

CHAPTER 18

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Refer to the collective bargaining agreement with AFGE Local 1770 for additional provisions pertaining to bargaining unit employees.

18-1. GENERAL.

The Occupational Health Section (OHS) of the Preventive Medicine Service is concerned with maintaining the health and fitness of all military and civilian employees on Fort Bragg. To accomplish this mission, the OHS sponsors several programs, both voluntary and mandated by Army regulation and Federal Law.

18-2. PROGRAMS.

a. Annual Medical Surveillance. Testing for the medical effects of certain hazards in the workplace is provided on an annual basis for the employees concerned. Supervisors will be contacted by the Civilian Surveillance Coordinator to schedule the testing. Supervisors who feel that they have employees who are exposed to hazards at work (noise, eye hazards, lung hazards, asbestos, etc.) but are not included in this program should contact the Occupational Health Clinic immediately.

b. Pregnancy Surveillance. Counseling for pregnant employees who may be exposed to hazards in the workplace is provided by OHS. Participation in this program is strongly encouraged. Pregnant employees should contact the OHS as early as possible in the pregnancy for an appointment. (See Chapter 24 -Leave and Other Absences.)

c. Immunizations. The OHS offers tuberculosis testing and influenza immunizations free of charge to civilian employees. The Hepatitis B vaccine is also offered for medical and dental employees. Civilian employees who would like to be voluntarily screened for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) should contact the OHS. Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality of the results.

d. Safety Glasses. Safety glasses (prescription and nonprescription) are provided at government expense to employees who work in designated eye hazardous areas. Eligible employees who request prescription safety glasses must have a prescription that was written within the previous 12 months. Employees must have their prescriptions updated at their own expense. The employing activity pays for the safety glasses. Before reporting

to the Optometry Clinic (Womack Army Medical Center) for fitting, the employee should have the following documentation:

(1) DD Form 1348-6 NON-NSN REQUISITION (Obtain from unit supply).

(2) MEDDAC FB Form 1368 - Occupational Vision Program Referral Sheet (Obtain from OHS).

(3) Glasses Prescription (renewed within the previous 12 months).

e. Hearing Protection. Employees who work in a noise hazardous area and need to be fitted for earplugs should contact the OHS.

f. Voluntary Health Screening. The OHS offers voluntary health screening at the work site for blood pressure and vision. This is particularly beneficial for clerical employees and others who are not included in the annual surveillance program. Supervisors should contact the OHS to schedule voluntary health screening at their work sites. Varicella Zoster is a requirement that is also offered.

g. On-the-Job Illnesses and Injuries. Employees who become ill or who are injured on the job and desire to be treated at Womack Army Medical Center should report to the Federal Employee Compensation Act (FECA) Office in the Outpatient Health Clinic area. When possible, employees should pick up their medical records from the OHS prior to reporting to Womack. The OHS does not provide care for illnesses or injuries. (See Chapter 44 - Job Injuries.)