have suffered critical injuries, and over 22,000 have suffered lost-time injuries.¹

Health and safety legislation is put in place to protect workers. Too often, however, workers do not have the training required by law. They may not even realize they need it. And employers may not realize they have a duty to provide it.

Training gives workers the knowledge to recognize the hazards they face and do their jobs safely. It helps employers fulfil their duty to protect the health and safety of their workers.

To help raise awareness of the training required to work in Ontario construction, we have put together a Training Requirements Chart (W001). It outlines the training that workers must have for the type of work they’re doing and the hazards they may face.

Visit ihsa.ca/Products to download this chart.

¹According to WSIB statistics for construction rate groups between 2011 and 2015.

What workers need to know

Ontario’s Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and Construction Projects regulation (O. Reg. 213/91) assign many responsibilities to a competent person or a competent worker. By definition, this means a person or worker who is qualified because of knowledge, training, and experience to either organize or perform the work.

If you are doing work that must be done by a competent person or competent worker, you MUST be trained!

What employers need to know

Under the OHSA and associated regulations, employers have a responsibility to:

- Provide information and instruction to workers to protect their health or safety (OHSA, s.25(2)(a)).
- Carry out training programs for workers, supervisors, and committee members as prescribed (OHSA, s.26(1)(l)).
- Ensure that workers and supervisors complete a basic occupational health and safety awareness training program (O. Reg. 297/13, s.1 and 2).