

The Governor's Safety Achievement Award Instructions

The Governor's Safety Achievement Award recognizes Montana's small, medium, and large employers from across the state. Rural or urban, the award honors outstanding workplaces and individuals in both the public and private sectors who demonstrate a strong commitment to superb workplace safety. Through their dedication, these employers and individuals not only create safer work environments but also reduce workers' compensation costs and set the standard of proven safety excellence. Please follow the instructions closely to determine your nominee's suitability.

Submit the nomination no later than August 1, 2026 via email to dlierdbs@mt.gov

Criteria for Employers:

Candidates for the Governor's Safety Achievement Award must meet the following criteria. All documentation must be submitted with the nomination form.

- **Exceptional Safety Management System**
 - Provide documentation of the following:
 - Written safety and health policy.
 - When this policy is provided to employees and accountability measures
 - Accident reporting and investigation procedures
 - Hazard reporting and tracking procedures
 - Job or task specific training.
 - When is the training provided to the employee in correlation to conducting these tasks
 - What type of training (practical application training vs. lecture-based learning)
 - Evaluations if they are conducted
 - Refresher training offered.
 - Refresher topics required by applicable OSHA standards and additional refresher training provided
 - Frequency of these refresher trainings
 - Safety and health tasks are assigned to a person or position.
 - Supporting policies or documentation

- Periodic self-inspection for hazards.
 - How often self-inspections are conducted for each establishment
 - Who conducts the self-inspections
 - Correction verification and tracking hazard abatement
- Employee participation in the safety and health program.
- An effective hazard reporting system.
 - Who can report hazards
 - Procedures to report hazards
 - Root cause analysis if included
 - Correction verification and tracking hazard abatement
- Have a good safety record:
 - The nominee must have an Experience Modification Rate (EMOD) or Incident Rate (for the last 3 years) that is below the National Average.
 - Include the last three years of OSHA Injury and Illness Logs (300, 300A and 301).
 - Include injury, illnesses and near miss reporting and investigation procedures if applicable.
 - Include any additional innovative safety training and/or initiatives implemented at your establishment and the resulting impact on the safety and health management system.

Criteria for Individuals:

Governor's Safety Achievement Award individual recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Must show exemplary leadership, outstanding achievement and implement safety policies and practices to facilitate a safe work environment.
- Promote innovative and creative solutions to engage colleagues in workplace safety programs.

Completing the Form

Nominations can be made by anyone for any employer or individual who may meet the nomination criteria. Self-nominations are encouraged. All nominations will be considered.

- Nominations for the Governor's Safety Achievement Award must be submitted electronically using this nomination form and supporting documentation.
 - Please include a summary (500 words or less) as to why the nominee deserves the award.

- Nominations for **employers** must include additional pages of supporting documents as noted above.
- Nominations for **individuals** must include:
 - A biography or resume of the employee
 - A letter of endorsement from someone who has worked with or for the nominee.
- The information submitted should support the award criteria for safety in the workplace.

The Process

A selection committee will review all nomination forms and select the Governor's Safety Achievement Award recipient(s). A letter will be sent to all nominees after the recipients have been selected. The recipients will be awarded at the Governor's Workers' Compensation Conference in West Yellowstone, MT, on October 8, 2026. Details of the award ceremony at a later date. **E-Mail Completed forms to:**

DLIERDBP&S@mt.gov

Name of the Company:

Type of Industry:

Number of Employees:

Business Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Business Phone:

Business Fax:

Email Address:

Your Name:

Title or Position:

Agency/Company/Organization:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone:

Email:

Deadline: All nomination forms and supporting documentation must be **received electronically** no later than **August 1, 2026**.

Nomination Description:

Please use this space to describe why your nominee deserves a 2026 Governor's Safety Achievement Award. If preferred, you may attach the description to this form.