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4 November 2019

ANNOUNCEMENT TO CHARTER SCHOOLS AUTHORIZED BY THE CHARTER INSTITUTE AT ERSKINE

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

The U.S. EPA Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986 under the **Federal Code of Regulations 40 CFR 763.93g(4)** requires that building occupants (parents, students, staff and teachers) be notified annually of the presence of asbestos in the building and the availability of the Asbestos Management Plan.

Charter Schools have flexibility on a variety of requirements that traditional schools must follow. However, charter schools are not exempt from any requirements regarding health and safety.

<https://www.epa.gov/asbestos/asbestos-and-school-buildings>

- The Institute recommends the schools to notify the occupants by posting the notification on the school website and have the Asbestos Management Plan available at the front office.
- The Institute will require a copy of the Asbestos Management Plan for our documentation.
- Schools must have documentation of an initial inspection.
- Schools must have an Asbestos Management Plan based on the inspection outcome (if asbestos containing materials are found).
- The Asbestos Management Plan should include re-inspection every three years.
- The Asbestos Management plan should include periodic inspections every 6 months.
- The Asbestos Management Plan should include training for occupants.
(Schools can use Safe School software for training all building occupants.)
- The Asbestos Management Plan should include yearly notification parent, teacher, and employee organizations on the availability of the school's asbestos management plan and any asbestos-related actions taken or planned in the school.
- The Asbestos Management Plan should designate a contact person to ensure the responsibilities are properly implemented.
- If the school is in a rental building, the school can contact the building owner to review responsibility for compliance.

Next steps:

By November 25, 2019

*Requirements will be posted on Let's Work Smart

- Submit the documentation of the most recent asbestos inspection report*
- Asbestos Management Plan*
- Update the school website with notification of the presence of any asbestos in the building and the availability of the Asbestos Management Plan.
- Notify the Institute that the school is in the process of conducting the asbestos inspection.

For schools that are in the process of asbestos inspection:

- By January 13, 2019 contract with asbestos inspector and submit the above documents.
- The institute can find one company/consultant to conduct the asbestos inspection for all the schools to cost share.

Sample Asbestos Notification for school website:

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(Identify school name and buildings with asbestos containing materials) except for (Identify a building that does not) contain some amount of building products containing asbestos. The Management Plan identifies the types and locations of asbestos in the building, and identifies inspections, sampling data, and response actions taken by (Identify School).

A copy of the Management Plan is available for review in the school office (Insert Address)

Questions regarding asbestos or the Management Plan can be directed to (Identify Contact person, title, and contact information).

School Asbestos Management Plan Checklist

Public school districts and non-profit schools are required to develop, maintain and update asbestos management plans and to keep a copy at each individual school.

These plans are required to document the recommended asbestos response actions, the location of the asbestos within the school, and any action taken to repair and remove the material.

The school authority must maintain records to be included in the Asbestos Management Plan. These records, among other things, include:

- Name and address of each school building and whether the building has asbestos-containing building material, and the type of asbestos-containing material
- Date of the original school inspection
- Plan for re-inspections
- Blueprint that clearly identifies the location of asbestos-containing building materials that remains in the school
- Description of any response action or preventive measures taken to reduce asbestos exposure
- Copy of the analysis of any building, and the name and address of any laboratory that sampled the material
- Name, address, and telephone number of the “designated person” or contact to ensure the duties of the school district or non-profit private school are carried out
- Description of steps taken to inform workers, teachers, and students or their legal guardians about inspections, re-inspections, response actions, and periodic surveillance

Parents, teachers, and school employees, or their representatives, have the right to inspect the school’s asbestos management plan. Schools are required to notify parent-teacher organizations (such as PTAs) once a year about the availability of the school’s asbestos management plan and asbestos-related activity taking place within the school. The school must make the plan available for inspection within five working days of it being requested.

SEE ADDITIONAL AHERA REQUIREMENTS IN ATTACHED DOCUMENT

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/aherarequirements_1_0.pdfv