

EXCAVATION SAFETY 101 Online Course

course.digsafelyoregon.com

Introduction:

Welcome to Excavation Safety 101 by Oregon 811. There's more to being a safe excavator than just moving dirt, and that's why this online course was created.

Excavation Safety 101 will strengthen your understanding of common safety issues as well as educate you on laws and best practices for safe excavation.

This course is available to anyone, and can be completed on your own. Simply create an account, enroll in the course, and complete the material at your own pace.

The course is made up of 6 modules, includes 13 individual video segments, and covers a variety of topics from the legal definition of an excavator, to job site safety, history and purpose of the OUNC, the 811 process, excavation and trenching best practices, and more. Your progress is saved as you work through the course, so you can complete it all at once or over time as you are able.

Comprehension is reinforced by a review of the main points in each segment, full text from each video, and multiple choice quiz questions covering many of the main points.

Another feature of this course is essay questions at the end of each module, designed to help you use your own words to describe the concepts you're learning.

The course is designed to take a minimum of 50 minutes to complete, although there is no maximum time limit. Successful completion of Excavation Safety 101 with a 100% grade means you'll earn a certificate, proving that you've completed the course and giving you a way to earn continuing education credits.

Perfect for education and safety training days at your company or organization, this course will help you engage in safe excavation in the state of Oregon.

Module 1. Introduction

Main Points to Remember:

- An excavator is any person who engages in excavation
- Any person engaged in excavating has a responsibility to be aware of the law and safe excavation practices.

Module 2. Jobsite Safety

Lesson 2a: Traffic Control

Main Points to Remember:

- Plan ahead, consider all types of traffic
- Traffic control includes advanced warning signs, transition area, buffer zone, and termination point
- Observe all federal, state, and local laws
- Work facing oncoming traffic
- Ensure all safety equipment is working
- Use spotters

Lesson 2b: Personal Safety

Main points to remember:

- Know what PPE is required for each job
- Be sure the appropriate PPE is available
- Use your PPE, it is there to protect you
- Walk your jobsite prior to work
- Identify any hazards
- Have an emergency plan
- Inspect equipment prior to use
- Approach your manager with concerns

Essay 2c: Personal Safety

Module 3. The OUNC

Lesson 3a: The Oregon Utility Notification Center

Main Points to Remember:

- The Oregon Utility Notification Center exists to reduce buried utility damages and promote public safety
- Call 811 or visit www.digsafelyoregon.com to submit a locate request
- The OUNC board develops, adopts and implements Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR's)
- Communication between excavators and utility operators is essential to preventing damages to buried utilities

Lesson 3b: The OUNC Complaint Process

Main Point to Remember:

- Complaints regarding probable violations of Oregon excavation laws are handled through a complaint process managed by the Oregon Public Utility Commission or OPUC.

Essay 3c: The OUNC and You

Module 4. 811 Process

Lesson 4a: The 811 Notification Process

Main Points to Remember:

- Before any excavation begins, it's the law to call or click 811.
In order to expedite the locating process, the area of proposed excavation should be outlined with white paint.
- After making a locate request, you must wait until the legal start time, which is at least two full business days after you make your request, before you commence excavation.
- If you suspect a facility was not marked or mismarked, contact the operator of the facility.
- If a buried utility is damaged, the excavator is required to report the damage to the operator of the underground facilities immediately.

Lesson 4b: If a Damage Occurs

Main Points to Remember:

- If a buried utility is damaged, the excavator must report the damage to the operator of that utility
- Never attempt to fix or repair damages
- If the damage causes an emergency the excavator must call 911

Essay 4c: The 811 Process

Essay 4d: The Big One | Personal Account of an Electric Strike

Module 5. Best Practice

Lesson 5a: Know the Signs

Main Points to Remember:

- Verify the location and condition of locate marks
- Move any materials covering locate marks
- Disturbed ground, cuts, or trench lines may indicate recently buried utilities
- Notify 811 if there are unmarked utilities
- Never assume the depth of a buried utility
- Pothole to the depth of your excavation plus two feet to visually verify depth and location of buried utilities within tolerance zone

Lesson 5b: Protect Buried Utilities

Main Points to Remember:

- It's the law to call 811 even if you are planning a shallow excavation
- Never assume depth of a utility
- Use non-invasive tools to expose lines
- Be aware of above-ground indicators pointing to underground facilities
- High pressure air and water can damage outer protective coatings on buried lines
- Protect and support exposed utilities
- Never climb on, strike, or move exposed lines

Lesson 5c: Trench Safety

Main Points to Remember:

- Always follow OSHA requirements including determination of soil type, use of proper protection systems, placement of spoils
- Trench cave-ins can also damage buried utilities
- Do not leave tools, spoils, rocks, or other items within two feet of the edge
- It is better to stop work than have a dangerous or harmful event occur

Essay 5d: Best Practices

Module 6. Safety Starts with You

Lesson 6a: Excavation Safety 101

Main Points to Remember:

- Stay aware of your surroundings
- You are the person who has the most impact on your own safety
- For more information visit www.DigSafelyOregon.com

Essay 6b: Excavation Safety 101

Excavation Safety 101 Certificate