

**OSHA News Alert**

**Some State OSHA Plans Will Enforce The New Silica Dust Standard On June 23, 2017.**

The new Federal OSHA silica dust standard for construction had been scheduled to go into effect on June 23, 2017. However, in April 2017, OSHA announced that it would delay implementing the new standard until September 23, 2017. **Please be advised that some state OSHA programs will begin enforcement on June 23, 2017.**

The state OSHA silica dust standards are substantially similar to the new federal OSHA standard. Like Federal OSHA, most state OSHA programs will delay enforcement of their new standards until the fall.

However, a handful of state OSHA programs have not announced a delay, and will apparently begin enforcement on June 23, 2017. **These states include Kentucky, Virginia, and New York**. Construction industry employers operating in these states must meet the new requirements beginning June 23, 2017.

Under the new standard, the permissible exposure limits for silica dust are roughly 20% of the old permissible exposure limits. Among other requirements, employers must limit silica exposure by using engineering controls (such as water); providing respirators when engineering controls are insufficient; and restricting employee access to high silica exposure areas. Employers must also develop a written exposure control plan and offer medical exams to highly exposed workers.

We will continue to advise you of significant developments. In the meantime, contact [Auman, Mahan & Furry](http://www.amfdayton.com/) with questions regarding your OSHA recordkeeping obligations, as well as any OSHA related matter.

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