

# START



## Safety Through Achieving Recognition Together



*Learn how your small business can achieve START status through a program that recognizes occupational safety and health excellence and leads to a safer workplace, lower costs, improved morale, and community recognition.*

### Program Requirements

The START program is open to employers operating work sites in Washington State and is administered by the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I). The program requirements are:

- Employ fewer than 250 workers at a specific work site and not more than 500 at all work sites within Washington State.
- Operate for at least one year at the particular work site.
- Demonstrate an injury/illness rate for the preceding year that is below their industry's average.
- Receive a full-service safety and health consultation visit and a comprehensive review of their safety and health management system; correct all hazards.
- Receive a risk management consultation visit to control workers' compensation insurance costs and lower injury rate.
- Agree to request a subsequent on-site consultation visit when changes in working conditions or work processes occur that may introduce new hazards into the workplace.
- Commit to developing and implementing a safety and health management program that is sustained through the collaboration of employees and management.

### START Approval

Small businesses that achieve START status will participate in three certification cycles following initial approval. Certification will be granted upon verification that all START requirements continue to be met. Businesses may graduate from START after four and a half years of participation.

### Benefits for START companies:

- Employers lower their costs.
- Employees go home safe after work.
- Employers and employees work together cooperatively.
- Employers receive a comprehensive, no-charge safety and health consultation from L&I.
- Risk Management educates on the relationship between cost of insurance and workplace injuries.

### And there's more.

#### Being a START work site:

- Lets you establish a positive working relationship with L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH).
- Helps establish a competitive advantage by being recognized as a safety-conscious company.
- Leads to enhanced public recognition.

### Learn more online at:



[www.Lni.wa.gov/  
StartProgram](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/StartProgram)

*Upon request, foreign language support and formats for persons with disabilities are available. Call 1-800-547-8367. TDD users, call 711. L&I is an equal opportunity employer.*

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Division of Occupational Safety and Health  
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Washington State Department of  
**Labor & Industries**