



Program #72009B - FRM Workers' Compensation/Safety & Health Emergency Response Capacity FY 2025 Proposed

Department: County Management **Program Contact:** Michelle Cross

Program Offer Type: Operating **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: New Request, One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

Based on lessons learned during past emergency responses the County needs more formal Safety & Health support to address the occupational safety and health needs of employees, volunteers, partners, and the public. This program will add a Limited Duration (LDA) Safety & Health professional to increase the Risk Management team's capacity. This LDA will provide expertise to inform emergency responses and ensure the County is in compliance with OR-OSHA safety requirements.

Program Description

Since 2020, the frequency and severity of emergency responses in Multnomah County have increased. The primary activities of emergency responses include opening, operating, and closing Disaster Resource Centers (DRC), which provide shelter for vulnerable people impacted by severe weather. The County utilizes internal staff, employees from contracted providers, and the general public to staff operations (i.e. shelters, transportation and supply delivery) during emergency responses.

Newly implemented right of refusal OR-OSHA rule OAR-437-001-0295(1)(b) obligates the employer to provide all necessary training, policies, and equipment needed to eliminate the need for an employee to exercise their right of refusal to perform an unsafe task or be exposed to hazard that could cause them harm. This position will complete the responsibilities below using the County's values of Safety, Trust, and Belonging

A Limited Duration Safety & Health professional will:

- Provide consultation to support multiple departments to develop plans for emergency response - this includes providing required and recommended training, and other preparedness activities.
- Engage with department emergency management leaders to establish expectations for how Risk Management can provide meaningful expertise before, during, and after an emergency response.
- Collaborate with emergency management staff in multiple departments to develop a job description for a Safety Officer position, to support the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Have knowledge of OR-OSHA training requirements and provide consultation for multiple departments to develop training for staff in emergency response roles and shelter policies and procedures
- Use OR-OSHA requirements when reviewing and providing-feedback on job descriptions for temporary emergency response roles or when providing worker safety resources.
- Develop a workflow to process incident reports, including a way to identify areas of improvement.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Draft Job Description for Safety Officer position	N/A	N/A	N/A	1
Outcome	Effective OR-OSHA programmatic safety training modules developed	N/A	N/A	N/A	5
Outcome	Review all available work assignments for emergency response positions	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Providing shelter for the general public requires implementation and oversight of loss prevention activities from an experienced safety and health professional, assigned as the Safety Officer for Emergency Operations Center. An ongoing focus on safety training needs and improvements for staff temporarily working in shelters will contribute to ongoing safety.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The Oregon Safe Employment Act, ORS 654, establishes minimum safety standards for employers. Oregon OSHA, as outlined in OAR 437-001-1005 through 1020 and 1050 through 1060, requires each self-insured employer to have a written loss prevention plan for each location and to provide safety and health loss prevention services for each work site. Newly implemented right of refusal OR-OSHA rule OAR-437-001-0295(1)(b) obligates the employer to provide all necessary training, policies, and equipment needed to eliminate the need for an employee to exercise their right of refusal to perform an unsafe task or be exposed to hazard that could cause them harm.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$176,927
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,073
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$185,000
Program Total:	\$0		\$185,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Program is supported by Risk Fund revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: