



K-12 School Health and Safety Inspection Program

Spokane Regional Health District's (SRHD) current K-12 health and safety inspection program was developed in 1999 in partnership with our School Advisory Committee. The committee is school and community based and advises us on school program-related policies and procedures. The inspection program includes a voluntary self-inspection option, which has proven very effective and has received statewide accolades. The self-inspection option gives schools/districts more program ownership and cost control, and improves the communication and consistency between SRHD and schools/districts, *resulting in safer, healthier schools.*

Inspections

Self-Inspection Option

We strongly encourage all schools/districts to participate in the self-inspection option. In order to qualify, a school/district must sign a participation agreement and send a representative to an annual half-day workshop. The workshop includes both procedural and technical information; a small fee is required to cover training costs. **The inspection cycle for qualifying schools/districts is a three-year inspection cycle:**

- **First year** – Routine health and safety inspection conducted by SRHD.
- **Second year** – Reinspection focusing on items noted during the previous year's routine inspection. The reinspection is conducted by SRHD (or by qualified school/district staff if only minor items were noted the previous year).
- **Third year** – Self-inspection conducted by qualified school/district staff.

Non-Participation Option

The inspection cycle for non-participating schools/districts is a two-year cycle:

- **First year** – Routine health and safety inspection conducted by SRHD.
- **Second year** – Reinspection focusing on items noted during the previous year's routine inspection. The reinspection is conducted by SRHD.

Inspection Tools

In addition to the *State Board of Health Primary and Secondary School Regulations* (Chapter 246-366 WAC), SRHD references the DOH/OSPI *Health and Safety Guide for K-12 Schools in Washington*. Inspection worksheets have been developed from the *K-12 Guide* for use during inspections and self-inspections. The state regulations, *K-12 Guide*, inspection worksheets, and other resources can be accessed on the SRHD's school program web page at www.srhd.org/safety/environment/school.asp.

Fees

Fees for inspections, reinspections, and review of self-inspection reports are billed at SRHD's standard hourly rate after completion of the service. This includes actual inspection time (on site), travel time, report-generating time, and clerical time. An administrative charge is included in the bill. Statements are formatted to distinguish between field time and office time. Inspection costs are variable dependent upon the size/make-up of the school and how well it is maintained.