

ON THE LEVEL

— ◦ BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS ◦ —

On The Level - May 2019



VPPPA Members Receive a
10% Tuition Discount



Upcoming Events & Deadlines

[Membership Renewal](#)

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Safety & Health News Round-Up

[Company Illegally Fired Employee After Amputation](#)
(ISHN)

[More Than Half of Americans Have Unhealthy Work-Life Balance](#)
(EHS Today)

[House Appropriations Committee Approves Large Funding Increases for OSHA, MSHA](#)
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Win A FREE Trip to the Safety+ Symposium!

We are thrilled to say the **#HowISafety Contest** is back this year! One of the greatest things about our members is their passion for safety. This contest is an excellent way for members to share their personal experiences and spread awareness of safety practices.

How to enter:

- Submit a photo of yourself representing how you are promoting/practicing safety in the workplace or at home. Examples: Wearing your PPE, teaching a safety class, attending training, following safety procedures etc.
- Write a short description or caption explaining the photo
- Include the #howisafety hashtag in your photo description
- If you don't have a Facebook or Twitter account, you may email your photo entry

to membership@vpppa.org

- The photo will be posted to VPPPA's Facebook page in the "How I Safety" photo album

The photo with the most likes will win a **complimentary Safety+ Symposium registration, free airfare and lodging** at New Orleans Marriott or New Orleans Sheraton on Monday, August 26- Friday, August 30.

The rules and requirements to enter this contest are as follows:

- Must be a member of VPPPA
- VPPPA has all rights to use the pictures submitted
- No nudity, graphic language or content, firearms or alcohol may be shown in any artwork or pictures submitted

Submit your entry by June 14, 2019.

You can check out the 2017 contest entries on the VPPPA Facebook page, in our [photo album here](#).

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VPPPA Awards & Scholarships

VPPPA offers a number of programs to recognize the extraordinary efforts of member sites and individuals who go above and beyond in their efforts to improve safety and health for the American workforce. VPPPA also provides scholarships to the VPPPA employees and their children who are pursuing degrees in the safety, health and environmental fields. You can find more information about the specific awards, scholarships and [download application forms here](#).

Please note: For 2019, the Safety & Health Achievement Program will be postponed as the Awards Committee is reviewing the application process.

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Want to Become A Special Government Employee?

The Special Government Employee (SGE) Program was established to allow industry employees to work alongside OSHA, particularly during VPP onsite evaluations. Not only does this innovative program benefit OSHA by supplementing its onsite evaluation teams, but it gives industry and government an opportunity to work together and share views and ideas. Qualified volunteers from VPP sites are eligible to participate in the SGE program. These volunteers must be approved by OSHA and funded by their companies to participate. After submitting an application and completing the required training, these volunteers are sworn in as SGEs and are approved to assist OSHA.

Interested in becoming a SGE? You can check out the full listing of available SGE training sessions, and apply, [here](#).

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OSHA Safe + Sound Campaign

We are proud to be Organizers this year for the OSHA Safe + Sound Campaign. To learn more about upcoming events, webinars and about Safe + Sound Week in August, visit OSHA's website [here](#).

Every workplace should have a Safety and Health Program



SAFE + SOUND
www.osha.gov/safeandsound

VPPA
VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS ASSOCIATION
The Premier Global Safety and Health Organization™

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Get Involved in VPPPA - Join the National Board of Directors

2019 National Board of Directors Elections

In conjunction with the 2019 Safety+ Symposium, taking place August 27-30 in New Orleans, Louisiana, elections are scheduled to be held for VPPPA National Board of Directors' positions. This year there are several open positions:

- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- Director from a Site with a Collective Bargaining Agent
- Director from a DOE-VPP Site
- Director-at-Large (three positions available)

Each position has a term of two years, beginning at the end of the 2019 Safety+ Symposium and terminating at the 2021 Safety+ Symposium.

Submission Deadline: May 24, 2019
Eligible candidates will be notified by June 5, 2019.

Special Election

The VPPPA Special Election deadline has been extended. The VPPPA is seeking nominations for the open board position of Director from a Site Without a Collective Bargaining Agent. This position will be up for reelection in 2020. All interested parties should submit their Nominations Form by close of business on **Friday, May 24, 2019.**

To read more about the requirements for joining the National Board of Directors, responsibilities of the position, how to apply and more, [click here.](#)

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U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$10.5 Million in Worker Safety and Health Training Grants

On May 3, OSHA announced the availability of \$10.5 million in Susan Harwood Training Grants for nonprofit organizations including community and faith-based organizations, employer associations, labor unions, joint labor/management associations, Indian tribes, and colleges and universities. The Harwood Training Grant [program](#) supports in-person, hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness and fatality rates; and vulnerable workers, who are underserved, have limited English proficiency or are temporary workers. The grants will fund training and

education to help workers and employers identify and prevent workplace safety and health hazards.

Grants are available in three areas: Targeted Topic Training, Training and Educational Materials Development, and Capacity Building.

- Targeted Topic Training grants support educational programs that address identifying and preventing workplace hazards. These grants require applicants to conduct training on OSHA-designated workplace safety and health hazards.
- Training and Educational Materials Development grants support the development of quality classroom-ready training and educational materials that focus on identifying and preventing workplace hazards.
- Capacity Building grants support organizations in developing new capacity for conducting workplace safety and health training programs, and must provide training and education based on identified needs of a specific audience or a set of related topics.

Details on the grants and how to apply are available at [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). Harwood applications must be submitted online no later than **11:59 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, July 2, 2019**.

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Celebrating Our 35th Birthday

Playing VPPPA trivia is an easy way to win prizes! All you have to do is answer a question to be entered for a prize. You can enter our current contest and be eligible to win a Wusthof Knives set. [Click here to play trivia.](#)

In addition to playing VPPPA trivia, you can celebrate our 35th birthday during the Safety+ Symposium from August 27-30, in New Orleans, LA. We will be giving away tons of birthday "presents" (prizes), throwing a Birthday Bash on Thursday night, as well as a few other things we have up our sleeve.

[Register for Safety+](#)



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Association Announcements

Write for a VPPPA Publication

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we will consider adding it to our blog schedule.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email communications@vpppa.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Membership News

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to communications@vpppa.org. We would love to add your updates to the next On The Level newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

Member of the Month

Have you checked out the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website? If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please email membership@vpppa.org.

The May Member of the Month is Craig Buelo. You can read about him [here](#).



Congratulations, Craig!

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We would like to thank our Star Level sponsors!



Stay Connected



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VPPPA, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, promotes advances in worker safety and health excellence through best practices and cooperative efforts among workers, employers, the government and communities.

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