

State of Alaska
Department of Labor & Workforce Development



Heidi Drygas
Commissioner

Heather Beaty
Communications
Director

907.269.3569
heather.beaty@alaska.gov

May 2, 2018

No. 18-16

For more information: Deborah Kelly, Labor Standards and Safety Director
907-269-4961, Deborah.Kelly@Alaska.Gov

Department Updates Regulations to Protect Public and Worker Safety

JUNEAU, Alaska — The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development has updated multiple regulations strengthening safety standards across a variety of industries. The new regulations were available for public comment before they were signed by Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott, and they will go into effect May 9, 2018.

The department improved regulations related to the safe operation of amusement rides in Alaska. The department will issue a certificate of operation for an amusement ride once the operator has obtained an inspection showing the device is safe to open to the public. Operators will be required to inform the department where the rides will operate throughout the year. Safety standards for tramways were also updated, and regulations on reporting amusement ride and tramway accidents have been similarly improved. The regulation will also require specific information to be included in an amusement ride or tramway accident report to the department.

The new regulations also:

- Update the state electrical standard to the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Code
- Update the state electrical utility standard to the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Safety Code
- Adopt a \$50 fee to obtain a boiler/pressure vessel special inspector commission identification card
- Adopt a \$100 fee for filing boiler tracer requests. Tracers allow the department to track alterations or welded repairs on boilers and unfired pressure vessels
- Rewrite the plumber journeyman, electrician journeyman, and power lineman journeyman certificates of fitness requirements for clarity

The department has implemented several other regulations in the past year to strengthen public and occupational safety and health. In November, several regulations went into effect:

- Federal OSHA standards were adopted for crystalline silica in general industry
- Federal OSHA standards were adopted for crystalline silica, confined space, and cranes and derricks in construction
- Electronic delivery of information is now permitted for the OSHA Review Board

- The state's minimum plumbing code was updated to the 2015 Edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code

More information about the new regulations, including the filing certification, can be found on the State of Alaska online [public notice](#) system.

#