



MOM/OSHD/2020-07

24 June 2020

To all Occupiers, Employers, Employees
Training Providers, WSH Officers, and Other Interested Parties

Suspension of in-person WSH Training involving foreign workers

1. Under Phase Two of the re-opening of businesses, Skills Future Singapore SSG has allowed in-house training to resume subject to the implementation of **Safe Management Measures (SMM)**¹. Training providers (TP) should also continue to adopt e-learning to the maximum extent possible.
2. There are WSH courses that involved training of foreign workers many of whom are still subjected to movement restrictions (either staying in uncleared dormitories or subjected to Quarantine Orders) and hence unable to come out of the dormitories to physically attend the training courses. We need to be more cautious in allowing physical in-person training especially for different cohorts of foreign workers so as to minimise the risk of Covid-19 transmission.
3. In view of the above, WSH courses listed in Table 1 of Annex A will continue to remain suspended. The courses listed in Table 2 of Annex A are allowed to resume subject to the implementation of SMM.

Mandatory WSH Training for Work Permit Holders

4. Consequent to the above, the mandatory WSH training for work permit holders will continue to be suspended until further notice. This means that new foreign workers (those holding In-Principal Approval IPA) will be able to have their work permit issued even if they did not attend required the WSH training. However, they can only perform lower-risk activities within the resumed businesses² and under the following conditions:
 - (a) Be assigned to work with a buddy who has undergone the required WSH training; and
 - (b) Be identified prominently as a new worker (e.g. coloured armband).
5. Similarly, MOM will allow existing work pass holders to renew their work pass without the mandatory WSH training. These requirements will apply until the suspension has been lifted, and the worker has attended the required training within three months (extended from one month previously) after training suspension is lifted.

Training Requirements maintained for New WSH Licensees.

6. There will be no changes in existing training requirements for new application of WSH licenses (e.g. WSHO officer, crane operator, approved scaffold contractor, approved crane contractor). This is to ensure the approved competent persons and WSH service providers have the necessary competencies to carry out their specified WSH functions and duties safely.
7. Lastly, we would like to remind all stakeholders especially those resuming business activities to remain vigilant and ensure the safety and health of your employees at work.

¹ To resume WSH training activities, all training providers must fulfil requirements of the *Checklist of Safe Management Measures (SMM) to resume WSH Training*.

² For information on resumption of businesses, please refer to <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/>

Table 1: List of in-person WSH courses that remained suspended

S/No.	Course Name
1	WSQ Apply Workplace Safety and Health in Construction Sites
2	WSQ Apply Workplace Safety and Health in Metal Work
3	WSQ Apply Workplace Safety and Health in Process Plant
4	Shipyards Safety Instruction Course for Workers (General Trade) / WSQ Apply Workplace Safety and Health in Shipyards (General Trade)
5	Logistics and Transport Safety Orientation Course / WSQ Apply Workplace Safety and Health in Logistics and Transportation
6	Shipyards Safety Instruction Course for Workers (Hot Work Trade)
7	Shipyards Safety Instruction Course for Workers (Painter Trade)
8	Suspended Scaffolding Riggers' Course / WSQ Perform Rigging of Suspended Scaffold
9	Work-at-Height Course for Workers / WSQ Perform Work-at-Height
10	Metal Scaffold Erection Course / WSQ Perform Metal Scaffold Erection
11	Compressed Air Works (Man-Lock) Attendant Course / WSQ Perform Man-lock Attendant Duties for Compressed Air Work
12	Compressed Air Works (Medical-Lock Attendant) Course / WSQ Perform Medical-Lock Attendant Duties for Compressed Air Work
13	WSQ Perform Work in Confined Space Operation
14	Formwork Safety Course for Workers / WSQ Perform Formwork Activities
15	Marine Metal Scaffolding Course for Scaffolders / WSQ Erect Metal Scaffold in Marine Industry
16	Explosive Powered Tools Operator Course/ WSQ Operate Explosive Powered Tools
17	WSQ Perform Rigger and Signaller tasks
18	Safety Orientation Course (Tunnelling) for Workers
19	Commercial Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus Divers Course
20	Surface Supplied Diving Equipment Divers Course

S/No.	Course Name
21	WSQ Operate Forklift
22	WSQ Operate Lorry Crane
23	WSQ Operate Vertical Personnel Platform
24	WSQ Operate Boom Lift
25	WSQ Operate Scissor Lift
26	Workshop to Enhance Safety of Crane Operators (WESCO)
27	Supervision of Metal Scaffold Erection Course / WSQ Supervise Metal Scaffold Erection
28	Suspended Scaffolding Supervisor's Course / WSQ Supervise Suspended Scaffold
29	Marine Metal Scaffolding Course for Supervisors / WSQ Supervise Metal Scaffold in Marine Industry
30	Formwork Safety Course for Supervisors / WSQ Supervise Workplace Safety and Health for Formwork Construction
31	Shipyard Supervisors Safety Course / WSQ Supervise Marine Work for Workplace Safety and Health
32	Basic Industrial Safety and Health Course for Supervisors / WSQ Supervise Manufacturing Work for Workplace Safety and Health
33	WSQ Supervise Workplace Safety and Health in Process Plant
34	WSQ Supervise Work in Confined Space Operation
35	WSQ Supervise Construction Work for Workplace Safety and Health
36	WSQ Supervise Safe Lifting Operations
37	WSQ Supervise Tunnelling Work for Workplace Safety and Health
38	Commercial Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus Diving Supervisors Course
39	Surface Supplied Diving Equipment Diving Supervisors Course
40	Managing Work-At-Heights / WSQ Manage Work-At-Height

Table 2: List of in-person WSH courses that may resume training

There may be foreign workers who may also apply to attend such courses. Training providers are required to ensure that the foreign workers are not subjected to any movement restrictions imposed by the authorities.

S/No.	Course Name
1	Safety Instruction Course for Ship Repair Managers / WSQ Manage Workplace Safety and Health in Shipbuilding and Ship Repair
2	Construction Safety Course for Project Managers / WSQ Manage Workplace Safety and Health in Construction Sites
3	Workshop for CEO/Top Management (bizSAFE Level 1)
4	WSQ Develop a Risk Management Implementation Plan (bizSAFE Level 2)
5	WSQ Develop a Workplace Safety and Health Management System Implementation Plan (bizSAFE Level 4)
6	Work-at-Heights Train-The-Trainer Course / WSQ Conduct Work at Height Training
7	Shipyards Safety Assessor (Hot Works Certification) Course / WSQ Assess Shipyards Safety for Hot-Work Certification
8	Manhole Safety Assessor Course / WSQ Perform Manhole Safety Assessment
9	Industrial Audiometry Course / WSQ Perform Industrial Audiometric Screening
10	Design for Safety for Professionals Course / WSQ Perform Design for Safety Professional Duties
11	WSQ Certificate in Workplace Safety and Health (Level A)
12	WSQ Advanced Certificate in Workplace Safety and Health (Level B)
13	WSQ Specialist Diploma in Workplace Safety and Health (Level C)
14	WSQ Graduate Certificate in Workplace Safety and Health (Level D)
15	WSQ Specialist Diploma in Occupational Hygiene
16	WSQ Assess Confined Space for Safe Entry and Work
17	WSQ Monitor Noise and Vibration
18	WSQ Control Noise and Vibration
19	Occupational First Aid Course

Frequently Asked Questions

(A) Employers

1. Can the company appoint my worker to operate machinery or carry out high-risk work for the first time if he has not attended the required WSH training?

No, workers who did not attend the required WSH training to operate machinery or carry out high-risk work safely must not be deployed to carry out such high-risk work. Employers have a responsibility under the WSH Act to ensure their workers are provided with sufficient instruction, training and supervision so that they can work safely.

2. Will my worker's work permit be revoked if he cannot go for mandatory training needed for work permit renewal?

No, your existing worker's work permit will not be revoked, as the mandatory training requirement for work permit renewal has been suspended until further notice.

New foreign workers issued with In-Principal Approval (IPA) Notice from MOM will not be required to attend mandatory training for the issuance of their work permit. All workers will be given three months after the lifting of training suspension to get their required trades certification.

3. Can my experienced worker still work, even though his training certification validity has expired?

Yes, the experienced worker can still proceed to work (only if it is one of the businesses allowed to resume activities) as the refresher training requirement has been suspended until further notice.

4. Can I deploy my new worker holding work permit to work in the construction site/ factory/ shipyard/ chemical plant if he has not completed his mandatory training?

Yes, you may deploy your worker but the work can only to carry out lower-risk activities. In addition, you are required to ensure that the new worker:

- (a) Wears a prominent identification e.g. arm band for at least 6 months to indicate that he is a new worker;
- (b) Is assigned a buddy to be attached at all time on site. This interim condition will continue until the new worker attends and passes the mandatory training.

This is subjected to the workplace being allowed to resume their business activities. Workers will be given three months after the lifting of training suspension to obtain their required trades certification.

5. Will the training requirements for new application of WSH licenses be waived?

There are no changes in existing training requirements for new application of WSH licenses (e.g. WSHO officer, crane operator, approved scaffold contractor, approved crane contractor). This is to ensure the approved competent persons and WSH service providers have the necessary competencies to carry out their specified WSH functions and duties safely.

(B) Workers/ Employees

6. Will my work permit be revoked if I cannot attend mandatory training required for work pass renewal?

No, your work permit will not be revoked, as the mandatory training requirement for work permit renewal has been suspended until further notice. Please ignore the requirement in the In-Principal Approval Notice (IPA) from MOM for you to attend mandatory safety orientation training, as we have suspended the requirement. You will be given three months after the lifting of training suspension to get your required trades certification.

7. The suspension is affecting my ongoing course, which takes three to six months to complete, what should I do?

You may resume training once the suspension is lifted. You can contact your training providers for more information.

8. Can I renew my crane operator registration if I am unable to attend WESCO after Phase Two (Safe-Transition)?

Yes, you will be able to renew your crane operator licence even if you did not attend the WESCO.

For crane operators aged 50 years and above, medical examination requirements for registration renewal will also be temporarily suspended. Please refer to [MOM website](#) for more information.

9. Can I renew my WSHO registration if my courses with SDU points are still on wait list after Phase Two (Safe-Transition)?

Yes, WSHOs will be allowed to renew their registration even if they do not have sufficient SDU points. However, WSHOs will still need to submit renewal application with other items e.g. WSH employment, WSH activities for unstructured SDU points. Please refer to [MOM website](#) for more information.

(C) Training Providers (ATOs and LSPs)

10. Do I need to seek approval if I want to conduct online courses? If yes, whose approval should we be seeking and what would be the procedure (and timeline)?

Online learning mode is only allowable for theory-based supervisor, manager and WSH professional courses. It will not be able to replace courses that involve practical component. MOM/WSHC's approval is needed for a training provider to proceed to conduct online courses. Please submit your proposal to the Workplace Safety and Health Council (WSHC) at wsh_training@wshc.sg for review.

11. When will the suspension of In-Person WSH training for work pass holders last?

The suspension will take effect immediately until further notice. The lifting of the suspension will depend on the level of COVID-19 transmission among work pass holders. MOM/WSHC will provide updates to training providers from time to time.

12. Will I be able to conduct in-person assessment for WSH Courses taught online?

You may proceed to do so for the courses allowed to resume training (See Table 2 of Annex A), except for work pass holders who have movement restrictions.

(D) Certification Bodies accredited by SAC

13. Do we proceed with the certification and surveillance audits?

Certification and surveillance audits can be carried out if all audit components, including witnessed audits of in-person training can be done.

14. Should we certify new Learning Service Providers (LSP) during this period?

You may proceed to certify new LSPs.