The University of Notre Dame is pursuing a cooperative relationship with the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA). The cooperative program is titled the “Voluntary Protection Program.”

Risk Management & Safety
600 Grace Hall
631-5037
riskmanagement.nd.edu
WHAT IS VPP?

The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) promotes effective worksite safety and health programs. In the VPP, the University’s faculty, staff, and administration and OSHA establish cooperative relationships to implement a comprehensive safety and health system. Approval into VPP is OSHA’s official recognition of the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have achieved exemplary occupational safety and health.

HOW DOES VPP WORK?

VPP sets performance-based criteria for a managed safety and health system, invites organizations to apply, and then assesses them against these criteria. OSHA’s verification includes an application review and a rigorous onsite evaluation by a team of OSHA safety and health experts.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VPP?

- Improves safety performance.
  - National statistics show fewer injuries (~50 percent) occur at VPP sites.
  - Indiana statistics show fewer injuries (~70 percent) occur at VPP sites.
- Reduces absenteeism rates, insurance premiums, and workers’ compensation costs.
- Increases morale and instills a feeling of ownership among employees.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

- Report safety hazards to your supervisor or Risk Management and Safety.
- Report all injuries to your supervisor immediately.
- Attend all required safety and health training.
- Become active in your department’s safety committee.

VPP ROADMAP

- VPP certification will be a three- to five-year process. The initial focus will be on the EVP divisions.
- Notre Dame’s injury rate must be at or below the average for other colleges and universities.
- Notre Dame will develop and implement all laboratory and operational safety programs through a Safety Management System.