

Site Safety Manager

Spotlight

Did you know a single accident can cost a company millions of dollars? Working on a construction site can be extremely dangerous. There environmental factors, specialized tools, and heavy machinery. As a site safety manager, you'll be in charge of saving lives and preventing injuries by training construction workers on how to work safely, assess potential site hazards, and maintain safety logs. Your ability to understand the science behind workplace hazards and the technology workers use will be essential to keeping everyone safe on the job.

Personal Connection

A site safety manager is a specific type of occupational health and safety specialist who specifically focuses on safety in the construction industry. As a site safety manager, you will visit construction sites to observe working conditions and evaluate potential hazards. Becoming a site safety manager is all about using science and technology to ensure employees are kept safe while working on construction sites.

- Do you like to work outdoors?
- Do you enjoy thinking creatively?
- Do you understand construction?
- Do you care about keeping people safe?
- Do you enjoy being responsible teaching others?

Other Connections

Even if it turns out you don't want to be a site safety manager, there are lots of other similar careers that might interest you:

- Construction managers are the people on a construction site who make sure the project runs smoothly
- Land surveyors determine property lines, identify the exact location for new construction projects, and map shorelines and underground tunnels
- Electricians install and repair electrical wiring and power systems
- Heavy equipment operators run construction equipment, such as bulldozers, cranes, backhoes, and forklifts
- Civil engineers design, prepare site plans, and oversee the building of everyday structures like bridges, roads, and buildings
- Supply chain managers work with other companies to source supplies, write contracts, and ensure that supplies are delivered on time

Fun Facts/"Did You Know?..."

Some fun trivia about site safety management:

The importance of safety: Did you know that construction workers with a 45-year career have a 75% chance of becoming disabled due to a workplace injury? Site safety managers really do save lives through their work. [Read more.](#)

Earn your yearly salary in a day: Did you know that OSHA violations can cost a company as much as \$70,000 per incident? That means by preventing a single accident, you can save a company the equivalent of the typical salary for a site safety manager. [Read more.](#)

Earn your salary for a decade in a day: Did you know that a single fatality can cost a company between \$750,000 and \$1 million? If you save a single life, you can save the equivalent of ten years of the median salary for a site safety manager. [Read more.](#)



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STEM Connection

The construction industry is seeing a lot of changes due to advancements in technology. For site safety managers, this can have positive and negative consequences. While there are more tools to keep workers safe, site safety managers will have to stay up to date with technological advancements to anticipate accidents and improve training protocols. Here are some ways new technology is affecting the work of site safety managers:

- Workers need to understand hazards of new materials: While the construction industry is buzzing about exciting new materials, there may be implications for worker safety. As a site safety manager, you'll need to become familiar with advancements in material science to understand the hazards they pose to construction workers. Some materials may be safe once installed, but can be hazardous when cut. [Read more.](#)
- 3D printing is transforming the world: While they aren't as advanced as the replicators in Star Trek, 3D printers have the potential to revolutionize many industries. In the construction field, they may soon be used to print tools and equipment, and 3D printers are already being used to construct entire buildings. As 3D printers become more popular, site safety managers will need to become familiar with the unique hazards associated with them. [Read more.](#)
- More technology changes?: Another type of technology changing the construction industry is the use of drones. Drones are becoming more common for surveying and inspections, which can help keep workers away from dangerous situations. On the other hand, site safety managers are always working to stay ahead of accidents. Even with technology that can solve some safety problems, they need to consider new hazards from this technology and updated safety protocols. [Read more.](#)
- Engineering changes construction methods: Thanks to some inspiration from umbrellas, engineering is changing construction methodology once again. This time, bridges are being unfolded like an umbrella to reduce labor costs and improve the quality of the final product. While not all construction methods are this unique, site safety managers need to become familiar with new engineering techniques to keep workers safe. [Read more.](#)

Articles, Videos, and Podcasts of Interest

[Read about](#) salary, job growth, and more at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[Explore](#) the skills you'll need to become a site safety manager at O*NET.

Curious about what it's really like to be a safety manager? [Listen](#) to one site safety manager talk about a typical day on the job.

[In this TEDx Talk](#), Dr. Chuck Coker explains how improving workplace safety can help businesses grow.

[Listen](#) to one site safety manager's best tips for being successful in this career.

Site Safety Manager



Journeys to Becoming a Site Safety Manager

The path to working as a site safety manager may seem like a faraway dream, but did you know that you can get started on that path even in high school?

Read about one man's journey as a site safety manager:

Patrick Wolocko is one example of a student who didn't know where his career path would lead him. When he was in college, he switched majors multiple times, from engineering to technology, and finally to construction management. As a construction management major, he decided to minor in industrial safety because he thought it might look good on his resume. However, after taking safety classes and talking to his advisors he realized a career in construction safety was the best fit for him.

After graduation, Patrick tried many different ways to gain experience in his field. For example, he worked at a hospital where he joined the safety committee. Eventually, he decided to go back to school to get a degree in occupational safety and health, which he was able to do while working full time. He interned with an automotive manufacturing supplier and then got a job with a construction company as a safety coordinator while finishing his degree.

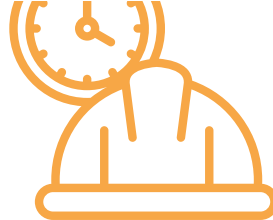
Patrick loves his job because he knows he makes a difference in people's lives. For example, one of the workers he trained in CPR was able to respond quickly when his 2-year-old son started choking. Patrick says, "Before that moment, I enjoyed my job and I genuinely liked caring for people and wanting to see them go home. After that text message, it hit me that I really make a big impact on not only the workers' lives but the lives of their family members and friends."

Read more about Patrick's story [here](#).



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Journeys to Becoming a Site Safety Manager

Read about one woman's journey to becoming a site safety manager and business owner:

Elizabeth Bifulco graduated from St. John's University with a bachelor's degree in communications and a minor in business administration. Although she started her career as a healthcare public relations specialist, Elizabeth realized there was a need for a company that could provide safety services. To start her safety management company, she devoted countless hours to learn safety management. Once she became familiar with the field, Elizabeth founded Total Safety Consulting. She is now a licensed site safety manager and has completed OSHA site safety management training, which has allowed her to grow Total Safety Consulting to be the largest private safety consulting firm in New York.

Read more about Elizabeth's career [here](#).

