

# Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation Safety Grant Program

## Are you actively trying to reduce the risk of injury or illness to your workers?

If yes, you may be eligible to receive up to \$10,000 through the MN OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation: Safety Grant Program. The Safety Grant Program awards funds up to \$10,000 to qualifying employers for projects designed to reduce the risk of injury and illness to their workers. *The program is a dollar-for-dollar match, up to* \$10,000 paid by the employer and the other \$10,000 paid by the MN Department of Labor & Industry. The grant can be used towards specific safety practices or equipment; training for purchased equipment; and/or tuition reimbursement.

# Mackinaw's risk management team can guide you through the application process

Mackinaw's risk management team can offer services and advice along the way, improving employers' chances of successfully accessing these grants. Our team can help employers determine safety practices or services that will prevent illness and injuries to most employees in their organization. In addition to our teams' experience with the application process and ability to help identify where employers can get the most "safety bang for their buck," the following services can be provided:

- Conduct hazard assessment for an area or department
- Claims review to determine injuries related to where the company wants to apply the grant, i.e. How many injuries happened? What was the cost? What is worst case scenario, how will the grant be applied to avoid this?
- Determine the probability and severity of injuries that can be prevented/reduced
- Identify OSHA standards or consensus standards that apply and should be referenced

# Mackinaw's team has successfully helped employers with the following grants:

## **Construction/Manufacturing Industry**

- ✓ Hoists
- ✓ Trench boxes
- ✓ Aerial lift
- ✓ Fall protection equipment
- Cement saws to comply with the OSHA silica standard

## Health Care Industry

- ✓ Safe patient handling equipment
- ✓ Stand-assist tables at hospitals

#### Miscellaneous

 Replacement or treatment of slippery concrete floors due to several employees slipping and falling when conditions are wet

## Employer conditions-To qualify, an employer must meet the following conditions:

- Has been in business for at least two years
- Has at least one employee to create the employer/employee relationship
- Has workers' compensation insurance
- Has had an on-site hazard survey conducted by a qualified safety professional and a written report of the findings and recommendations to reduce the risk of injury or illness to employees, including for: specific safety practices or equipment; training for purchased equipment; and tuition reimbursement.
- See website for full details on who can be considered a qualified safety professional
- Has the knowledge and experience to complete the project and is committed to its implementation.
- Can complete the project within 120 days of a fully executed contract.
- A fully executed contract is signed by all parties.
- No project can begin before a contract is signed by all parties.
- Invoices dated before the date of the fully executed contract will exclude those items from grant eligibility.

#### **Project conditions**

To qualify, the project must be supported by all public entities involved and comply with federal, state and local regulations where applicable.

Costs eligible for program participation are all or part of the cost of:

- purchasing and installing recommended safety or health equipment; training for purchased equipment.
- tuition reimbursement; the cost of operating or maintaining safety or health equipment; and
- purchasing or renting real property, if necessary, to meet criteria established by the on-site safety and health survey.

The costs of automobiles, weapons, or personnel (such as salary and benefits) will not be covered by these grants.

### About the process

Priority will be given to projects, meeting the other requirements for grants, that create production jobs in an area or prevent loss of jobs due to safety problems. Also given priority are projects in industries that are the current focus of Minnesota OSHA compliance and consultation strategies.

If your grant is approved, you will be notified in writing of the specific approval. Whether we approve your grant application or not, in no way diminishes, delays or absolves you of any obligation to abate safety and health hazards.

When a project is complete, the applicant must submit a certificate of completion form, with invoices and proof of payment, to the grant's administrator, to initiate issuance of the grant.

An employer that has received a grant for a worksite will not be eligible to receive another grant for that worksite during the two years after the date of their award.

**Reference:** MN Department of Labor and Industry website. For the full list of Employer Conditions, Project Conditions and complete application process and more visit their website at: https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-wsc-safety-grant-program

# Contact me with any questions

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