#### **Mine Safety and Health Administration**

# MSHA Frequently Asked Questions

## Information for miners

Injury reporting

Training,
Education,
and
Certifications

Part 90

Information for mine operators

Contractor

**Tech Support** 

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List of digital resources

### **Lapse in Appropriations**

For workplace safety and health, please call 800-321-6742; for mine safety and health, please call 800-746-1553; for Job Corps, please call 800-733-5627 and for Wage and Hour, please call 1-866-487-9243 (1 866-4-US-WAGE). This website is currently not being updated due to the suspension of Federal government services. The last update to the site was 10/1/2025. Updates to the site will start again when the Federal government resumes operations.

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# Submit Feedback

### **Information for miners**

#### If my workplace is unsafe, what can I do?

A "hazardous condition complaint" is any communication from a miner, representative of miners, or other person describing an alleged imminent danger, a violation of a mandatory safety or health standard, or a violation of the Mine Act at a mine. Hazardous conditions may be reported anonymously by calling <u>1-800-746-1553</u>, staffed 24-hours a day, or online through <u>MSHA's Hazardous Condition Complaint system</u>. En español: <u>Reportar una condición peligrosa en una mina</u>.

If you have any questions or additional concerns, you may also direct them to <u>AskMSHA@dol.gov</u>.

#### Who can file a complaint and what are the steps?

Miners, their representatives, and members of the public may call the MSHA emergency line at 1-800-746-1553 to report a hazardous condition at a mine, an impoundment, or an abandoned mine. Please provide as much information as possible, including the name of the mine and the mine operator, and its location. <u>A hazardous condition may also be reported</u> online.

What should I do if I've been fired or punished for reporting safety or health concerns? You can contact your MSHA district office or call 1-800-746-1553 to report your situation.

You are protected from retaliation for **identifying hazards**, asking for **inspections**, or **refusing to engage in unsafe acts**.

<u>Section 105(c)</u> of the Mine Act prohibits persons from discriminating against miners, applicants for employment and representatives of miners for exercising statutory rights especially concerning safety or health activities, such as identifying hazards, asking for MSHA inspections, or refusing to engage in unsafe acts.

#### Has my employer ever been cited by MSHA?

You can find information about specific mines in the <u>Mine Data Retrieval System</u> (MDRS). The MDRS includes data on:

- 1. Type of mine
- 2. Mine status
- 3. Mineral mined
- 4. MSHA inspections
- 5. Accidents

#### 6. MSHA violations

If you don't know your MSHA Contractor ID, refer to your MSHA Annual Summary report provided by MSHA, contact your <u>local MSHA office</u>, or you can use the field to search for your contractor name.

If you have questions about using the tool, please email MSHA Data Group

I worked as a miner about eight years ago and am thinking about going back to the mines. Am I still considered an "experienced miner?"

Under 30 CFR Part 48 subpart A, an individual who receives 40 hours of training and works for 12 months as an underground miner is considered an "experienced miner."

Under <u>30 CFR Part 48 subpart B</u>, an individual who received 25 hours of training and works for 12 months as a surface miner is considered an "experienced miner."

Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules require that any experienced miner who has been away from mining for more than five years receive 8 hours of "experienced miner" training before returning to the mine.

If you do not have the 12 months of mining experience, you will need to receive 40 hours of "new miner" training. Some states have additional training requirements for miners. You may want to contact the appropriate agency in your state regarding specific requirements.

The MSHA web site has a <u>listing of state agency contacts</u>.

#### How can I get my MIIN or miner's individual identification number?

You can receive your MIIN by contacting MSHA Educational Policy and Development (EPD) by calling 303-231-5472 or the toll free number at 1-800-579-2647. You can email EPD at <a href="mailto:zzMSHAEPDQC@dol.gov">zzMSHAEPDQC@dol.gov</a> or look up your number on the <a href="mailto:eGov website">eGov website</a>.

If your address has changed since you first received your instructor certification, please include both the previous address and your current mailing address. Once your request is processed, you will receive your new card in 10-14 business days.

#### How can I verify employment for an MSHA staff member?

The Department of Labor uses The Work Number® automated service to handle employment verifications within a matter of minutes. The Work Number® is a quick, accurate, and secure way to verify DOL employees' verification for things like mortgage applications, reference checks, loan applications, apartment leases, and anything that requires proof of employment.

To obtain Proof of Employment for an MSHA employee, visit <u>The Work Number Verifier</u> website using DOL's Employer Code: 10915. You may also contact the service directly via phone at: 1-800-367-5690.

#### How can I order copies of MSHA publications like the Miners' Rights handbook?

MSHA publications can be ordered through the National Mine Health and Safety Academy. Email <a href="mailto:zzmsha-acaddistctr@dol.gov">zzmsha-acaddistctr@dol.gov</a> to order the publications you need.

Forms Fatality Database Support & Resources Frequently Asked Questions



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www.msha.gov

202-693-9400

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LABOR DEPARTMENT ■

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<u>Disaster Recovery Assistance Agencies</u>

<u>USA.gov</u> <u>Contact DOL</u>

No FEAR Act Data <u>Emergency Accountability Status Link</u>

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