

# Globally-Harmonized WHMIS Training

Duration: Approximately 3 hours

**Canada's Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System**, commonly known as WHMIS, is designed to provide workers with information about hazardous products used, stored, handled or disposed of in the workplace.

## Transitioning to Globally-Harmonized WHMIS

This system is mandated by federal, provincial and territorial law. In Ontario, WHMIS applies to all workplaces covered by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, and federally-regulated workplaces governed by the *Canada Labour Code*. Ontario, and other jurisdictions across Canada however, are transitioning from WHMIS to the new Globally-Harmonized (GHS) WHMIS (transition will end in December, 2018).

The purpose of GHS is to **standardize information** about hazardous products and how it is communicated on a global scale. This change will result in new standardized:

- ✓ hazard classes (including pictograms – formerly called hazard symbols),
- ✓ hazardous product labels, and
- ✓ safety data sheets (SDSs) (formerly called material safety data sheets – MSDSs).



## Mandatory Training Requirements

What has not changed with the incorporation of GHS into WHMIS are the significant legal training obligations for employers.

In fact, during the transition from original WHMIS to GHS-Harmonized WHMIS, employers must train workers in both systems and ensure they can apply the information to their everyday work. GHS WHMIS can become the sole focus of worker training only when all products with the original WHMIS labels and MSDSs are no longer used in the workplace (must be the case by December, 2018).

## WHSC E-class

In response, the Workers Health & Safety Centre (WHSC) has developed an e-learning program entitled, *Globally-Harmonized WHMIS*. This program will

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# ONLINE Globally-Harmonized WHMIS Training *cont'd*

assist employers seeking to comply with new training obligations. Although, as with existing WHMIS requirements, employers will also be required to provide workers with additional WHMIS training applicable to the specific work to be performed.

The program is also **designed to achieve workforce competence** — essential in light of the significant health implications associated with hazardous materials. It is suitable for workers, supervisors and managers in organizations of all sizes, in industries and occupations where WHMIS-controlled products are used, stored, handled or disposed of in the workplace.

Intended for those **previously trained in the original WHMIS**, this innovative program offers a comparative overview of original WHMIS and new information and communication requirements after GHS harmonization. Though much of the focus will be on the new requirements mandated by Globally-Harmonized WHMIS.

Like all WHSC programs, *Globally-Harmonized WHMIS* e-training applies adult learning principles to **ensure learning is engaging, relevant and achieved**. This innovative e-learning program is especially designed with emphasis on:

## Accessibility

- ✓ A computer and internet connection is all that is needed to start training.
- ✓ No special software or downloads are required, but a webcam and computer audio can enhance learning.

## Flexibility

- ✓ Training is available 24/7, for 30 days following course key activation.
- ✓ This access allows participants to learn on their schedule and pace.

## Interactivity

- ✓ A real-time, 30-minute e-learning session with a WHSC instructor and other participants is mandatory for all participants.
- ✓ Learning activities are tied to specific hazards in the participants' workplace.
- ✓ Additional instructor coaching is also available by phone or email.

## For more information or to register:

Visit: [www.whsc.on.ca/Training/Online-Training/GHS WHMIS e-class](http://www.whsc.on.ca/Training/Online-Training/GHS%20WHMIS%20e-class)

Call: 1-888-869-7950 and ask to speak to a training service representative.

