

WCB WorkSafe™ Education Network and Courses

Information for employers

Who needs training?

If your organization employs more than nine people, you are required under the *Workers Compensation Act* to establish a joint health and safety committee (20+ employees) or designate a worker health and safety representative (9–19 employees).

The *Workers Compensation Act* entitles all committee members and worker representatives to eight hours annual paid educational leave to attend courses conducted or approved by the WCB. One way to meet that requirement is to take WorkSafe courses.

WorkSafe courses, which have been developed by the WCB and meet the requirements under the Act, are available exclusively through members of the WCB WorkSafe Education Network.

Increased training availability

The WCB has recently expanded the WorkSafe Education Network to increase training capacity for employers and workers throughout the province.

The Network now includes training providers from all sectors that meet the criteria the Board has specified. They can offer the WorkSafe courses either to the public or to their own members or employees.

Visit the WorkSafe Courses page of the WCB web site at www.worksafebc.com for:

- A list of current WorkSafe Education Partners (or call the Prevention Information Line at 604 276-3100, toll-free 1 888 621-7233)
- Information about becoming a WorkSafe Education Partner and the criteria that must be met (or call WCB Certification Services at 604 276-3090)

Evaluating a trainer

All members of the WorkSafe Education Network have met the WCB's criteria for WorkSafe partnership. However, as in the selection of any professional service provider, employers must exercise due diligence in assessing and monitoring training providers.

The following suggestions will help you “shop around” for the best training provider for the job:

- Consider whether the course topics and learning objectives address the training needs of the joint committee members or worker representatives.
- Interview potential providers to find out their approach to training, their experience, their plan for conducting the course(s), and their fees. For example:
 - Do they convince you of being knowledgeable about the training topics and being able to actively involve your employees in learning the course content?
 - Do they have adequate facilities to accommodate your group of employees?
 - Do they offer group rates?
 - What training materials will be included?
- Ask for and check their last three clients in your area, if available.
- Determine whether the training provider has experience in your industry or in a closely related area.
 - Is the provider prepared to develop or modify course examples and exercises to suit your employee's background?