

Alameda County Schools Insurance Group's Top Ten Most Frequent School Safety Hazards

This list below represents the ten most frequently noted hazards seen in our member schools and office areas. Do you have any of these hazards at your site? Use this list to take a quick inventory and make some of these easy corrections now. Your staff and students (and ACSIG) will thank you!

10. Storage accumulating to the point it reaches the ceiling (may block fire sprinkler systems or pose a hazard from falling).

CORRECTION: Remove items to maintain at least 18" clearance. (CCR Title 8, 6170© (10))

9. Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) not available to product users.

CORRECTION: Maintain a current MSDS listing all products and chemicals so users can identify safety factors prior to use or in the event of a spill or injury. (CCR, Title 8, Section 5194)

8. Secondary containers (spray bottles, etc.) not labeled.

CORRECTION: Label containers to identify contents. (CCR, Title 8, Section 5194)

7. Fire extinguishers not inspected monthly.

CORRECTION: Inspect fire extinguishers monthly and sign off tag. (CCR, Title 8, 6151 (c))

6. Electrical panel blocked or covered up.

CORRECTION: Maintain clear access to electrical panel. (CCR, Title 8, Section 2340.16 (a))

5. Cabinets and furniture over 5' in height not earthquake braced.

CORRECTION: Brace cabinets and furniture to wall to prevent toppling. (California Building Code 16A)

4. Power strips connected ("piggybacked") to one another.

CORRECTION: Only one power strip should be connected to each outlet. (National Electrical Code Article 400)

3. Power cords creates trip or fall hazard.

CORRECTION: Tape down power cords to prevent trip or fall hazard. (CCR, Title 8, Section 3273 (a))

2. Interior walls covered excessively with paper or other materials.

CORRECTION: Reduce covering to no more than 20% total wall area unless room is sprinklered.
(NFPA 101, Section 10.2.5.3.1)

AND THE NUMBER ONE ITEM IS...

Poor housekeeping and excessive clutter in the room.

CORRECTION: Clean up clutter and maintain room in an orderly manner. (CCR, Title 8, Section 3362 (a))

The goal of the ACSIG Prevention Services Department is to assist you in maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for your students and staff. Please do not hesitate to contact us at (925) 225-1030 with you questions and concerns.