

Take time to review your APP

Did you know?

All employers are required to have a formal, written accident prevention program (APP). The APP is sometimes referred to as a safety and health plan.

Why is it important?

Besides keeping your workers safe, not having an APP is one of the most cited safety violations during inspections.

It must be tailor-made

Your APP must effectively address the hazards relevant to your particular company or that may be encountered by your employees.

Don't assume anything

Many times employers or safety directors assume they have an APP on a shelf somewhere. It's safer to assume that if you are not consulting your APP on a regular basis that you don't have an effective one.

Find and update

Make a list of hazards that are relevant today. Take time now to review your APP to see if it addresses the list you made. If you are a smaller company, hold a safety meeting to discuss your list and brainstorm other hazards. Larger companies should make sure the safety committee is regularly meeting and reviewing the APP.

It's time to make a new plan

If you've discovered an out-of-date APP or worse yet, no APP, then you're in luck! Washington State Labor & Industries has information to help you design yours at www.Lni.wa.gov/safety/topics/AtoZ/APP.

Toolbox talks

Now that you are armed with an effective APP, use it to train all workers to work safe and to report hazards or injuries right away. Free training materials are also available on our website.

For more information, see WAC 296-800-140.

