

Partnership Program

Partnerships Program: The Strategic Partnership Program provides an avenue for employers, employees, and other stakeholders to improve their safety and health management systems while working with OSHA in a cooperative, non-adversarial way. This approach can be effective in reducing fatalities, injuries, and illnesses in workplace.

Partnerships are flexible, enabling OSHA and its partners to work together to assess mutual concerns and create customized agreements to improve worker safety and health. Partnerships have an enforcement component and strengthen relationships among labor, industry, and government partners.

Partners may be trade associations and unions may also be partners. Additionally, employers in a wide range of industries may be partners. Partners may be large entities but most often are small businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

How Partnerships Work: Through Partnerships, OSHA and its partners agree to work cooperatively to address critical safety and health issues and measure results. Together they identify workplace safety and health issues and develop goals, strategies, and performance measures to address those issues.

Each partnership is established through a written, signed agreement which usually lasts three to five years,

but which can be customized for specific situations. The agreement may be national, regional or local in scope.

Partnerships help encourage cooperation among workers, employers, and other stakeholders to provide them with important safety and health information. Resources can be leveraged to enhance workplace safety and health programs. Partnerships act to showcase industry models to encourage employers to take a proactive approach to improve workplace safety and health.

Value to Employers:

- Establish effective safety and health management systems
- Obtain access to technical assistance and other educational resources
- Work closely with the Consultation Programs such as Nevada SCATS
- Reduce injury and illness rates, workers' compensation rates, absenteeism, and other costs
- Qualify for incentives such as limited scope inspections
- Increase productivity

Value to Employees:

- Reduce their risk of death, injury, and illness
- Increase practical safety and health knowledge and skills
- Take an active role in their personal safety and health protection
- Strengthen morale