

The program includes the extent to which employee certification, at either the State or the utility's organization level, is required as a basis for obtaining or maintaining a position. Records of skills training, whether formal or on-the-job apprenticeship, are maintained and the degree to which completed training is tied to promotion and pay is specified. Finally, the program specifies the skills and on-the-job training required before an employee is permitted to undertake specific work assignments or tasks.

c. Safety Training Program

This program specifies requirements (curriculum) for initial and refresher training to ensure each employee has an adequate level of knowledge regarding on-the-job safety. The program includes the extent to which employee safety certification at the State or at the utility's organization level is required as a basis for obtaining or maintaining a position. Records of safety training, including on-the-job safety meetings, are maintained. Finally, the program specifies the safety training required before an employee is permitted to undertake specific work assignments or tasks.

3. Safety

a. Safety Authority

A Safety Authority (whether a safety department, safety committee, safety officer, or similar mechanism) is present to establish utility safety policy, oversee compliance, and maintain the overall Safety Program. Program maintenance includes specifying safety resources needed for utility activities, assuring record of appropriate standard reporting forms, and establishing a Safety Review Board if appropriate.

b. Confined Space Program

This program provides marking for confined spaces, and uses a permitting system and written standard procedures for confined space entry.

c. General Safety Procedures Program

This program provides instruction in defensive driving, first aid, CPR, personal sanitation, personal protection clothing, and similar general work-related safety issues.

d. Traffic Management Procedures Program

This program provides for standard traffic management techniques, off-hour scheduling of line work, and coordination with law enforcement.

e. Lock-Out/Tag-Out Program

This program provides signs on equipment involved in the program, limitation to authorized personnel, required tag information, and permit requirements.

f. Safety Equipment Program

This program assures the availability of appropriate safety equipment such as tripods and hoists, well-calibrated atmospheric testing equipment, self-contained breathing apparatuses, lights and barricades, exhaust fans, and personal protective clothing.