



CHERIE BERRY
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

January 2, 2020

Dear Safety Awards Program Participant,

Happy New Year! We are gearing up to kick off our 2020 awards season and my last season as your labor commissioner. This legacy program has become a North Carolina tradition, and I have been proud to be a part of its rich 73-year history these past 19 years that I have served as labor commissioner. We hope that your company will be able to celebrate its safety accomplishments with the N.C. Department of Labor again this year. The safety awards program is our way of rewarding you for the success of your safety and health program.

Last year we presented a total of 3,200. Of those awards, 2,629 were gold and 487 were silver. In addition to safety awards, we also presented 84 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 percent 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 percent 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 2018. They are calculated to 50 percent 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 2019 to qualify for either award.

Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed application by entering the requested data for calendar year 2019. Applications are due by **February 14, 2020**. Even if you do not qualify for an award, submit the application to remain on the mailing list. The safety award applications also can be accessed and completed on the NCDOL website at 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. Million-Hour Safety Awards 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 your company qualifies for an award, you and your employees will be invited to attend a safety awards banquet in your area, and your local media will be notified of qualifying businesses. If you have any questions or need assistance completing the application, please call Eursula Joyner, safety awards coordinator, at 919-707-7855 or email her at Eursula.Joyner@labor.nc.gov.

We appreciate your participation in the program. I look forward to seeing you at one of our banquets this spring.

Sincerely,

Cherie Berry

Enclosure