

Policy EM: Hazardous Materials

Status: DRAFT

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Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Compliance

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires public school districts to inspect their schools for asbestos-containing building material, prepare management plans, and take action to prevent or reduce asbestos hazards. In order to comply with AHERA, the Jackson County School District will:

1. Perform an original inspection to determine whether asbestos-containing materials are present and then re-inspect asbestos-containing material in each school every three (3) years,
2. Develop, maintain, and update an asbestos management plan and keep a copy at the school,
3. Provide yearly notification to 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,
4. Designate a contact person to ensure the responsibilities of the Jackson County School District are properly implemented.
5. Perform surveillance of each building known or suspected to contain asbestos-containing building material every six (6) months, and
6. Ensure that trained and licensed professionals perform inspections and take response actions.

Each person performing periodic surveillance shall:

1. Visually inspect all areas that are identified in the management plan as asbestos-containing building materials or assumed asbestos-containing building materials.
2. Record the date of the surveillance, his or her name, and any changes in the condition of the materials.
3. Submit to the person designated to carry out general district responsibilities under § 763.84 a copy of such record for inclusion in the management plan.

In addition to the above requirements, the Jackson County School District will ensure that all members of the maintenance and custodial staff who may work in a building with asbestos-containing building materials will have the required asbestos-awareness training of at least two (2) hours, whether or not they are required to work with asbestos-containing building materials. All new custodial staff must be trained within sixty (60) days of hire. Training shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Information regarding asbestos and its various uses and forms.
2. Information on the health effects associated with asbestos exposure.
3. Locations of asbestos-containing building materials identified throughout each school building in which they work.
4. Recognition of damage, deterioration, and delamination of asbestos-containing building materials.
5. Name and telephone number of the person designated to carry out general local district responsibilities under § 763.84 and the availability and location of the management plan.

The district shall ensure that all members of its maintenance and custodial staff who conduct any activities that will result in the disturbance of asbestos-containing building materials shall receive the training described above and fourteen (14) hours of additional training. Additional training shall include, but not limited to:

1. Descriptions of the proper methods of handling asbestos-containing building materials.
2. Information on the use of respiratory protection as contained in the EPA/NIOSH Guide to Respiratory Protection for the Asbestos Abatement Industry, September 1986 (EPA 560/OPPTS-86-001), available from the Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other personal protection measures.
3. The provisions of § 763.91, appendices A, C, and D of this subpart E of this part, EPA regulations contained in 40 CFR part 763, subpart G, and in 40 CFR part 61, subpart M, and OSHA regulations contained in 29 CFR 1926.58.

Hands-on training in the use of respiratory protection, other personal protection measures, and good work practices.
