

Common Safety Orientation

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Common Safety Orientation (CSO)?

It is an online course that introduces workers from all sectors of the oil and gas industry to safe work practices and incorporates Energy Safety Canada's 10 Life Saving Rules, which are based on addressing the most at-risk behaviors.

2. How is the CSO being delivered?

There are two ways to take the CSO: online and in a classroom. Upon successful completion workers receive a certificate that does not expire.

3. Who should take the CSO?

The course is aimed at new workers in the oil and gas industry. Workers should consult with their employer to determine which orientation is accepted on their work sites.

4. How will you get broad industry adoption for CSO?

Industry identified the need for a single safety orientation to reduce duplicate training and support the seamless movement of workers between sites. In response to this industry demand, Energy Safety Canada mobilized the Safety Standards Council to develop the CSO and to support broad industry adoption. The Council represents approximately 70 per cent of activity in Canada's oil and gas industry across all sectors and company sizes and serves as the foundation for broad industry adoption.

5. What is happening to BSO, eGSO and PST?

Basic Safety Orientation (BSO), electronic General Safety Orientation (eGSO) and Petroleum Safety Training (PST) will no longer be offered after December 31, 2018.

6. If I lose my certificate for BSO, eGSO or PST can I get a replacement?

Replacement certificates for BSO, eGSO and PST are available for a limited time. After these dates if you lose the certificate for one of these courses, you will be unable to get a replacement ticket and will need to complete the CSO.

eGSO = Replacement Certificates available until December 31, 2018

PST = Replacement Certificates available until June 30, 2019

BSO = Replacement Certificates available until June 30, 2019

7. Does this mean I need to take CSO immediately?

While the CSO became available on November 1, this does not mean companies and workers must adopt it immediately. As before, it is always important that workers check with their employer about which orientation is accepted on their work sites.

8. What is the difference between CSO and BSO?

The CSO is intended for workers across the entire oil and gas industry and includes the 10 Life Saving Rules. The BSO is only for those in the oil sands sector.

9. What are the system requirements for the course?

You will need a computer with: web camera, headset or speakers, internet access, Google Chrome installed, and the ability to print. You will also need government-issued ID and a valid email.

10. What does proctoring mean for my confidential information?

The CSO exam is proctored by a third-party company called Proctorio. Energy Safety Canada and Proctorio adhere to strict privacy requirements and regulations and no private information is retained by Proctorio once the exam is complete.

11. How can I register to take the course?

Members in good standing (dues and death benefit paid to date) can contact the training center 780-482-0908 to register for the course.

12. How much will it cost?

Members who book and complete the course at the training center (using our computers) will not pay upfront for the training. Those who wish to do the training at their own location will need to pay in advance for the course and seek reimbursement upon completion of the course.

13. What if I am not a Member of Local 720?

Workers who have been dispatched through local 720 to a signatory contractor and are required to have the CSO training as part of their dispatch will be provided the training (at our training center) at no cost to them.