



A publication of the
Oregon Independent Aggregate Association
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Oregon Independent Aggregate Association Newsletter

November 2024

November 7, 2024, Eastern Oregon University (EOU), in La Grande, received an award for \$179,731 in grant money from the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). The intent of this award is to better educate miners through advanced safety and health courses to reduce overall mining accidents and injuries. EOU was one of forty-seven organizations: including, forty-five states, Navajo Nation, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands. "Training is crucial to ensuring the protection of miners' safety and health and the grants awarded (today) will support these essential training programs," according to the Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health, Chris Williamson.¹

EOU's Mine Safety and Health Program, operated through the College of Business and has a full-time mine safety training instructor that tailors its program to the hazards and conditions that Oregon miners' may face during employment. According to the school's website the program offers a Surface New Miner, Underground New Miner, Annual Refresher and First Aid Refresher courses. The website states the following for the curriculum foundation²:

The Comprehensive Mine Safety and Health Program:

1. Provides appropriate and up-to-date on-site Annual Refresher Training to mine personnel including special emphasis on miner's rights; substance abuse; training program development; silicosis and related health issues; noise abatement; workplace examination; materials handling, working near water; slip or fall of person, powered haulage, gas or dust control; and machinery/machine guarding, and first-aid.
2. Provides New Miner Training for mine personnel,
3. Provides appropriate MSHA Cooperative Instructor Training in mine safety to mine personnel,
4. To have the mining industry utilize the program as a resource for mining safety training, and

¹ "US Department of Labor Awards More than \$10.5M in Grants to Support Mine Safety, Health Training across the Nation." *Mine Health and Safety Administration*, 2024, www.msha.gov/news-media/news-releases/2024/11/07/us-department-labor-awards-more-105m-grants-support-mine-safety-health-training-across-nation. Accessed 25 Nov. 2024.

² "Mine Safety Training at EOU." *Eastern Oregon University*, 2021, www.eou.edu/college-of-business/mine-safety/. Accessed 25 Nov. 2024.

5. Provides Mine Rescue Training to mine personnel.

The overall aims of this program are to:

1. Reduce fatal mining accidents for Oregon State,
2. Reduce the Oregon State mine industries' nonfatal-days-lost incidence rate,
3. Reduce the percentage of respirable dust samples (coal and silica) exceeding the applicable dust standards for designated high-risk occupations in Oregon State, and
4. Reduce the percentage of noise exposures above the citation level in all Oregon State.
5. Reduce the alcohol/and drug-related problems in Oregon State Mines.

Oregon has been the beneficiary of MSHA's health and safety objectives in the past as well, maybe this funding will draw in additional interest to the industry. If not, then at least Oregon's miners will have the benefit of a subsidized education from the regulatory body.

2025 PART 46 TRAINING



2025 Part 46 Training dates have been established. Registration in 2025 will be on a first come first served basis on both classes so remember to register early to get the location you want.

Registration forms will be available beginning in January. No pre-registrations will be taken prior to January.

Watch future newsletters for training updates.

OIAA 2025 Part 46 Refresher Training

Presented by: Adele Abrams

Albany Class – Linn County Fair & Expo – March 10, 2025

Roseburg Class – Douglas County Fairgrounds - March 11, 2025

Attention!!

We welcome and encourage all of our members to become more involved with our association. You are welcome to attend our meetings anytime. Please contact any of our board members for information on how you can become more involved, ways we can improve our association and information regarding our upcoming meetings.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ORAGGREGATE.COM

We are always looking for information to print in the newsletter. If you have a specific article, safety information , or any other information you think will be helpful and of interest to our members, please submit them to memberreply@oraggregate.com

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No meetings are currently scheduled

Happy Thanksgiving

