1 Introduction

1.1 Federal and State Standards

1.1.1 Public Law 91-596 entitled “Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970” (commonly known as “OSHA”), directed the U.S. Secretary of Labor to formulate regulations governing occupational health and safety standards. The North Carolina Commissioner of Labor, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 95-133, has the responsibility for the adoption and promulgation of occupational standards, regulations and safety and health rules for the protection of employees in North Carolina. All adopted standards are included in 13 NCAC Subchapter 7C of the North Carolina Administrative Code.

1.2 State of North Carolina

1.2.1 The State of North Carolina has an approved State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health which vests the administration and enforcement authority for all matters relating to occupational safety and health in the North Carolina Department of Labor, Division of Occupational Safety and Health. The State standards must be as effective as the counterpart Federal standards. In order to meet this obligation, North Carolina has adopted by reference, as provided by law, the OSHA Standards for General Industry (29 CFR Part 1910) and the OSHA Standards for the Construction Industry (29 CFR Part 1926).

2 Scope

2.1 The Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina (OSH Act) specifies that ALL employees of ALL employers, including State agencies, are covered under the OSH Act pursuant to NCGS 95-127 (9) and (10), NCGS 95-128, NCGS 95-129, and NCGS 95-130. In addition, the N.C. Secretary of Labor has the authority to promulgate standards different from, or in addition to, the Federal OSHA standards; this includes revisions and amendments that are also applicable to Appalachian State University. The North Carolina Office of State Personnel may also enact additional workplace requirements for Safety & Health applicable to the University.

3 Definitions

3.1 OSHA

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

4 Policy and Procedure Statements

4.1 Scope of OSHA Regulations

4.1.1 In broad categories, the regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Standards cover the following:

1. The work place, including specific work sites.
2. Machines and equipment.
3. Materials and supplies.
4. Employee safety and health.
5. Power sources.
6. Operational processes.
7. Toxic and hazardous substance exposures.

4.1.2 More specifically, these regulations are grouped under the following headings:

1. Walking/working surfaces
2. Means of egress
3. Powered platforms, manlifts, and vehicle-mounted work platforms
4. Occupational health and environmental control
5. Hazardous materials
6. Personal protective equipment  
7. General environmental controls  
8. Medical and first aid  
9. Fire protection  
10. Compressed gas and compressed air equipment  
11. Materials handling and storage  
12. Machinery and machinery guarding  
13. Hand and portable powered tools and other handheld equipment  
14. Welding, cutting and brazing  
15. Special industries (e.g., bakeries, telecommunications, electric power generation, transmission and distribution plants)  
16. Electrical safety  
17. Commercial diving operations  
18. Toxic and hazardous substances  
20. Signs, signals and barricades  
21. Fall protection  
22. Cranes, derricks, hoists, elevators and conveyors  
23. Motor vehicles, mechanized equipment and marine operations  
24. Excavation  
25. Concrete and masonry construction  
26. Demolition

5 Additional References

6 Authority

7 Contact Information

8 Original Effective Date

9 Revision Dates