



Occupational Testing Requirements in **British Columbia**

**SURE
HiRE**
OCCUPATIONAL TESTING

This document outlines the following:

- Worker activities requiring physical assessment
- Regulation / Code name and number
- Required examinations
- Frequency of examinations

DISCLAIMER

This document is current as of the date stamp below. SUREHIRE will review the document bi-annually and will update the information contained within.

SUREHIRE cannot accept responsibility for any incidents arising from changes made by provincial governments in between review dates.

Current to: June, 2023

Worker Activities Requiring Physical Assessment	Regulation / Code Name And Number	Required Testing	Frequency of Examinations
Workers at risk of musculoskeletal injury (MSI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 4, section 4.46 - 4.53 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Demands Analysis/Ergonomic Analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upon identification of risk to workers, and reviewed annually
Workers who may be exposed to asbestos or silica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 5, section 5.54 & Part 6 BC OHS Guidelines Part 5, section G5.54-5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worker Health Monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When required
Workers who may be exposed to lead dust, fumes or mist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 6, section 6.67 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological monitoring (blood lead testing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dependent on outcome of baseline blood lead test (range from none to monthly)
Workers who may be exposed to noise exceeding 85 decibels daily, and/or a peak of 140 decibels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audiometric testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As soon as practicable after employment starts, but no longer than 6 months after the start of employment At least annually after the initial test
<p>When use of a respirator is required.</p> <p><i>Examples: welding, exposure to respiratory silica, asbestos, low oxygen atmospheres, mine rescue, biological agents. Spraying of sensitizing agents diving operations Abrasive blasting. Firefighting</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 8 CSA Standard CAN/CSA-Z94.4-18, Selection, Use, and Care of Respirators Breathe Safer: How to Use Respirators Safely and Start a Respirator Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask fit testing Health Surveillance Questionnaire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly; or When there is a change to the mask being used or significant change to facial structure
Workers who may be exposed to air pressure greater than 7kPa above atmospheric pressure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Workers Compensation Act: Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Part 20, section 20.122 & 20.123 CSA Standard CAN/CSA Z275.3-M86 Occupational Safety Code for Construction Work in Compressed Air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical exam by a physician knowledgeable in hyperbaric medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not specified
Blasters medical surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia 8.3.10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECG Blood methemoglobin test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every 3 years

Worker Activities Requiring Physical Assessment	Regulation / Code Name And Number	Required Testing	Frequency of Examinations
Mining rescue workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Mines Act • Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia 3.7.7 • Western Canada Mine Rescue Manual 1-3, July 2017 • Guidelines for Medical Monitoring Programs in British Columbia Mines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Examination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commencing work as a mine rescue worker
Mine hoist operators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Mines Act • Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia 7.2.7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Examination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commencing work as a mine rescue worker • At least annually after the initial test
<p>Mine workers exposed to any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dust exposure (asbestos, coal, silica), • Excessive noise exposure, • Exposure to chemical, physical, or radiation agent specified by the chief inspector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia 2.12.1 – 2.12.7 	<p>Dust exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical examination • Spirometry • Medical & occupational history • Chest x-ray <p>Noise exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audiometric test <p>Chemical, physical or radiation agent exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determined by chief inspector 	<p>Dust exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commencing work, and • every 2 years for asbestos exposure, • every 2 years for workers 50+ years of age for coal & silica exposure, or • every 4 years for workers under 50 years of age for coal & silica exposure <p>Noise exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commencing work, and • Annually thereafter <p>Chemical, physical or radiation agent exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determined by chief inspector
Commercial vehicle operators (class 1, 2, 3 or 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor Vehicle Act, Chapter 318, section 29(b) • Road Safety BC Driver Medical Fitness (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/driving-and-cycling/roadsafetybc/medical-fitness) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical examination • Vision testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of license application, and • Age 25-45: every 5 years • Age 48 – 63: every 3 years • Age 66+: annually