



JOSH DOBSON  
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

December 15, 2023

Dear Safety Awards Program Participant,

Happy New Year! As our state's labor commissioner, it is a great honor to kick off the 2024 safety awards season. The program has been in operation since 1946 and has become a valued tradition in workplaces throughout our state. The banquets serve as the N.C. Department of Labor's (NCDOL) opportunity to recognize you for the success of your safety and health program, and I hope to see you there!

Last year, NCDOL presented a total of 2,151 safety awards. Of those awards, 1860 were gold and 291 were silver. In addition to safety awards, we also presented 58 million-hour awards.

The gold award criteria are based on achieving a rate of days away from work, job transfer or restriction (DART) that is at least 50% below the industry rate. The silver award criteria include lost workday cases but not restricted work activity, and the applicant must attain a rate for cases with days away from work (CDAW) that is at least 50% below the industry rate. The rate chart that is included in this package contains numbers supplied from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics from 2022. They are calculated to 50% of the incidence rate for each NAICS code. A firm must not have had a fatality at the site or location applying for an award during 2023 to qualify for either award.

Please take a few minutes to complete the **ONLINE** application by entering the requested data for calendar year 2023. Applications are due **by February 15, 2024**. Even if you do not qualify for an award, submit the application to remain in the system. The safety award applications also can be accessed and completed on the NCDOL website at [www.labor.nc.gov](http://www.labor.nc.gov).

In addition to the gold and silver safety awards, we would like to remind you about the Million-Hour Safety Awards that are given to firms that accumulate 1 million employee hours with no case of injury or illness involving days away from work. Million-hour awards are presented during the local annual safety awards ceremony.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the application, please call our safety awards coordinator, Kiley Willard, at 919-707-7855 or email [safety.awards@labor.nc.gov](mailto:safety.awards@labor.nc.gov).

We appreciate your participation in the program, and I hope to see you at one of our award banquets later this year.

Sincerely,

Josh Dobson  
Commissioner of Labor

Enclosure