

Announcing:

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently working to standardize the Asbestos Program Penalty Matrix in order to promote consistency and transparency in the enforcement process and to encourage greater voluntary compliance with federal and state laws and rules.

A penalty matrix is a table of specific violations and associated enforcement actions and penalty amounts. Enforcement actions, including monetary penalties, are based on statutory and rule requirements with consideration given to the threat to public health and safety, severity of violations, history of previous violations and other mitigating factors. The penalty matrix will provide more transparent and predictable penalties for program staff, licensees, building owners, demolition contractors, and other persons subject to the laws and rules.

DSHS anticipates that the Asbestos Program Penalty Matrix will be posted to the Texas Register in April of 2020, and will be in effect as of the date of the posting. At that time, the [Asbestos website](#) will be updated to provide a link to the posting on the Texas Register website.

If you have any questions, please contact the DSHS Environmental Hazards Unit of the Policy, Standards & Quality Assurance Section by email at AsbestosHelp@dshs.texas.gov, or by phone at 512-834-6787.