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THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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To: CSU Presidents

From: Jackie R. McClain
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Human Resources



Subject: Emergency Regulations on Heat Illness Prevention

On August 12, 2005, the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted to adopt an emergency standard (regulation) on heat illness prevention, proposed by the California Division of Occupational Safety of Health (CalOSHA). **The new regulation took effect on August 22, 2005, and remains in effect until December 21, 2005.** This memorandum provides a summary of the new regulation, an overview of campus requirements, an outline of required training and available Web resources.

Summary of New Regulation

The Heat Illness Prevention regulation, located in Section 3395 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, is provided in Attachment A. The new regulation applies to all outdoor places of employment when environmental risk factors for heat illness are present. The regulation requires all of the following:

1. All employees who work outdoors in the heat and all supervisors who supervise these employees must be trained on the risks and prevention of heat illness, including how to recognize symptoms and respond when they appear.
2. Drinking water must be available to employees who work outdoors in the heat at all times (one quart per hour).
3. Employees must have access to a shaded area to prevent or recover from heat illness symptoms.

Campus Requirements

Pursuant to the new regulation, campuses are responsible for all of the following:

1. Assuring that adequate water and shade are available at a job site that is outdoors and in the heat.
2. Identifying all employees who are required to work outdoors where potential heat illness could occur.
3. Identifying supervisors of the employees defined in #2 above.
4. Providing required training to all potentially impacted employees and their supervisors, as summarized below.

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Employee Training Requirements

Each campus must provide training to all employees who work outdoors in the heat. Training must address all of the following:

- Environmental and personal risk factors for heat illness.
- Procedures for identifying, evaluating, and controlling exposures to the environmental and personal risk factors for heat illness.
- Importance of frequent consumption of water under extreme conditions.
- Importance of acclimatization.
- Different types, signs, and symptoms of heat illness.
- Importance of immediately reporting symptoms or signs of heat illness.
- Procedures for responding to symptoms of possible heat illness, including how emergency medical services will be provided should they become necessary.
- Procedures for contacting emergency medical services, and if necessary, for transporting employees to a point where they can be reached by an emergency medical service provider.
- How to provide clear and precise directions to the work site.

Supervisor Training Requirements

Supervisors who supervise employees who work outdoors in the heat must receive special training. For purposes of this training, supervisor includes any individual with the authority to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or the responsibility to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend that action, if the exercise of that authority requires the use of independent judgment. It is the responsibility of each campus to determine who meets this definition of supervisor.

Training for the identified supervisors must address all of the following:

- Information that needs to be provided to employees who work outdoors in the heat, as detailed above in Employee Training Requirements.
- Procedures that the supervisor needs to follow to implement the new Heat Illness Prevention regulation.
- Procedures the supervisor needs to follow when an employee exhibits symptoms consistent with possible heat illness, including emergency response procedures.

Web Resources

To assist campuses with the mandatory training, CalOSHA provides comprehensive Web resources at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/HeatIllnessInfo.html>

Questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to Human Resources Administration at (562) 951-4411. This document also is available on the Human Resources Web page at: <http://www.calstate.edu/HRAdm/memos.shtml>.

JRMcC/gc

STANDARDS PRESENTATION
TO
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD

ATTACHMENT A
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PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,
TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Add Section 3395 as follows:

§3395. Heat Illness Prevention.

(a) Scope and Application. This section applies to the control of risk of occurrence of heat illness. This section is not intended to exclude the application of other sections of Title 8, including, but not necessarily limited to, sections 1230(a), 1512, 1524, 3203, 3363, 3400, 3439, 3457, 6251, 6512, 6969, 6975, 8420 and 8602(e). This section applies to all outdoor places of employment at those times when the environmental risk factors for heat illness, as defined in (b), are present.

Note No. 1: The measures required here may be integrated into the employer's Injury and Illness Program required by section 3203.

Note No. 2: This standard is enforceable by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health pursuant to Labor Code sections 6308 and 6317 and any other statutes conferring enforcement powers upon the Division. It is a violation of Labor Code sections 6310, 6311, and 6312 to discharge or discriminate in any other manner against employees for exercising their rights under this or any other provision offering occupational safety and health protection to employees.

(b) Definitions.

"Acclimatization" means temporary adaptation of the body to work in the heat that occurs gradually when a person is exposed to it. Acclimatization peaks in most people within four to fourteen days of regular work for at least two hours per day in the heat.

"Heat Illness" means a ~~group~~ of serious medical ~~conditions~~ condition resulting from the body's inability to cope with a particular heat load, and includes heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat syncope and heat stroke.

"Environmental risk factors for heat illness" means working conditions that ~~affect~~ create the possibility that heat illness could occur, including air temperature, relative humidity, radiant heat from the sun and other sources, conductive heat sources such as the ground, air movement, workload severity and duration, protective clothing and personal protective equipment worn by employees.

"Personal risk factors for heat illness" means factors such as an individual's age, degree of acclimatization, health, water consumption, alcohol consumption, caffeine consumption, and use of prescription medications that affect the body's water retention or other physiological responses to heat.

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“Preventative recovery period” means a period of time to recover from the heat in order to prevent heat illness.

“Shade” means blockage of direct sunlight. Canopies, umbrellas and other temporary structures or devices may be used to provide shade. One indicator that blockage is sufficient is when objects do not cast a shadow in the area of blocked sunlight. Shade is not adequate when heat in the area of shade defeats the purpose of shade, which is to allow the body to cool. For example, a car sitting in the sun does not provide acceptable shade to a person inside it, unless the car is running with air conditioning.

(c) Provision of Water. Employees shall have access to potable drinking water meeting the requirements of Sections 1524, 3363, and 3457, as applicable. Water shall be provided in sufficient quantity at the beginning of the work shift to provide one quart per employee per hour for drinking for the entire shift. Employers may begin the shift with smaller quantities of water if they have effective procedures for replenishment during the shift as needed to allow employees to drink one quart or more per hour. The frequent drinking of water, as described in (e), shall be encouraged.

(d) Access to Shade. Employees suffering from heat illness or believing a preventative recovery period is needed, shall be provided access to an area with shade that is either open to the air or provided with ventilation or cooling for a period of no less than five minutes. Such access to shade shall be permitted at all times.

(e) Training.

(1) Employee training. Training in the following topics shall be provided to all supervisory and non-supervisory employees.

- (A) The environmental and personal risk factors for heat illness;
- (B) The employer's procedures for identifying, evaluating, and controlling exposures to the environmental and personal risk factors for heat illness;
- (C) The importance of frequent consumption of small quantities of water, up to 4 cups per hour under extreme conditions of work and heat;
- (D) The importance of acclimatization;
- (E) The different types of heat illness and the common signs and symptoms of heat illness;
- (F) The importance of immediately reporting to the employer, directly or through the employee's supervisor, symptoms or signs of heat illness in themselves, or in co-workers;
- (G) The employer's procedures for responding to symptoms of possible heat illness, including how emergency medical services will be provided should they become necessary;
- (H) Procedures for contacting emergency medical services, and if necessary, for transporting employees to a point where they can be reached by an emergency medical service provider;
- (I) How to provide clear and precise directions to the work site.

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION
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CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

**PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,
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(2) Supervisor training. Prior to assignment to supervision of employees working in the heat, training on the following topics shall be provided:

(A) The information required to be provided by section (e)(1) above.

(B) The procedures the supervisor is to follow to implement the applicable provisions in this section.

(C) The procedures the supervisor is to follow when an employee exhibits symptoms consistent with possible heat illness, including emergency response procedures.

(f) Review.

No later than January 1, 2006, the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board shall review the feasibility of providing shade for all rest periods at outdoor places of employment.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.