

Nebraska's Safest Companies Award

The Nebraska's Safest Companies Award was established to recognize and celebrate companies who put safety first always, have a commendable safety program, and impeccable safety records based on their industry and size.

To apply, NSCN member companies complete the Nebraska's Safest Companies application before February 28, 2026. In addition to providing injury data, members will also complete the Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard. It measures the progress in implementing a comprehensive safety program. The application is a secure page and all information provided is confidential.



After submitting your application, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. Based on your NAICS code, your application is reviewed using your company's safety statistics against industry averages and similar sized companies.

*It doesn't matter if your company is small or in a unique industry
...it's your safety record that counts!*

We encourage all members to apply for the award – even if you think you may not earn an award this year. The application is weighted, and looks at your past three years of safety records. So even if you had a bad year in 2025, if you had a good year in 2024 and 2023 you could potentially still win an award. Participating companies who do not receive an award will receive an explanation of why they did not qualify and can receive a brief walk-through inspection by one of the NSCN consulting staff.



There is not a set number of awards given out - any company who meets the requirements to be one of Nebraska's Safest Companies will receive an award! We invite those who win to join us at the Celebration of Safety luncheon on May 5, 2026 at the LaVista Conference Center to receive their award.

Nebraska's Safest Companies Award

Award Information



- All entries must be a member of the National Safety Council - Nebraska Chapter (NSCN)
- Applicants must complete the online, secure application providing data from the past 3 years
- Applicants will also complete the online Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard; the application will take new applicants approximately 30 minutes (10 for returning applicants)
- Applicants will receive a copy of their application via email once submitted
- All applicants will receive award notification prior to March 31, 2026

There are two levels of the award – Nebraska's Safest Company and Nebraska's Safest Company with Distinction. Information below provides specifics regarding the two levels. (All applicants must provide 3 years of data from their OSHA 300A logs and complete the Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard)

How your information is used to become a Nebraska's Safest Company:

- Using your Incident, Lost Time, and DART rate data, your NAICS code and BLS industry averages, a 3 year weighted average is established. Nebraska Safest Companies must be better than industry average.
- Using your results from your Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard, Nebraska's Safest Companies must score higher than 75 points.

How your information is used to become a Nebraska's Safest Company with Distinction:

- Using your Incident, Lost Time, and DART rate data, your NAICS code and BLS industry averages, a 3 year weighted average is established. Nebraska Safest Companies with Distinction must be 50%+ better than industry average.
- Using your results from your Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard, Nebraska's Safest Company with Distinction must score higher than 112 points.

All award recipients will receive an award with a year designation that indicates the number of years an organization has received the award. Recipients will also receive a 'Safest Company' window cling to display at their organization and access to the 2026 electronic logo that can be used on their website or email signature. Recipients will be recognized at the Celebration of Safety luncheon.

Workplace Driving Safety Award

The Workplace Driving Safety Award Program is designed to recognize and celebrate organizations that prioritize the safety of their employees behind the wheel. By applying for this award, companies not only showcase their commitment to road safety but also unlock a range of benefits that positively impact their organization, employees, and stakeholders. The driving award program was established in 2025 and supported by AAA Nebraska.

Transportation-related fatalities have become a growing concern in workplace safety. In 2022, nearly 60% of workplace fatalities were transportation-related. By 2023, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, this number had risen to 65%, making transportation incidents the leading cause of workplace fatalities.

This alarming trend underscores the urgent need for action. The Workplace Driving Safety Award Program was created to encourage organizations to prioritize driving safety, share best practices, and collectively work toward reversing this increase in transportation-related fatalities. By recognizing companies that go above and beyond to protect their drivers, the program aims to inspire change and create safer roads for everyone.

To apply you will need:

- Information about your company's driving programs and policies
- Number of vehicles on the road (to include company owned + personal vehicles used for business; Personal = any vehicle used where mileage is reimbursed)
- Number of reported driving crashes while on the job including motor vehicle fatalities

Criteria for determining if and when a vehicle crash is counted:

Vehicle crash should be counted when meeting the following criteria:

A bodily injury occurs (anytime) and/or when damage occurs to a vehicle when it hits, or is hit by, another vehicle, or other object. For example - collision in an intersection, rear-ended by another vehicle, backing into an object, striking an animal while driving or any vehicle incident involving bodily injury, etc.

Vehicle crashes should not be counted when meeting the following criteria:

Vehicle damage occurs with no bodily injury and results from incidents other than collision. For example - damage while the vehicle is parked or otherwise unattended, hail or flood damage, damage due to theft or vandalism, etc.



Frequently Asked Questions

When is the latest I can submit an application?

The Nebraska's Safest Companies application will close on Saturday, February 28, 2026.

What if I have multiple locations, operations units, or multiple units within an organization?

Entities that are office only, operations units, or separate divisions within an organization must have 20 or more employees.

For multiple units within an organization: if you elect to submit separate applications for various establishments/branches within your organization, the reporting units must have twenty or more employees each and maintain their safety results separately within your organization. If you are submitting more than one application, be sure to enter a DISTINCT "Company Name" in each application, e.g. by adding the location or the function of the unit to your company name. (This is especially important if your divisions are at the same address.)

Examples of How to Distinguish by Location and by Function:

You may elect to submit separate applications for various divisions/operating units/branches/offices within your organization if the reporting units have twenty or more employees each and maintain their safety results separately within your organization.

Example 1- Distinguishing by location:

My Company, Beatrice

My Company, Hartington

My Company, Gering

Example 2 - Distinguishing by function:

My Company, Parts Manufacturing

My Company, Adhesives

My Company, Final Production

My Company, Office Only

How do I choose a NAICS Code?

Your reporting code will be a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code. Please enter a reporting code that corresponds to an industry that has a hazard exposure that is similar to yours. If your company has multiple NAICS please choose the code that represents the majority of your business. You can use this [search tool](#) to find your NAICS code.

Frequently Asked Questions

How many years of data do I need for the application?

Please submit annual information for the past three years. If you submitted data last year, check that box on the application. You will then only be required to enter current year's data.

New Applicants must submit a copy of OSHA 300A log summaries or equivalent for 2023, 2024, and 2025. Re-applications submit 2025 summaries, however, be sure all numbers are provided on form.

What are OSHA Recordable Cases (Incidence Rate), Lost Time Case Rate, and DART Rates?

Incidence Rates (IR)

Rates will be calculated for you based on the data you enter. For reference, here are the formulas that are used.

The OSHA Recordable Incident Rate (or Incident Rate) is calculated by multiplying the number of recordable cases by 200,000, and then dividing that number by the number of labor hours at the company.

$$\text{IR Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of OSHA Recordable Cases} \times 200,000}{\text{Number of Employee Labor Hours Worked}}$$

Lost Time Case Rate (LTC)

The Lost Time Case Rate is a similar calculation, only it uses the number of cases that contained lost work days. The calculation is made by multiplying the number of incidents that were lost time cases by 200,000 and then dividing that by the employee labor hours at the company.

$$\text{LTC Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Lost Time Cases} \times 200,000}{\text{Number of Employee Labor Hours Worked}}$$

Days Away Restricted Transferred (DART) Rate

The DART rate is relatively new to industry. This rate is calculated by adding up the number of incidents that had one or more Lost Days, one or more Restricted Days or that resulted in an employee transferring to a different job within the company, and multiplying that number by 200,000, then dividing that number by the number of employee labor hours at the company.

$$\text{DART Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of DART Incidences} \times 200,000}{\text{Number of Employee Labor Hours Worked}}$$

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I get a copy of my Safety Program Evaluation Scorecard?

The scorecard is an important piece of the Nebraska's Safest Companies Awards Program, but it was also designed to be a helpful guide for those working to strengthen their safety programs.

Elements in the scorecard are consistent with a comprehensive safety program. Your points will be automatically totaled when you have completed the scorecard. There is a total of 150 possible points. After submitting your application, you will receive a confirmation e-mail.

What if I forgot the username and/or password that I used last year?

2026 applicants can use their User Name and password from last year. Can't remember? Click on the Login link (upper right corner of this page) to retrieve your information. If you're still having issues, email safety@safenebraska.org and we will reset your information. (or create a new account using a different email address; however, please note that if you change your email address your previous year's information will not load automatically. You will need to re-enter your information.)

We can the username and email that you used for previous applications, but we do not have access to the password that was used, nor are we able to change the password for you. If you do not remember your password, then you will have to reset your account and fill out the application from scratch.

Can I save my application and return to it later?

You can choose to save an incomplete application by clicking the "Save and Continue Later" link at the bottom of the form. This will provide you with a unique link that you can use to pick up where you left off. This link is valid for 30 days. Once the completed form is submitted, changes cannot be made.

Can I apply to be one of Nebraska's Safest Companies if I'm not a member of the National Safety Council - Nebraska Chapter?

Only NSCN members can apply for the award. However, there are lot of benefits included in the low cost of a membership, such as free safety trainings and free streaming videos. Call us at (402) 896-0454 or email safety@safenebraska.org to talk about how we can help you improve your safety program and keep your employees safe.