

## Section 29: Health and Safety Strategy

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Applicants should include a health and safety strategy in the overall debris management plan. This enables applicants and their contractors to avoid accidents during debris recovery operations and to protect workers from exposure to hazardous materials. The health and safety strategy should establish minimum safety standards for the applicant and contractor personnel to follow.

To facilitate cooperation between applicant and contractor employees, the health and safety strategy should specify how the applicant will disseminate safety information to all emergency workers and how the applicant will monitor compliance with the minimum safety standards. The strategy should also include specific corrective actions to be taken if workers do not comply with the minimum safety standards.

The health and safety strategy should identify potential hazards at debris loading areas and DMS. Debris operations involve the use of heavy equipment to move and process various types of debris. Many of these actions can pose safety hazards to emergency response and recovery personnel and the public. In addition to those safety hazards, exposure to certain types of debris, such as building materials that contain asbestos and mixed debris that contains hazardous materials, can pose potential health risks to emergency workers.

The health and safety strategy should provide emergency workers with information on how to identify hazardous conditions and specific guidelines on the appropriate and proper use of personal protective equipment.