

How do I apply?

Get the Oregon OSHA VPP Guidelines and Application packet at:

osha.oregon.gov/consult/sharp-vpp/Pages/VPP-documents.aspx

Submit two completed copies of your written application to the address in the packet or submit one electronic copy to mark.e.hurliman@dcb.oregon.gov. After your application has been reviewed and accepted, VPP staff will schedule a visit to your workplace. We will verify that your program meets criteria; publicly recognize your site's exemplary safety and health program; and then remove your site from routine scheduled inspection lists.

For more information, visit oregon.osha.gov and click on "Consultation," then "SHARP and VPP Programs."

Oregon OSHA encourages prospective VPP companies to seek a Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) consultation, which provides small business employers free consultation to address hazards.



Need more information?

Call your nearest Oregon OSHA office.

Salem Central Office

350 Winter St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-3882

503-378-3272

Toll-free: 800-922-2689

Fax: 503-947-7461

en Español: 800-843-8086

Web: www.oregon.osha.gov

Bend

Red Oaks Square, 1230 NE Third St., Ste. A-115,

Bend, OR 97701-4374

541-388-6066

Consultation: 541-388-6068

Eugene

1500 Valley River Drive,

Suite 150, Eugene, OR 97401-4643

541-686-7562

Consultation: 541-686-7913

Medford

1840 Barnett Road, Suite D, Medford, OR 97504-8250

541-776-6030

Consultation: 541-776-6016

Pendleton

200 SE Hailey Ave., Suite 306, Pendleton, OR 97801-3056

541-276-9175

Consultation: 541-276-2353

Portland

16760 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd.,

Suite 200, Tigard, OR 97224-7696

503-229-5910

Consultation: 503-229-6193

Salem

1340 Tandem Ave. NE, Suite 160, Salem, OR 97301

503-378-3274

Consultation: 503-373-7819

440-3316 (07/23/COM)



Oregon Voluntary Protection Program



Making workplaces safer
through cooperative efforts



What is VPP?

The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is a cooperative compliance program to encourage companies to exceed minimum safety requirements. VPP emphasizes the importance of excellence in occupational safety and health programs and encourages the improvement of such programs.

The VPP concept recognizes that enforcement of safety and health regulations alone cannot achieve the objectives of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Good safety and health management programs that go beyond Oregon OSHA's standards can more effectively protect employees.

VPP is not just another program. VPP is a process that helps achieve the goal of working safer. VPP serves as a road map, focusing on key areas:

- Management leadership
- Employee involvement
- Worksite analysis
- Hazard prevention and control
- Safety & health training

VPP companies integrate these elements into their safety and health management systems.

Management, labor, and Oregon OSHA establish a cooperative relationship under the VPP at a workplace that has implemented a strong safety and health program. Management agrees to operate an effective program that meets an established set of criteria. Employees agree to participate in the program and work with management to ensure a safe and healthful workplace. Oregon OSHA provides resources to continue to advance and improve workplace safety and health.

What can VPP do for my workplace?

VPP participants experience the following:

- Improved motivation for employees to work safely, leading to higher productivity.
- Reduced workers' compensation costs. (Federal OSHA estimates 50-60% fewer lost-workday injuries among workplaces of the same size in their industries.)
- Improved communication between labor and management.
- A positive image in the community.
- Continued improvement of programs through VPP internal and external reviews.

Won't VPP just add paperwork?

The VPP application process is rigorous to ensure only the best programs qualify. VPP reviewers look for a system that works for your workplace. There is more than one way to meet VPP requirements. Some successful programs involve a lot of written documentation; others do not. Some paperwork is required as part of the application, but we encourage companies to use existing paperwork whenever possible.

What's the process?

Oregon OSHA verifies that the program meets the VPP criteria. We then publicly recognize the site's exemplary safety and health program and remove the site from routine scheduled inspection lists. We still investigate major accidents, valid formal employee complaints, and chemical spills.

Oregon OSHA periodically reassesses sites to confirm they continue to meet VPP criteria.

What does Oregon OSHA get from VPP?

Because of the safety and health management systems of VPP, companies go well beyond the requirements of the standards and our resources are not tied up in helping these companies become self-sufficient. We recognize that applicants approved for participation in VPP provide, at a minimum, the basic elements of ongoing, systematic protection of workers; therefore, VPP companies are removed from programmed inspection lists. This allows Oregon OSHA to inspect more workplaces that are less likely to meet the requirements of OSHA standards.