Accident Prevention Program (APP)

Most Cited Violation – Accident Prevention Program

The most common issues L&I sees with APPs include:

- Not having an APP
- Having a template APP that's never changed (or updated)
- Not addressing workplace hazards (for example, an asbestos abatement company did not address asbestos in their APP)

What is an Accident Prevention Program (APP)?

An APP is a plan of action and the foundation to involve workers and management in workplace safety and health, and how to handle emergencies.

- An APP must be more than posting a sign that says **"Be Careful. In emergency call 911."**
- The end result APP will include identified hazards specific to your workplace before they cause accidents.
- Your APP cannot be a non-specific generic program; it must address actual and unique worksite hazards and conditions of worksite(s)
- It must include the work of all employees

Why is an APP important?

- It is the plan to help you find hazards before they cause accidents
- Writing an APP is imperative to be compliant with the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA) and be prepared for inspections from L&I
- It will help you respond to incidents and injuries when they occur

Accident Prevention Program (APP)

- Tailor your own Accident Prevention Program to your actual business operations and the potential hazards that may be encountered by your employees
- Your APP must be a "living plan," updated as changes occur in your business: examples are new processes, new equipment, or environmental changes
- Otherwise, it is just a document gathering dust on a shelf, of no real value to your company and something you just did to please L&I
- If the inspector finds serious hazards and no APP, or major deficiencies in the APP, you could receive a citation with monetary penalty
- Enforce safety & health training orientation and training programs