

## **Voluntary Protection Program**

Would you like your company and employees to receive recognition as leaders in workplace safety and health? Are you and employees working together to create a culture of safety that results in injury and illness rates lower than other employers in the same industry? Well then, the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) might be right for you.

What is VPP? The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) recognizes employers and workers who have implemented effective safety and health management systems and maintain injury and illness rates below national Bureau of Labor Statistics averages for their respective industries.

### **Everyone benefits with achievement of VPP:**

- Employers lower their workers' compensation costs.
- Employees feel safe reporting safety and health concerns.
- Employees and the Company receive recognition as industry leaders for safety and health.
- Provides the highest-level verification of compliance with safety and health regulations.
- Honors you with a nationally recognized VPP flag to display at your work site.
- Communities learn and recognize which workplaces are meeting their responsibilities for protecting workers.
- Promotes a workplace that draws in others who want to work in an organization so committed to safety and health.

# What do you need to do to start the process of getting recognized?

- Request a DOSH Risk Management, Safety and Health Consultation to help identify gaps.
- Learn the VPP management elements and expectations.
- Make sure your employees understand and want VPP.
- If you use contractors, increase your oversight in the selection, management and post project areas to prove they are meeting their compliance responsibilities and afforded the same level of safety and health as your employees.
- When DOSH VPP says you are ready, submit your completed VPP application.

### What if there are Gaps?

That's simple! Work to close the gaps using the DOSH VPP self-checklist as the means to identify what they are. Then set goals, objectives and action plans and work to close the gaps.

#### For more information:

- Visit the VPP website at **Lni.wa.gov/VPP**, or
- Contact the Voluntary Protection Program
  - Phone: 425-290-1349
  - Email: VPProgram@Lni.wa.gov

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