

Asbestos abatement training

Core competencies for Level 3 certification

Approved training providers for Level 3 asbestos abatement certification will be required to offer curriculum that covers the following core competencies.

Everyone has a role to play in workplace safety. However, Level 3: Asbestos Safety Leader certification is designed for supervisors and others who are responsible for ensuring health and safety at asbestos abatement worksites. The person(s) holding this responsibility may not have the title of supervisor. In this document, the term supervisor is meant to apply to whomever (e.g., manager, foreman, lead) is responsible for ensuring worksite health and safety.

Note: Level 2 certification is a prerequisite for Level 3.

For more information on becoming a WorkSafeBC-approved training provider for people performing asbestos abatement work, please see our webpage [For asbestos abatement training providers](#) or contact Certification Services at certification@worksafebc.com.

Please note: The requirements below are subject to change.

Section 1: Asbestos Safety Leader

Asbestos Safety Leader: Asbestos

- Identify the different types of asbestos-containing materials and associated hazards workers are likely to encounter and the associated risks (moderate or high) to their health based on work activity.
- Develop general and site-specific safe work procedures for the safe handling of asbestos, and assess the effectiveness of these safe work procedures.
- Review exposure control plans and respond to required changes in the hazardous materials survey and safe work procedures.
- Interpret air-monitoring results and take appropriate actions in response to results to address exposure risks.
- Identify when an occupational hygiene consultant is required for hazardous materials inspections, assessment, sampling, and similar work.

Asbestos Safety Leader: Health

- Identify workers who are unfit to safely perform work due to physical or mental impairment, and follow workplace impairment policy and procedures.

Asbestos Safety Leader: *Workers Compensation Act* and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation

- Identify the roles and responsibilities of workers, supervisors, and employers under the *Workers Compensation Act*.
- Define supervising as directing workers (a supervisor doesn't need to officially have the title of supervisor).
- Explain responsibilities and general duties associated with the supervisor role in asbestos abatement work.
- Regularly check on workers to ensure they are doing their work safely.
- Correct unsafe acts and conditions immediately.
- Conduct inspections to ensure safe work practices are being followed and to identify potentially unsafe conditions.
- Demonstrate effective note taking and record keeping.
- Describe the key components of an occupational health and safety program as set out in Part 3 of the OHS Regulation.

Asbestos Safety Leader: Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Explain considerations for selection of an appropriate respirator.
- Demonstrate user seal check and flow check for a respirator.

Section 2: Planning for abatement work and initial site meeting

- Outline the methods to ensure workers follow site-specific and safe work procedures.
- Identify the required documentation (e.g., notice of project, safe work procedures, hazardous materials survey) that must be available on site.
- Coordinate the safety of third-party service providers (e.g., consultants, suppliers) and other site occupants (including tenants in occupied buildings and other trades who may be working on site).
- Determine how water and power will be provided to the site to allow abatement work to be performed properly and safely (e.g., providing water for washing and wetting materials, and power for lighting, negative air unit, and heat).

Section 3: Set-up

- Review site-specific risk assessments.
- Facilitate pre-abatement inspection.
- Review the hazardous materials survey to ensure that it aligns with the conditions on site.
- Recognize discrepancies in the survey and arrange for sampling.
- Conduct and respond to dynamic risk assessment.
- Monitor site-changing conditions.
- Lead a workplace orientation.
- Review risks and site-specific details with workers.
- Review all necessary documentation and identify where it is located on the worksite.
- Determine that necessary control measures are in place before and during abatement activities.

Section 4: Abatement

- Recognize the impact of removal of asbestos-containing materials on interior and structural finishes on buildings/structures.
- Explain the rationale for air monitoring and ensure workers can do the same.
- Review occupational air-monitoring results, if required, and communicate the results and any required changes to the containment methods or safe work practices to lower workers' risk of exposure.