

SHARP PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Preliminary Qualifications

1. Employ not more than 250 employees at the worksite and not more than 500 total employees nationwide.
2. Be in a high hazard industry or have a lost workday injury rate above the national average for the industry.
3. Be a single, fixed worksite (construction and other mobile worksites are currently eligible.)
4. Have at least a one year operating history.

Program Requirements

1. Have a full service safety and health consultation survey of the workplace, including a wall to wall hazard survey as well as a complete safety and health program review. This will typically include the visits of both a safety specialist and an industrial hygiene specialist.
2. Involve employees in the development, operation and improvement of the workplace safety and health program.
3. Work with the consultation program for a period of at least one year from the date of the initial visit. This time period allows for needed time to:
 - a. correct all identified safety and health hazards.
 - b. implement all elements of an effective safety and health program.
 - c. lower the lost workday injury rate and the injury incidence rate to at or below the national average (based on a full year's experience).
4. Notify the consultation project in advance on any changes in working conditions or work processes which may introduce new hazards into the workplace.
5. Request a second comprehensive survey at the end of the one year period.
6. The one year preparatory requirement may be waived for employers having exemplary safety and health programs and having continued to maintain the lost workday injury and illness rate at or below the national average for similar industries for the previous two years.

Employer Benefits

1. Achieve a lower workers compensation insurance rate, or continue to maintain a low rate, due to a low accident rate.
2. Receive recognition from the U.S. Department of Labor for having a highly effective safety and health program.
3. Receive a two-year exemption from OSHA general scheduled inspections that can be continually renewed if program parameters continue to be met.
4. Receipt of a "Certificate of Recognition" signed by the Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor and a two-year exemption from OSHA general scheduled inspections from the date of the certificate.