



A Complete Safety Guide for Small Businesses

Running a small business means juggling everything at once. Operations, customers, payroll, staffing, inventory. Safety can easily fall to the bottom of the list until something happens.

The truth is, most small businesses don't need complicated safety programs. They need simple, practical systems that protect employees, customers, and the business itself.

In this guide, we'll walk through what really matters for small business safety and what regulations typically apply.



1. What Regulations Apply to Small Businesses?

Many small business owners assume OSHA rules only apply to big companies. In reality, most businesses with employees fall under OSHA's General Duty Clause, which requires employers to provide a workplace free from recognized hazards.

Depending on your size and industry, this can include →



You may not need a full safety department. But you do need the basics covered and documented.

A written **Emergency Action Plan**

Accessible **first aid supplies**

Injury and illness recordkeeping (for certain business sizes and industries)

Proper hazard communication if chemicals are present

Fire prevention and **safe exit** routes

2. The Most Common Risks Small Businesses Face

The risks in a small retail shop look different from a restaurant, salon, or office, but some issues are surprisingly common across industries:

Slips and falls

Burns and Cuts

Choking incidents

Allergic reaction

Cardiac emergencies

Minor chemical exposure

Preparedness starts with having the right equipment and making sure someone knows how to use it.

3. Simple Safety Foundations Every Small Business Should Have

Instead of thinking about regulations first, think about readiness.

Most small businesses benefit from:

- ✓ A well-stocked first aid kit in an accessible location
- ✓ An AED if you have steady customer traffic or multiple employees
- ✓ At least one or two staff members trained in CPR and First Aid
- ✓ Clearly posted emergency exits and evacuation routes
- ✓ A quick safety walk-through during onboarding so new employees know where equipment is located

That last point is often overlooked. Even the best equipment does not help if no one knows where it is or feels confident using it.

If you need to purchase first aid kits, AEDs, or other safety equipment for your business, you can browse available options here: <https://shop.miamifirstaid.com/>



4. MFA – Supporting Small Businesses in South Florida

Miami First Aid works with small businesses across South Florida to make safety feel practical, not overwhelming.

We provide:

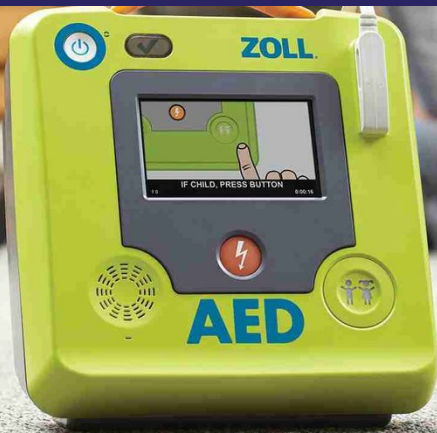
CPR, AED, and First Aid training tailored to small teams

AED placement guidance and ongoing program support

Help understanding which **OSHA expectations** apply to your business

Support organizing **documentation** and **inspection** routines

No matter your size, protecting your employees and customers strengthens your business. If you would like to review your current safety setup or build a simple, effective plan for your team, contact us today at 866-277-2337.



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