

Section 25: SECURING LOADS

INTRODUCTION

King County employees perform many types of work, including construction and maintenance of roads, parks, and facilities. Many employees transport work-related materials and equipment from place to place. Unsecured loads pose a danger to all people on the roadways. The King County Executive has codified Washington State code, RCW 46.61.655, and ordered all King County departments to implement Executive Order PER 18-9 (AEO) - King County Employees Required to Secure Loads.

APPLICABILITY

This program applies to all King County employees who use King County vehicles and load or operate any mobile equipment for their work.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Managers and Supervisors are to:

- Work with Safety and Claims Management and/or your agency's Safety and Health Professionals to provide general training for employees, including applicable secured-load laws, employees' responsibilities, and examples of how to secure a load.
- Determine whether employees need additional specific secured-load training beyond the general training.
- Provide additional specific secured-load training to their employees if the agency determines that such training is needed.
- Document and track all secured-load training received by each employee.
- Inform employees that violation of this Executive Order may lead to discipline, up to and including termination.

All King County agencies that own or operate a fleet of vehicles are to:

- Purchase and stock equipment/supplies appropriate for securing loads for all vehicles in their fleet and outfit each vehicle with equipment/supplies to secure loads.
- Ensure that information about County employees' responsibility to secure loads is included with the operating manual for each vehicle.

- Place a secured-load message inside the passenger compartment of each vehicle and with load-securing equipment/supplies, to remind drivers to secure their loads.

Employees are responsible for:

- Ensuring that their load is secure.
- Inspecting their vehicles and equipment prior to operating it, and reporting any deficiencies that would affect their ability to secure their load.
- Following existing agency procedures to correct any deficiencies found.

County Safety and Health Professionals are to:

- Where requested, provide and document general training to employees in King County departments, divisions, and agencies whose job duties include loading, securing, or transporting loads.
- Include information on secured load laws and employees' responsibilities in the Defensive Driving course offered to County employees.

TRAINING

King County provides employees with various training opportunities, including a New Employee Safety Orientation (Section 2) and more specific or topical safety training, such as "Secure Your Load" as required for their jobs. The "Secure your Load" training covers:

- Applicable secured load laws,
- Employees' responsibilities, and
- Examples of how to secure a load

REFERENCES

Executive Order PER 18-9 (AEO)-King County Employees Required to Secure Loads,

RCW 46.61.655.