



Confined Spaces

Cal/OSHA defines confined spaces as an area that:

- Has an adequate size and configuration for employee entry and work performance.
- Has limited means of entry or outlet.
- Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

A “Permit-required confined space” is a confined space that:

- Is or could contain a hazardous atmosphere.
- Contains materials that could engulf a worker in the space.
- Could close in and trap or asphyxiate a worker.
- Contains any other safety or health hazard.

Before using device to test for fire or explosion hazards, employers must make sure that the device itself does not pose a hazard.

General Requirements

Employers must protect employees from the hazards of permit-required confined spaces by

- Testing for hazards and supplying any necessary personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Providing training as well as rescue team.
- Developing a written safety plan for permit-required confined spaces that requires employees to have a permit to enter confined spaces and to follow detailed safety procedures.
- Posting signs (e.g., “Danger – Permit Required Confined Space, Do Not Enter”) or using other effective means to warn their employees (and other affected employees at multi-employer sites).
- Consulting with employees and their designated representative concerning the confined space program.
- Allowing employees and their authorized representative to observe any testing or monitoring of permit-required confined space.



Entry Permit

An entry permit is required for entry into permit-required confined spaces. The permit must identify the following items:

- Space to be entered.
- Purpose of entry.

- Date and duration of entry.
- Authorized entrants.
- Names of attendants.
- Name and signature of entry supervisor.
- Authorized entrants.
- Names of attendants.
- Name and signature of entry supervisor.
- Hazards.
- Measures used to isolate the space and eliminate or control the hazard before entry.
- Acceptable entry conditions.
- Results of initial and periodic tests, when those tests were performed, and by whom the tests were performed.
- Information on how to summon rescue or emergency services.
- Methods of communications for entrants and attendants.
- Any required equipment, such as PPE or testing, communication, or alarm equipment.
- Additional permits issued (e.g., for hot work).
- Any other information necessary to ensure employee safety.

The permit must be posted at the entrance to the confined space (or made available by other equally effective means) so that entrants can confirm that pre-entry preparations have been completed.

The permit must be canceled when the permitted operations have been completed or when a condition not allowed under the permit arise in or near the permit space. Canceled permits must be retained for at least one year.

For More information on **Confined Spaces** program [Click Here](#)