

Preventing Drugs and Alcohol in the Workplace

The use of drugs and alcohol abuse at the workplace can have a negative impact on productivity and well-being. Not only may it hinder the performance of the person who is under the influence, but it may also jeopardize the individuals and other colleagues. It is also expensive for organizations. Each year, alcohol misuse costs the workplace around \$33 billion to \$68 billion, while drug addiction at work is predicted to cost \$81 billion. The effects of drug use vary according to the type of substance used. Drugs influence neurotransmitters in the brain by conflicting with signals transmitted throughout the body. Many medicines are addictive, making it more difficult for employees to simply refrain from or discontinue using them.

It is well-recognized that alcohol use impairs judgment, concentration, and response time. If the employee is a guy who habitually consumes five or more drinks on a single occasion, or a woman who consumes four or more drinks on a single occasion, they may be suffering from alcoholism. It is critical to remember that substance abuse in the workplace affects not just the person, but also the colleagues and the organization. Substance abuse can have a negative impact on employee morale in the workplace.

Drug and Alcohol Prevention in the Workplace

It can also have a negative influence on the company's financial well-being as well as its reputation and brand image.

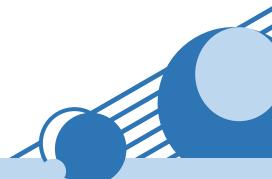
Consult Employees on Drug and Alcohol Abuse at the Workplace

Concerning health and safety, you must speak with employees or their representatives. Counseling is not just providing information to employees, but also listening to them and taking into consideration what they suggest. You may ask your employees what they know about the consequences of drugs and alcohol on health and safety, as well as the limits or rules in your workplace regarding drug and alcohol usage.

Develop a Policy for Drug and Alcohol abuse at the Workplace

An agreed-upon policy drug/alcohol usage may help all organizations. As part of your overall health and safety policy, you might incorporate a drug and alcohol policy. If an employee discloses that they have a drug or alcohol issue, and effective policy should seek to assist and support them rather than terminate them. It should also state when you will take disciplinary or other action, such as reporting drug possession or dealing at work to the authorities.

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Note:

The risks associated with substance abuse, emphasize the importance of preventive measures. By implementing clear policies, providing proper awareness training, and staying compliant with OSHA regulations, employers can contribute to a workplace that prioritizes the well-being of its employees.