

# Cal/OSHA Requirements

No matter what material you are working with – even something considered to be a “nuisance dust” - there is a fundamental Cal/OSHA requirement that an employer know if their employees are being overexposed, whether that be by inhalation, skin absorption, or ingestion.

That’s not always easy to know, so often times it’s best to assume that overexposures are likely and have employees properly protected accordingly. **That means implementing effective exposure reduction controls (eliminate, isolate, local ventilation, wet cutting, work practices, etc), along with use of eye protection and coveralls to prevent taking material home with employee’ work clothes. Meanwhile, or if engineering controls are not feasible, an effective respirator protection program must be relied upon as a last resort.**

For activities falling within the scope Section 1530.1, much of what is covered by this E-tool is automatically incumbent upon an employer to implement unless the employer can clearly demonstrate that employees will not be exposed above Cal/OSHA allowable exposure levels for the various crystalline forms of silica. Refer to Section 1530.1 for details.

## [1530.1 FAQs](#)

In particular, take a look at Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations (T8CCR), Sections:

- [1509](#): *Injury and Illness Prevention Program* (construction)
- [1530](#): *General Requirements of Mechanical Ventilation Systems* (construction)
- [1530.1](#): *Control of Employee Exposures from Dust-Generating Operations Conducted on Concrete and Masonry Materials*

Important Note for Section 1530.1: “*This section does not preclude the application of other sections of Title 8 including, but not limited to, Sections 1509, 1530, 3203, 5141, 5143, 5144, 5155, and 5194.*”

Keep this “Note” in mind when you consider the seven (7) exempted construction activities. Even though these specific activities are exempted by 1530.1, excessive exposures to crystalline silica can not necessarily be ruled out. **You must still evaluate the potential exposures to silica and control as necessary.**

### [1530.1 FAQs](#)

- [3203](#): *Injury and Illness Prevention Program* (general industry)
- [5141](#): *Control of Harmful Exposure to Employees*
- [5143](#): *General Requirements of Mechanical Ventilation Systems*
- [5144](#): *Respiratory Protective Equipment*
- [5155](#): *Airborne Contaminants*
- [5194](#): *Hazard Communication*

Depending on what your employees work with, you may also want to take a look at other things besides silica, such as:

- 1529: [Asbestos](#)
- 1532: [Cadmium](#)
- 1532.1: [Lead](#)
- 1532.2: [Hexavalent Chrome](#)
- 1535: [Methylenedianiline](#)
- 1521: Excessive Noise Exposure – i.e. [Ear Protection](#)

Reference [Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations](#) other Cal/OSHA requirements not addressed above.

The following is a **Crossover Cal/OSHA and Fed/OSHA Code comparison (No guaranties for accuracy made.)**.