

Benefits of Participation in the MVPP

- Recognition by MIOSHA as a leader in health and safety and a model for their industry.
- Sense of pride, teamwork, and increased morale within the company.
- Statewide and local community recognition.
- Competitive advantage in the industry through reduced losses in workers compensation.
- Opportunity to showcase best industry safety and health practices.
- Opportunity to mentor other establishments interested in applying for MVPP.

Consultation Education & Training (CET) Voluntary Services

MIOSHA continues to provide assistance and encourage Michigan employers and employees to voluntarily develop successful occupational safety and health management systems. These services remain the cornerstone of the MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training Division programs.

Another CET recognition program is the Michigan Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (**MSHARP**). MSHARP is designed for employers with fewer than 250 employees who participate in a comprehensive CET onsite survey, correct the hazards noted, and have injury and illness data below the Michigan industry average for their SIC. MSHARP companies are exempt from programmed inspections for one year. This program may assist companies who may want to progress into the MVPP.

The Michigan Challenge Program (**MCP**) offers employers an opportunity to develop an effective safety and health management system while being granted a 6-month deferral from a MIOSHA programmed inspection.

For More Information

An MVPP information kit, which includes the application guideline, is available through the Consultation Education and Training Division. The CET Division can be contacted by phone at (517) 322-1809 or visit our website at www.michigan.gov/miosha.



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An Overview of the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP)



Michigan Star and Rising Star Partnerships In the Pursuit of Safety and Health Excellence

If your establishment is a high achiever with occupational safety and health as a core value and has an outstanding safety and health management system you may be interested in applying for MIOSHA's MVPP.

Michigan Voluntary Protection Programs (MVPP)

The MVPP assists employers and employees by providing a mechanism and a set of criteria designed to evaluate and recognize exemplary safety and health management systems.

The **Michigan Star** designation is the most rigorous of the MVPP. Its purpose is to recognize "the best of the best" in safety and health.

The **Rising Star** program provides the "stepping stone" for those establishments that have the desire and potential to achieve Star Status within three years.

Participation in the MVPP does not diminish employer or employee rights or responsibilities under MIOSHA. Participants must continue to comply with all applicable MIOSHA standards.

Working together, MIOSHA, the employer, and the employees achieve objectives that go beyond basic compliance. Such cooperation requires trust from all parties. The MVPP staff and participants work together to develop innovative solutions to safety and health concerns.

The MVPP is open to all Michigan employers.

Step 1: Application Process

Prospective applicants will be asked to review the MVPP Application Guidelines and describe the components of their safety and health management system.

The application can be submitted for either the Michigan "Star" or "Rising Star" program. To be eligible for the Star program the applicant must demonstrate that the injury and illness incidence rates for each of the last three complete calendar years are below the rates published for the respective North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). To be considered for the Rising Star Program the applicant must have two out of the last three years at or below the industry average for their NAICS code.

There is no predetermined length or format that a safety and health management system must follow. However, the MVPP requires the following elements:

- g **Management Commitment** to safety and health as evidenced by resource allocation, accountability and visibility.
- g **Employee Involvement** through joint problem solving, participation on committees, and input into policies and procedures.
- g **Worksite Analysis** to ensure potential safety and health hazards are identified and tracked.
- g **Hazard Prevention and Control** through engineering controls, administrative controls, safe work practices and personal protective equipment.
- g **Safety and Health Training** to ensure that all employees understand the potential hazards to which they may be exposed and how to prevent harm to themselves and others.

Step 2: Onsite Review

Once the MVPP team has reviewed and accepted the application, an onsite visit will be scheduled. The onsite visit is conducted in a cooperative

manner to verify documentation of the safety and health management system.

The onsite review is not intended to be an inspection of the entire facility. The purpose is to verify the accuracy of the information supplied in the application and to identify strengths and weaknesses in the site's safety and health management system.

Again, if any hazards are found, the employer must correct them within an agreed upon time period.

Step 3: MVPP Program Approval

Upon the successful completion of the approval process, MIOSHA verifies that the applicant's safety and health management system meets Michigan Star or Rising Star criteria. The site's comprehensive and outstanding program is then publicly recognized.

MVPP worksites will be exempt from enforcement programmed inspections. However, MIOSHA will continue to investigate employee safety and health complaints, all fatalities and catastrophes, and significant accidents and chemical spills or leaks.

Step 4: Periodic Evaluations

MVPP staff will review Michigan Star and Rising Star establishments periodically to confirm that the site continues to meet MVPP criteria. Sites will submit, on an annual basis every February 15th, injury and illness data and a written safety and health management system evaluation. Rising Star sites may receive follow-up assistance to assure established goals are met.