

# Occupational Health & Safety Officer

Occupational health & safety officers work to reduce health and safety issues, and injuries and accidents in the workplace. They also design programs to prevent disease or injury to workers and damage to the environment.



## Overview

Occupational health and safety officers coordinate health and safety systems in an organisation. They identify hazards, assess risks to health and safety, put appropriate safety controls in place and provide advice about accident prevention and occupational health to management and employees. With experience and sometimes further training, occupational health and safety officers may become auditors, who inspect a workplace's level of compliance with health and safety standards.



## Day-to-day

- Identify potential hazards in the workplace
- Inspect and evaluate workplace environments and practices for compliance
- Advise on the use of protective clothing or equipment
- Investigate and maintain records of accidents and incidents to identify their causes and to determine how they might be prevented
- Conduct training on a variety of topics, such as emergency preparedness
- Create health and safety policies
- Ensure employers and workers put policies into practice and follow safety laws
- Keep up to date with changes in the law

## To become an Occupational Health & Safety Officer

Occupational health and safety specialists typically need at least a VET qualification in work health & safety. Some employers will require a bachelor's degree in occupational health, safety, or a related scientific or technical field.

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