

Lasers (Non-Ionizing Radiation)

Additional Resources:

- [Complete OSHA Standard](#)

Only qualified and trained employees shall be assigned to install, adjust, and operate laser equipment. 1926.54(a)

Proof of qualification of the laser equipment operator shall be available and in possession of the operator at all times. 1926.54(b)

Employees shall wear proper (anti-laser) eye protection when working in areas where there is a potential exposure to direct or reflected laser light greater than 0.005 watts (5milliwatts).1926.54(c)

Areas in which lasers are used shall be posted with standard laser warning placards. 1926.54(d)

Beam shutters or caps shall be utilized, or the laser turned off, when laser transmission is not actually required. When the laser is left unattended for a substantial period of time- such as during lunch hour, overnight, or at change of shifts-the laser shall be turned off. 1926.54(e)

Employees shall not be exposed to light intensities in excess of the following: direct staring -1 microwatt per square centimeter; incidental observing - 1 milliwatt per square centimeter; and diffused reflected light - 2-1/2 watts per square centimeter. 1926.540(1) through (3)

Employees shall not be exposed to microwave power densities in excess of 10 milliwatts per square centimeter. 1926.54(1)