

Asbestos certification and licensing implementation update

2023 – March: Scope of requirements and levels of worker certification

The provincial government has introduced new protections to help keep workers safe from the danger of asbestos. Under these new requirements (effective date to be determined), asbestos abatement contractors must be licensed to operate in British Columbia, and anyone performing asbestos abatement work must complete mandatory safety training and obtain certificates. WorkSafeBC will be sharing updates on activities in implementing these requirements and upcoming opportunities for workers, employers, and other stakeholders to help shape the deliverables.

Who is required to have a licence or certificate

Information is now available on our website to provide details on which employers will require licensing and which workers will require certification once the requirements take effect. At a high level:

- Employers that offer asbestos abatement services to others related to a building will require a valid license.
- Employers requiring a license will also need to ensure that their asbestos abatement workers are certified.
- Workers require a certificate if they are conducting asbestos abatement work related to a building.

To understand the full scope of the requirements, please see [Asbestos licensing and certification: Who is required to have a licence or certificate](#).

Certification levels for asbestos abatement workers

We have also added information on our website on the different levels of certification that will be required of workers, based on the type of asbestos work they will be doing. To learn more about the levels of certification, please visit our page for [asbestos abatement training providers](#).

We continue to work with potential training providers to ensure they understand the specific competencies and requirements that training programs must address for the provider to be approved. In a future update, we will share information on training providers who have been approved by WorkSafeBC to provide asbestos abatement training to workers. We anticipate that approved training providers will begin offering training by mid-2023.

Information for you

To make it easier for you to find information, we have expanded the Asbestos training, certification & licensing section of the website to include information specifically for:

[Employers](#) / [Independent operators](#) / [Training providers](#) / [Workers](#)