

More Benefits!

Public recognition is another benefit of becoming a Virginia VPP site. What better way to show your company cares for and protects their workers every day.

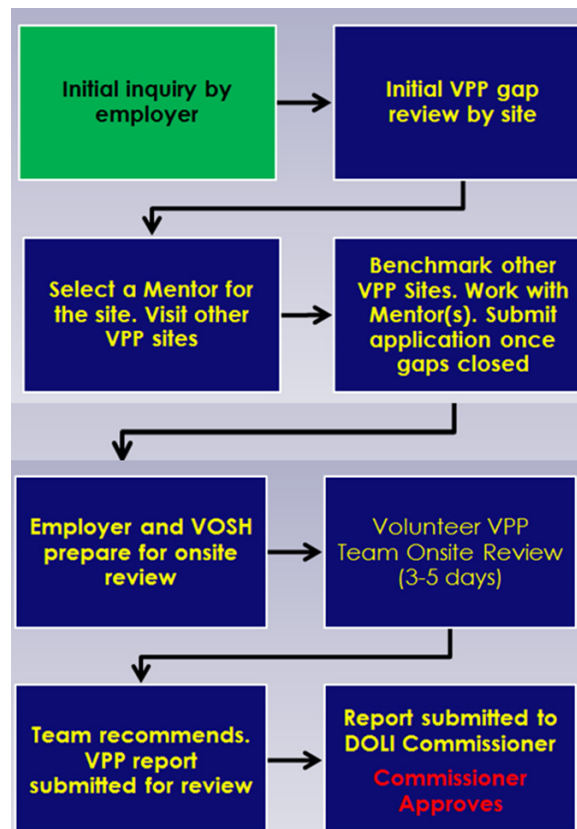
After approval, a Virginia VPP flag is presented to the site. It can be

displayed in front of your place of work to show and promote your commitment to protecting your workers.



One last benefit is the Special Government Employee (SGE) program. This program allows VPP participants to be part of other VPP onsite evaluation teams where they have the opportunity to exchange ideas, gain new perspectives and grow professionally.

What is the process to apply?



Who do we contact to get started?

*Department of Labor and Industry
Voluntary Protection Program*

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Virginia Department of
Labor and Industry

VPP Star Program



Recognizing and Promoting
Exceptional Safety and Health
Program

VPP

The Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) is a FREE recognition program that promotes effective worksite-based safety and health. In VPP, management, labor, and Virginia's Department of Labor and Industry's Occupational Safety and Health Program (VOSH), establish cooperative relationships at workplaces that have implemented a comprehensive safety and health management system.

The VPP STAR Program is "Designed to recognize Virginia businesses that have exemplary safety and health programs." Sites that are in VPP have a 3-year average Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred (DART) and Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR) below the industry average. That means sites can experience a reduction of 50 percent or more for lost workday injuries as compared to the average site of the same size, in the same industry.



Types of Participation

There are two? types of participation:

STAR is for companies where management agrees to operate an effective program that meets a VOSH/ OSHA compliant/successful safety and health program.

Merit is for companies where management agrees to operate an effective program that meets a VOSH/ OSHA compliant/successful safety and health program but who must take additional steps to reach STAR quality.

What is evaluated and how?

There are 4 major elements to VPP. They are Management Leadership and Employee Involvement, Worksite Analysis, Hazard Prevention & Control and Safety and Health Training. Each element also has sub elements which are part of the VPP Program as well.

Once your application is submitted and accepted, a date will be set for a VPP team to come to your site. This team will consist of VOSH employees, Special Government Employees (SGE) and volunteers. The VPP team will verify that the site's safety and health program is fully operational and addresses all potential hazards at the site. The team will also conduct interviews with a wide range of site employees.

At the conclusion of their visit, the VPP Team will provide their recommendation for the level of participation in the Virginia VPP Program. This recommendation will then be presented to the Commis-

sioner of the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry for final approval.

The Benefits?

There are multiple reasons to pursue VPP. The opportunity to develop cooperative relations with other VPP sites, VOSH and employees is one of the most valuable assets. The sharing of information and programs can save you time and money. These companies are the "Best of the Best" and have proven programs that work.

There is improved employee morale and motivation for workers. This can lead to an overall increase in a company's safety program and culture. Fewer injuries lead to lower workers compensation costs, higher productivity and reduced turnover rates. The average lost-time injury (direct costs) equals about \$54,000. According to the National Safety Council, in 2013, work place injuries cost Americans \$250 Billion dollars with a workplace injury occurring every six seconds. That means 96,000 employees injured each week in the United States.

