

Setting up Health and Safety for your trade business

If you're the business owner or sole trader, make sure you have processes in place for the following areas

- Hazards and risks
- Training and competency
- Emergencies and incidents
- Plant, machinery, and equipment
- Hazardous substances
- Health monitoring
- Consulting and sharing information with workers

Arriving at a construction site

- Read the Site Specific Safety Plan: A Site Specific Safety Plan* outlines what hazards have been identified for the site, what control measures the builder has put in place, key emergency arrangements, and any site-specific rules.
- Complete the site induction: Inductions contain important information you need to know about the site and also record you have acknowledged and understood the site conditions.
- Sign onto site if required by the builder: You may be required to sign in and out of the site so that the builder can keep a record of who is on-site.

Working on site

- Start off on the right foot with a Risk Assessment prior to starting a new task or activity: Check your work site is safe and any new hazards are identified and managed.
- Complete a SWMS before performing high-risk construction work: You may need to provide a copy of the SWMS to the Builder, so check with them before starting work.
- Consult and communicate with a Toolbox meeting once a week/fortnight: Share and capture what's happening on-site, including hazards, incidents and corrective actions.
- Report all incidents as they happen, including near misses: Reporting and investigating incidents helps you take action to minimise the chance of it happening again. If you're working on a construction site, make sure you notify the builder as soon as possible.
- Check your vehicle once a month: Check when your service is due, check the emergency equipment such as the first aid kit and fire extinguisher and the condition of the vehicle.
- Review and monitor: Regularly take stock of your site or work area by completing a Site Review. You may also be asked to join in on an inspection or audit with the builder.

*Note: The Site Specific Safety Plan is also known as a Health and Safety Coordination Plan (HSCP) in Victoria or WHS Management Plan in other states/ territories.

Want an easier way to stay on top of health and safety?

Contact us for a free trial





