

Title:	<b>Asbestos</b>	
Purpose:	To establish an asbestos safety program for City and County of Honolulu employees in accordance with the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Law.	
Issued by:	Industrial Safety and Workers' Compensation	Date: August 1, 2019
References:	Historical: Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Title 12, Chapters 145.1 and 206, Asbestos; CS Circulars 1248 (6-6-80), 26-87 (12-2-87), and 5-90 (4-20-90) New: Section 12-60-50, HAR, Title 12, incorporating Title 29, Part 1910.1001 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Asbestos	

## I. **POLICY**

The City and County of Honolulu (City) will administer a continuing, effective asbestos safety program to control employee asbestos exposure to less than the permissible exposure level (PEL), in accordance with Section 12-60-50, HAR, which incorporates Title 29, Part 1910.1001, CFR, as applicable. This policy covers City employees performing Class III or Class IV Asbestos Work. Asbestos work performed outside of these parameters (e.g., Class I or Class II Asbestos Work) will be contracted to qualified and appropriately-licensed vendors.

## II. **APPLICABILITY**

This policy is applicable to all City and County of Honolulu departments, agencies and employees.

## III. **DEFINITIONS**

“Asbestos” is a common name for a group of minerals that include chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite, tremolite asbestos, anthophyllite asbestos, actinolite asbestos and any of these minerals that have been chemically treated or altered.

“Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM)” means any material or product that contains more than one percent asbestos. Asbestos products may include reinforced asbestos cement sheets and pipes, pipe insulation, roofing felt and shingles, floor tiles, patching and taping compounds, brake linings, clutch facings, insulating paper and protective clothing.

“Employee exposure” means exposure to airborne asbestos or a combination of any included minerals that would occur if the employee were not using respiratory protection.

“Permissible Exposure Level (PEL)” means the level of exposure that employees can be exposed to, day after day, without adverse affect.

“Class I Asbestos Work” means activities involving the removal of thermal system insulation (TSI) and surfacing material (SM) ACM and presumed asbestos containing material (PACM).

“Class II Asbestos Work” means activities involving the removal of ACM which is not thermal system insulation or surfacing material. This includes, but is not limited to, the

removal of asbestos-containing wallboard, floor tile and sheeting, roofing and siding shingles, and construction mastics.

“Class III Asbestos Work” means repair and maintenance operations, where "ACM", including TSI and surfacing ACM and PACM, is likely to be disturbed.

“Class IV Asbestos Work” means maintenance and custodial activities during which employees contact but do not disturb ACM or PACM and activities to clean up dust, waste and debris resulting from Class I, II, and III activities.

“Competent person” means, in addition to the definition in 29 CFR 1926.32 (f), one who is capable of identifying existing asbestos hazards in the workplace and selecting the appropriate control strategy for asbestos exposure, who has the authority to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them, as specified in 29 CFR 1926.32(f): in addition, for Class I and Class II work who is specially trained in a training course which meets the criteria of EPA's Model Accreditation Plan (40 CFR 763) for supervisor, or its equivalent and, for Class III and Class IV work, who is trained in a manner consistent with EPA requirements for training of local education agency maintenance and custodial staff as set forth at 40 CFR 763.92 (a)(2).

“Employee exposure” means that exposure to airborne asbestos that would occur if the employee were not using respiratory protective equipment.

#### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES**

Specific responsibilities for the asbestos safety program are established as follows:

##### **A. Department of Human Resources (DHR)**

1. Review and update the asbestos safety program.
2. Advise and assist departments and agencies in implementing their programs.
3. Review, approve and periodically monitor department and agency asbestos safety programs for compliance with Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Law.

##### **B. Departments and Agencies**

Departments are responsible to comply with this policy and 29 CFR 1910.1001. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Administering an Asbestos Safety Program, when applicable, for its employees;
2. Designating an Asbestos Safety Program Coordinator to oversee the Department's Asbestos Safety program; and
3. Communication of asbestos hazards to employees.

**C. Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Health Services**

Develop and implement a written Asbestos Medical Surveillance Program to comply with Section 12-60-50, HAR, which incorporates Title 29, Part 1910.1001, CFR, as applicable, for employees who are or will be exposed to airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers at or above the 0.1 fibers per cubic centimeters and documented by air monitoring results or who are required to wear negative pressure respirators to perform work under this policy.