

LABOR CABINET
Department of Workplace Standards
Division of Occupational Safety and Health Compliance
Division of Occupational Safety and Health Education and Training
(Amendment)

803 KAR 2:306. Occupational health and environmental control [~~controls~~].

RELATES TO: KRS Chapter 338, 29 C.F.R. 1910.6, 1910.94-1910.98

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 338.051(3), 338.061

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 338.051(3) requires the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to ~~[adopt and]~~ promulgate occupational safety and health administrative regulations and authorizes the chairman to reference federal standards without board approval if necessary to meet federal time requirements. KRS 338.061 authorizes the board to establish, modify, or repeal standards and reference federal standards [necessary to accomplish the purposes of KRS Chapter 338]. This administrative regulation establishes the occupational health and environmental control standards that are [to be] enforced by the Department of Workplace Standards in general industry.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Act" means KRS Chapter 338.

(2) "Assistant Secretary~~[of Labor]~~" means Secretary, Labor Cabinet, or Commissioner, Department of Workplace Standards, Labor Cabinet.

(3) "C.F.R." means Code of Federal Regulations.

(4) "Standard" is ~~[means "occupational safety and health standard" as]~~ defined by KRS 338.015(3).

(5) "U.S. Department of Labor" means Kentucky Labor Cabinet, Mayo-Underwood Building, 3rd Floor [U.S. 127 South], Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, or the U.S. Department of Labor.

Section 2. Except as modified by the definitions in Section 1 ~~[of this administrative regulation]~~ and the requirements established in Section 3 of this administrative regulation, general industry shall comply with 29 C.F.R. 1910, Subpart G, Occupational Health and Environmental Control [the following federal requirements] published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and the Records Services, General Services Administration[:

(1) ~~29 C.F.R. 1910.94-1910.98 and Appendices, revised July 1, 2013; and~~

(2) ~~The amendment to 29 C.F.R. 1910.97 published in the June 13, 2013 Federal Register, Volume 78, Number 114 and corrected and confirmed in the November 6, 2013 Federal Register, Volume 78, Number 215].~~

Section 3. Occupational Noise Exposure. (1)(a)The language relating to audiometric test requirements for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(h)(1).

(b) 1. Audiometric tests shall be pure tone, air conduction, hearing threshold examinations with test frequencies including as a minimum 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, and 6,000 Hz.

2. Testing at 8,000 Hz shall be included in the audiometric tests for employers using audiometers with that capacity and all audiometric tests shall include 8,000 Hz.

(2)(a) The language relating to audiometric test requirements for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(h)(4).

(b) 1. Audiometric examinations shall be administered in a room meeting the requirements

listed in 29 C.F.R. 1910.95, Appendix D, [:] Audiometric Test Rooms.

2. If an audiometric test room is located in a mobile test van, background sound pressure level measurements shall be taken at each testing location.

(3)(a) The language relating to audiometric test requirements for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(h)(5)(ii).

(b) Audiometer calibration shall be checked acoustically at least annually in accordance with subsection (7)(b) of this section[: ~~Acoustic Calibration of Audiometers~~].

1. Test frequencies below 500 Hz and above 8,000 Hz may be omitted from this check.

2. Deviations of fifteen (15) decibels or greater shall require an exhaustive calibration.

(4)(a) The language relating to audiometric test requirements for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(h)(5)(iii).

(b)1. An exhaustive calibration shall be performed at least every two (2) years in accordance with sections 4.1.2; 4.1.3; 4.1.4.3; 4.2; 4.4.1; 4.4.2; 4.4.3; and 4.5 of the American National Standard Specification for Audiometers, S3.6-1969.

2. Test frequencies below 500 Hz and above 8,000 Hz may be omitted from this calibration.

(5)(a) The language relating to access to information and training materials requirements for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(l)(1).

(b) The employer shall make available to affected employees or their representatives copies of this standard and shall also post a notice of the availability of this standard in the workplace.

(6)(a) The language relating to exemptions to the administrative regulation for occupational noise exposure requirements in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(o).

(b) 29 C.F.R. 1910.95(c) through (n) and subsections (1) through (5) of this section shall not apply to employers engaged in oil and gas well drilling and servicing operations, agriculture, or construction.

(7)(a) The language relating to acoustical calibration of audiometers for occupational noise exposure in paragraph (b) of this subsection shall apply in lieu of 29 C.F.R. 1910.95, Appendix E.

(b) Acoustic Calibration of Audiometers.

1. Subparagraphs 2 through 5 of this paragraph shall be mandatory.

2. Audiometer calibration shall be checked acoustically, at least annually, according to the procedures established in subparagraphs 2 through 5 of this paragraph.

a. The equipment necessary to perform these measurements shall be a sound level meter, octave-band filter set, and a National Bureau of Standards 9A coupler.

b. In making these measurements, the accuracy of the calibrating equipment shall be sufficient to determine that the audiometer is within the tolerances permitted by American Standard Specification for Audiometers, S3.6-1969.

3. Sound pressure output check.

a. Place the earphone coupler over the microphone of the sound level meter and place the earphone on the coupler.

b. Set the audiometer's hearing threshold level (HTL) dial to seventy (70) dB.

c. Measure the sound pressure level of the tones that each test frequency from 500 Hz through 8,000 Hz for each earphone.

d. At each frequency the readout on the sound level meter should correspond to the levels in Table E-1 or Table E-2 of this administrative regulation, as appropriate for the type of earphone, in the column entitled "sound level meter reading".

4. Linearity check.

a. With the earphone in place, set the frequency to 1,000 Hz and the HTL dial on the

audiometer to seventy (70) dB.

b. Measure the sound levels in the coupler at each ten (10) dB decrement from seventy (70) dB to ten (10) dB, noting the sound level meter reading at each setting.

c. For each ten (10) dB decrement on the audiometer the sound level meter shall indicate a corresponding ten (10) dB decrease.

d. This measurement may be made electrically with a voltmeter connected to the earphone terminals.

5.[a.] Tolerances.

a. If any of the measured sound levels deviate from the levels in Table E-1 or Table E-2 of this administrative regulation plus or minus three (3) dB at any test frequency between 500 and 3,000 Hz, four (4) dB at 4,000 Hz, or five (5) dB at 6,000 Hz and 8,000 Hz, the employer shall consider conducting an exhaustive calibration.

b. The employer shall conduct an exhaustive calibration if the deviations are greater than ten (10) dB at any test frequency.

TABLE E-1 REFERENCE THRESHOLD LEVELS FOR TELEPHONICS-TDH-39 EARPHONES		
Frequency, Hz	Reference threshold level for TDH-39 earphones, Db	Sound level meter reading dB
500	11.5	81.5
1000	7.07	77.0
2000	9.07	79.0
3000	10.0	80.0
4000	9.57	79.5
6000	15.5	85.5
8000	13.0	83.0

TABLE E-2 REFERENCE THRESHOLD LEVELS FOR TELEPHONICS-TDH-49 EARPHONES		
Frequency, Hz	Reference threshold level for TDH-49 earphones, dB	Sound level meter reading, dB
500	13.5	83.5
1000	7.5	77.5
2000	11.0	81.0
3000	9.5	79.5
4000	10.5	80.5
6000	13.5	83.5
8000	13.0	83.0

LARRY ROBERTS, Secretary

APPROVED BY AGENCY: April 26, 2021

FILED WITH LRC: April 27, 2021 at 9:39 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on July 21, 2021 at 10:00 am (ET). The meeting will be conducted by live videoconference (ZOOM) pursuant to Senate Bill 150, Section 1, subparagraph (8) b (2020) and the continuing state of emergency. Public access to the meeting will be available at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86731399141?pwd=Q2VOcDQ3ZkVBaUtoNERCMTNlZzZJZz09>, password 446261; or by telephone at (713) 353-0212, (888) 822-7517 toll free, conference code 194378. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing five (5) working days prior to the hearing of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be canceled. This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to attend the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through July 31, 2021. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Robin Maples, OSH Standards Specialist, Labor Cabinet, Mayo-Underwood Building, 500 Mero Street, 3rd Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, phone (502) 564-4107, fax (502) 564-4769, email Robin.Maples@ky.gov.

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact person: Robin Maples

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does: Section 1 of this administrative regulation, effective since December 15, 1989, defines terms not used in the federal standard. Section 2 adopts the requirements of 29 C.F.R. 1910, Subpart G, Occupational Health and Environmental Control. Section 3 maintains occupational noise exposure language relating to audiometric test frequency, mobile test van pressure level measurements, audiometer calibration, employee notice of the standard, and the exemption for oil and gas well drilling and servicing operations. This amendment also updates this administrative regulation to meet KRS Chapter 13A considerations and was reviewed in accordance with House Bill (HB) 50 from the Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly. Amendments to this regulation are technical and maintain consistency with other regulations.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation was reviewed in accordance with HB 50 from the Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly. This regulation is necessary to meet the requirements established in Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), and 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a), which all require Kentucky occupational safety and health (OSH) regulations to be as effective as the federal requirements. This regulation is equivalent.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: KRS 338.051(3) requires the Kentucky OSH Standards Board to promulgate OSH administrative regulations. This regulation is necessary to meet the requirements established in Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), and 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a), which all require Kentucky OSH regulations to be as effective as the federal requirements. This regulation complies and conforms with the authorizing statutes.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This administrative regulation promotes worker safety and health throughout Kentucky and ensures the state is as effective as the federal requirement. This regulation is necessary to meet the requirements established in Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), and 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a), which all require Kentucky OSH regulations to be as effective as the federal requirements. This regulation is equivalent.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: Section 1 of this administrative regulation, effective since December 15, 1989, defines terms not used in the federal standard. Section 2 adopts the requirements of 29 C.F.R. 1910, Subpart G, Occupational Health and Environmental Control. Section 3 maintains occupational noise exposure language relating to audiometric test frequency, mobile test van pressure level measurements, audiometer calibration, employee notice of the standard, and the exemption for oil and gas well drilling and servicing operations. This amendment also updates this administrative regulation to meet KRS Chapter 13A considerations and was reviewed in accordance with HB 50 from the Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly. Amendments to this regulation are technical and maintain consistency with other regulations.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation was reviewed in accordance with HB 50 from the Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly. This regulation is necessary to meet the requirements established in Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), and 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a), which all require Kentucky OSH regulations to be as effective as the federal requirements. This regulation is equivalent.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: KRS 338.051(3) requires the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to promulgate occupational safety and health administrative regulations. This regulation is necessary to meet the requirements established in Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), and 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a), which all require Kentucky OSH regulations to be as effective as the federal requirements. This regulation complies and conforms with the authorizing statutes.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This amendment maintains consistency with the federal requirements. This amendment promotes employee health and safety throughout Kentucky and ensures the state program is as effective as the federal program.

(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation affects all employers in the Commonwealth in general industry covered by KRS Chapter 338.

(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment: No additional compliance duties are imposed and no immediate action is required.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3): There is no additional cost to the OSH Program to

implement this administrative regulation.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3): This administrative regulation promotes worker safety and health throughout Kentucky and ensures the state is as effective as the federal requirement.

(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially: There is no cost to the OSH Program to implement this administrative regulation.

(b) On a continuing basis: There is no continuing cost to the OSH Program to implement this administrative regulation.

(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation: Current state and federal funding.

(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new or by the change if it is an amendment: There is neither an increase in fees nor an increase in funding necessary to implement this amendment.

(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees: This administrative regulation neither establishes any fees nor directly or indirectly increases any fees.

(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied? Tiering is not applied. All employers covered by KRS Chapter 338 are treated equally.

FEDERAL MANDATE ANALYSIS COMPARISON

1. Federal statute or regulation constituting the federal mandate. Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a)

2. State compliance standards. The Kentucky OSH Program is mandated to be at least as effective as the federal requirement. Accordingly, in order to maintain the state program as effective as the federal program, Kentucky must adopt the federal requirement or develop an equivalent standard.

3. Minimum or uniform standards contained in the federal mandate. Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a)

4. Will this administrative regulation impose stricter requirements, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements, than those required by the federal mandate? Yes.

5. Justification for the imposition of the stricter standard, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements: This amendment maintains occupational noise exposure language relating to audiometric test frequency, mobile test van pressure level measurements, audiometer calibration, employee notice of the standard, and the exemption for oil and gas well drilling and servicing operations.

FISCAL NOTE ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. What units, parts or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation? This administrative regulation affects any unit, part, or division of state or local government covered by KRS Chapter 338 in general industry.

2. Identify each state or federal statute or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation. KRS 338.051, KRS 338.061, Public Law 91-596 84 STAT. 1590 Section 18 (OSH Act of 1970), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(c), 29 C.F.R. 1902.3(d), 29

C.F.R. 1953.1(a), 29 C.F.R. 1953.1(b), 29 C.F.R. 1956.2(a)

3. Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect. None.

(a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year? None.

(b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years? None.

(c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year? There are no costs associated with this amendment.

(d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years? There are no costs associated with this amendment.

Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.

Revenues (+/-): Unknown.

Expenditures (+/-): Unknown.

Other explanation: This amendment does not impose any additional requirements or expenditures.