



ASBESTOS GUIDELINES: Roofing and Siding Contractors

Did you know? If you conduct exterior renovations, including roofing and siding replacements, your work is regulated under Wisconsin asbestos regulation, Wis. Admin. Code ch. DHS 159. Disturbing or removing asbestos-containing material without proper training may put you, your employees, and others at risk for exposure to hazardous asbestos fibers and leave contaminants behind on the property. Workers and others exposed over time are at greater risk for developing life-threatening asbestos-related diseases in the future.

Does my work involve regulated asbestos?

Many exterior building products may contain asbestos, including, but not limited to:

- Transite cement siding and panels
- Slate-transite roofing shingles
- Roofing felts, cements, and flashings

These and other building materials are considered suspect asbestos-containing materials (ACM). They must be treated as if they contain asbestos unless sampled by a certified asbestos inspector or exterior supervisor and proven not to contain asbestos. Suspect ACM includes all untested building materials *except for* wood, metal, glass, and fiberglass.

If your roofing or siding activities include disturbing, replacing, or removing any of these suspect materials, you are required to hire a certified asbestos company or to have your own certified asbestos company with trained and certified exterior asbestos workers and supervisor.

When is certification required?

If your work involves disturbing, replacing, or removing known or suspect ACM on building exteriors, you must be trained and certified.

- If your work involves only building operations and maintenance activities that remove no more than one waste bag (no larger than 60 inches by 60 inches properly filled and sealed) of ACM or suspect ACM, you must complete at least a 16-hour asbestos operations and maintenance training course.
- If your work involves more than one waste bag of ACM or suspect ACM on a building exterior, you must be a certified exterior asbestos company and use a certified exterior asbestos supervisor and exterior workers, at a minimum, or subcontract with a certified exterior asbestos company to conduct the regulated exterior asbestos abatement activities.
- Every project must have a certified exterior asbestos supervisor or asbestos supervisor providing direct on-site supervision.
- Persons certified in an exterior discipline may remove only non-friable ACM on the exterior of a structure that remains non-friable throughout the removal. Friable ACM requires a certified asbestos company using certified asbestos supervisors and workers to conduct the removal.

- “Friable asbestos-containing material” means ACM that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized or reduced to powder by hand pressure, including previously non-friable ACM that is damaged.
- Exterior disciplines may not conduct work on windows or other areas where the barrier between the interior and exterior of the building may be penetrated or broken except under certain approved conditions.

How do I become certified to conduct regulated asbestos activities?

1. *Determine level of certification required.*
 - If you work only on building exteriors such as roofing and siding replacement, you only need to be certified as an exterior supervisor or exterior worker.
 - If you also work on building interiors, including window replacement, you must be certified as an asbestos supervisor or asbestos worker.
2. *Complete required training course.* Training must be taken in Wisconsin.
 - Exterior Asbestos Supervisor: one-day Exterior Asbestos Worker *and* one-day Exterior Asbestos Supervisor course
 - Exterior Asbestos Worker: one-day Exterior Asbestos Worker course
3. *Apply for certification.* After completing training, submit an application with fee, or apply online.
 - Exterior Asbestos Supervisor: \$75 one-year certification fee
 - Exterior Asbestos Worker: \$125 for a non-expiring certification
4. *Apply for company certification.* Exterior asbestos company certification is required. You must work for or have your own certified company. Submit a company application with fee as directed on the form, or apply online.

More Information

Visit our asbestos website at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/asbestos for more information.

- Wisconsin-accredited training providers: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/asbestos/training.
- Certified asbestos companies: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/asbestos/contractors.
- Apply online: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/waldo.
- Ch. DHS 159: www.docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/dhs/110/159.pdf.

For information about other asbestos regulations that may apply to you, visit:

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR): www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/Demo/Asbestos.html
- U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA): www.osha.gov/SLTC/asbestos
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): www.epa.gov/asbestos

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
 Division of Public Health
 Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health
 Lead and Asbestos Section
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