

1. Is your worksite in a State Plan State?

State Plan States are OSHA-approved workplace safety and health programs operated by individual states or U.S. territories. There are [currently 22 State Plan States](#) covering both private sector and state and local government workers, and there are six State Plans covering only state and local government workers. State Plan States are monitored by Federal OSHA and must be at least as effective as Federal OSHA in protecting workers and in preventing work-related injuries, illnesses and deaths.

This VPP Online Application is for worksites which are in Federal OSHA jurisdiction only. If your worksite is located in a State Plan State, you must apply through [your State Plan State VPP Manager](#).

2. For VPP, we require that your worksite 3-year average be below at least ONE of the BLS rates for your industry (based on NAICS code).

Your local VPP manager will evaluate your worksite injury and illness history by using a three-year TCIR and a three-year DART rate; (a minimum of one year rates for construction). The three-year TCIR and DART rates must be below at least one of the three most recent years of specific industry national averages for nonfatal injuries and illnesses at the level published by BLS for that industry. Please compare both rates to the same single year. An alternative rate calculation may be used for eligible smaller worksites.

If your worksite three-year TCIR and a three-year DART rate are above the industry national averages for nonfatal injuries and illnesses at the level published by BLS for that industry, please consult one of [OSHA's Cooperative Programs](#) before continuing.

3. Does your worksite have any ongoing enforcement activity?

Any of the following enforcement activities will disqualify a worksite from VPP:

- Open enforcement investigations at the time of application.
- Pending or open contested citations or notices under appeal at the time of application.
- Willful citations or unresolved Whistleblower cases where OSHA issues a Merit Finding or 11(c), International Safe Container Act (ISCA), or Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) cases where the Office of the Solicitor of Labor files a complaint in district court during the 60 months prior to application.
- Unresolved, outstanding enforcement actions such as long-term abatement agreements or contests.
- Work-related fatality of an employee during the five years months prior to the application or a work-related fatality of a contract employee during the last year prior to application.
- Inclusion in OSHA's Severe Violator Enforcement Program (SVEP) at the time of application

- OSHA history pertaining to non-VPP worksites of the same company if it is determined that a corporate decision, program, or policy which applies to all company worksites does not meet VPP Star site-based requirements.

If you say “Yes” to any of the above ongoing enforcement activities, you may not qualify for VPP, please consult one of [OSHA’s Cooperative Programs](#) before continuing.

4. Do you have a signed Union written letter for VPP going forward?

When an applicant’s employees are unionized, the applicant is required to provide evidence of support from your worksite’s collective bargaining representatives. Unions retain the right to withdraw support at any time. If a Union withdraws support from VPP, the site no longer meets the requirements for VPP and will be asked to withdraw, or may be terminated.

If you do not have a signed Union written letter supporting VPP, you may not qualify for VPP, please consult one of [OSHA’s Cooperative Programs](#) before continuing.