

6.2 Visual Display Terminal Operations

Introduction

Available evidence indicates that the operation of visual display terminals is safe and does not present a health hazard to the operator. However, until there is conclusive scientific evidence that there are no adverse affects on employee health resulting from continuous work at a visual display terminal, Public Service Commission has deemed it advisable that certain precautions be taken. These precautions are also provided for in the various collective agreements.

Eye Examinations

Where an employee spends more than 50 per cent of his/her time during a normal work week working at a visual display terminal, such an employee is entitled to a standard eye examination by an ophthalmologist once every 12 months. The cost of such an examination will be borne by the employing department.

Applications

Applications for an eye examination, as provided for in the previous section **Eye Examinations**, will be made in a form acceptable to the department through a designated department official. Such an application will normally be approved when the department has satisfied itself that the employee spends 50 per cent or more of his/her work week working at a visual display terminal.

Pregnant Employees

A pregnant visual display terminal operator may request a job reassignment for the period of pregnancy by forwarding a written request to the employee's manager along with a certificate from a duly qualified medical practitioner certifying that the employee is pregnant. Upon receipt of the request, the department, where possible, will assign the visual display terminal operator to an alternative position and/or classification or to alternative duties within the department.

Enquiries

General Enquiries, Public Service Commission (902) 424-7660

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