



*Division of Occupational Safety and Health Occupational
Health Clinics*

VIRTUAL CONN-OSHA

Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Group Meeting

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

8:15 am – 9:45 am

On the third Tuesday of every month, CONN-OSHA offers Breakfast Roundtable Meetings via Zoom that cover subjects ranging from evacuation plans and fire extinguishers to air quality and ergonomics. The intent of these free 90-minute workshops is to discuss safety and health issues in a supportive and informal environment. The roundtable meetings are held from 8:15 am to 9:45 on the third Tuesday of the month.

This month's subject is:

“Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) to Protect Workers from Coronavirus”

On November 4, 2021 OSHA announced a new [emergency temporary standard to protect more than 84 million workers from the spread of the coronavirus](#) on the job. Under this standard, covered employers must develop, implement and enforce a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy, unless they adopt a policy requiring employees to choose to either be vaccinated or undergo regular COVID-19 testing and wear a face covering at work.

Since 2020, the coronavirus has led to the deaths of 750,000 people in the U.S., and the infection of millions more, making it the deadliest pandemic in the nation's history. Many of the people killed and infected by this virus were workers whose primary exposures occurred at their jobs. OSHA estimates that this rule will save thousands of lives and prevent more than 250,000 hospitalizations due to workplace exposure to COVID-19 over the course of the ETS.

The emergency temporary standard (ETS) covers employers with 100 or more employees – firm or company-wide – and provides options for compliance. The ETS also requires employers to provide paid time to workers to get vaccinated and to allow for paid leave to recover from any side effects.

OSHA is offering robust compliance assistance to help businesses implement the standard, including a [webinar](#), [frequently asked questions](#) and other [compliance materials](#).

The ETS will cover two-thirds of the nation's private-sector workforce. In the 26 states and two territories with [OSHA State Plans](#), the ETS will also cover public sector workers employed by state and local governments, including educators and school staff.

Here are Links to the [COVID-19 Healthcare ETS](#) and on the [Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#).

This Roundtable session will review the new standard, cover employer requirements, and apprise attendees about the availability of numerous compliance assistance resources available at no cost.

Register here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrcO2rpjkiHdGNH44CFRnDxibuGfiIWUkd0>

NEWS Flash:

The ETS on Vaccination and Testing was officially filed in the Office of the Federal Register on November 4, 2021, and it became effective when it was published on November 5, 2021. Written comments on any aspect of the ETS must be submitted by December 6, 2021 in Docket number OSHA-2021-0007. Written comments on the information collection determination as described in V.K. of the ETS preamble [2021-23643] must be submitted by January 4, 2022 in Docket number OSHA2021-0008.

The federal appeals court on Saturday November 6, 2021 temporarily halted the Biden administration's COVID-19 vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay of the requirement by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that those workers be vaccinated by January 4 or face mask requirements and weekly tests.

Solicitor of Labor Seema Nanda said the U.S. Department of Labor is "confident in its legal authority to issue the emergency temporary standard on vaccination and testing."

The administration says it is confident that the requirement, which includes penalties of nearly \$14,000 per violation, will withstand legal challenges in part because its safety rules pre-empt state laws.

The 5th Circuit, based in New Orleans, said it was delaying the federal vaccine requirement because of potential "grave statutory and constitutional issues" raised by the plaintiffs. The government must provide an expedited reply to the motion for a permanent injunction Monday, followed by petitioners' reply on Tuesday.

Here is the link to the new COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS home page:

<https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/ets2>

This is a fluid situation, the Roundtable will be held, but it is not known who will present. We will provide the latest information as of the date of the Roundtable.

CONN-OSHA

Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Group

8:15 am – 9:45 am

November 16, 2021

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- John Able, CSP
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- **“Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) to Protect Workers from Coronavirus”**

- TBD

- **Low/No-Cost Training/Certification/Educational Opportunities**

- The Wednesday morning weekly [New England Roundtable Online Series](#) runs from 9 am to 10:15 am, log-on begins at 8:50 am taking place online at:

<https://keene.zoom.us/j/402526797>

Here is the schedule:

- November 10, 2021: Occupational Outdoor Heat Stress:
Assessing the Exposure, Controlling Risk and a Regulatory / Standard Update
- November 17, 2021: OSHA Fork truck Safety

These sessions are free and open for all to attend. Please note that the online platform only allows 300 attendees at this current time. Preregistration is not required but on the morning of the event you may want to logon earlier than 9 am to reserve your spot.

Here is the Zoom link, feel free to share the information with others that may have interest.

<https://keene.zoom.us/j/402526797>



- Only a few days left until the in-person New England Area Professional Development Conference (NEA PDC)! **November 15-16, 2021** at the Equinox Golf Resort & Spa, Manchester, VT.

Register **today!**

View the 2-day schedule here:

<https://region8.assp.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/332/2021/10/211017-NEAPDC-2021-Schedule-At-A-Glance.pdf>

Earn 1.3 CEUs and remember the registration fee covers breakfast & lunch on both days as well as light appetizers at the Monday night social event. **So don't delay! Register today!**

Need more information? Visit us at <https://region8.assp.org/neapdc/>

- CONN-OSHA has scheduled a no-cost Intro to OSHA training session for Tuesday, **December 7, 2021** from 9 am – 10 am. Pre-Registration is required, Register [here](#).
- CONN-OSHA has scheduled a no-cost Permit Required Confined Space safety training session for Tuesday, **January 11, 2022** from 9 am – 10 am. PreRegistration is required, Register [here](#).
- CONN-OSHA has scheduled a no-cost Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) safety training session for Tuesday, **February 8, 2022** from 9 am – 10 am. PreRegistration is required, Register [here](#).
- **Ongoing Educational Opportunities**
 - The Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) [Commercial Vehicle Safety Division](#) (CVSD) will be hosting monthly **no-cost** 3-hour seminars at Tunxis Community College to educate motor carriers about the numerous State and Federal laws/regulations that may affect motor carriers. These seminars are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS?

- 1) Are you worried about being inspected roadside and/or unsure if you are compliant with the regulations?
- 2) Did you have a roadside inspection and learned you were not compliant with the regulations?
- 3) Do you know what regulations you are subject to?
- 4) Do you know the difference between Intra and Interstate DOT numbers?
- 5) Do you need a CDL?

Our mission at the DMV is to reduce the number and severity of commercial vehicle crashes on Connecticut roadways. We know most motor carriers/business owners share that mission, want to operate safely, and be compliant with the State and Federal laws/regulations. Many motor carriers have questions and experience difficulty understanding some sections of the State and Federal laws/regulations. This class will provide answers to your questions and provide guidance to help each and every one of us achieve our mission.

WHERE:

Tunxis Community College Room #J600 6-276
271 Scott Swamp Road
Farmington, CT 06032

WHEN: First Wednesday of the month TIME: 9 am - 12 pm

TO REGISTER: Send an e-mail to dmv.newentrant@ct.gov (Please enter "CLASS" in the subject line)

Click [here](#) for more information.

- **QuickTakes.** OSHA's online newsletter provides the latest news about enforcement actions, rulemaking, outreach activities, compliance assistance, and training and educational resources.

Join more than 330,000 subscribers who rely on QuickTakes for information about workplace safety and health. QT is free and distributed twice monthly. Starting in 2018, QuickTakes subscribers began receiving occasional "Did You Know?" messages informing them of OSHA safety resources.

Click here to read an issue of QuickTakes:

<https://www.osha.gov/quicktakes/11012021>

Click here to subscribe to QuickTakes:

<https://www.osha.gov/quicktakes#>

- Learn About Employee Participation in Hazard Identification! Worker participation is key for hazard identification activities. The OSHA On-site Consultation Program at the University of Alabama developed a micro-learning for Safe + Sound Week on [Employee Participation in Hazard Identification](#). Learn how to move your safety and health program forward. Watch now!

- **New Business**

- The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced a new [emergency temporary standard](#) to protect more than 84 million workers from the spread of the coronavirus on the job.

Under this standard, covered employers must develop, implement and enforce a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy, unless they adopt a policy requiring employees to choose to either be vaccinated or undergo regular COVID-19 testing and wear a face covering at work.

The emergency temporary standard (ETS) covers employers with 100 or more employees – firm or company-wide – and provides options for compliance. The ETS also requires employers to provide paid time to workers to get vaccinated and to allow for paid leave to recover from any side effects.

The ETS also requires employers to do the following:

- ✦ Determine the vaccination status of each employee, obtain acceptable proof of vaccination status from vaccinated employees, and maintain records and a roster of each employee's vaccination status.
- ✦ Require employees to provide prompt notice when they test positive for COVID-19 or receive a COVID-19 diagnosis. Employers must then remove the employee from the workplace, regardless of vaccination status; employers must not allow them to return to work until they meet required criteria.
- ✦ Ensure each worker who is not fully vaccinated is tested for COVID-19 at least weekly (if the worker is in the workplace at least once a week) or within 7 days before returning to work (if the worker is away from the workplace for a week or longer).
- ✦ Ensure that, in most circumstances, each employee who has not been fully vaccinated wears a face covering when indoors or when occupying a vehicle with another person for work purposes.

The emergency temporary standard does not require employers to pay for testing. Employers may be required to pay for testing to comply with other laws, regulations, collective bargaining agreements, or other collectively negotiated agreements. Employers are also not required to pay for face coverings.

OSHA is offering robust compliance assistance to help businesses implement the standard, including a [webinar](#), [frequently asked questions](#) and other [compliance materials](#).

The ETS will cover two-thirds of the nation's private-sector workforce. In the 26 states and two territories with [OSHA State Plans](#), the ETS will also cover public sector workers employed by state and local governments, including educators and school staff.

Employers must comply with most requirements by December 4, 2021, testing requirements are to be implemented by January 4, 2022.

The ETS also serves as a proposal for normal rulemaking for a final standard. OSHA is seeking comment on all aspects of this ETS and whether the agency should adopt it as a final standard.

- **CONN-OSHA CONSULTATION SERVICES**

- CONN-OSHA offers a variety of consulting services to both public and private employers in Connecticut. All our consulting services are available at no charge and are tailored to fit individual employer needs.

We provide consultations in the areas of safety, industrial hygiene, ergonomics, injury and illness prevention plans, and new business assistance. Each consultation visit is viewed by CONN-OSHA as an opportunity to help that employer incorporate the key elements of an effective workplace injury and illness prevention plan into the way the business is run over the long term.

Additionally, penalties and citations are not issued as a result of the consulting process.

To learn more or request your free [consultation](#) from CONN-OSHA, call us at 860-263-6900, or visit our [webpage](#)!