# State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Labor Standards and Safety Alaska Occupational Safety and Health

## Occupational Safety and Health Standard Operating Procedure 005

DOCUMENT IDENTIFIER: Created: June 29, 2017 AKOSH SOP 005 Revised: June 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Alaska Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Partnership Program Manual

#### **ABSTRACT**

I. Purpose:

In accordance with the 21d grant, AKOSH Consultation and Training is required to maintain at least one partnership agreement in construction, healthcare, seafood processing, or the public sector.

The Alaska Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) partnership program is an agreement developed to provide procedures and establish a strategic partnership between the State of Alaska, and licensed construction contractors in the State of Alaska, including members of the Associated General Contractors (AGC).

II. Scope:

This agreement applies to construction contractors interested in participating in, and are approved into a partnership with the State of Alaska, CHASE partnership.

III. References:

Consultation Policies and Procedures Manual (CPPM,) (CSP 02-00-003.) November 19, 2015.

OSHA Strategic Partnerships for Worker Safety and Health (CSP 03-02-003,) November 06, 2013.

AKOSH Program Directive 19-08, Local Emphasis Program to reduce and/or eliminate occupational safety and health hazards in construction industry in Alaska, January 2, 2019.

AKOSH Program Directive PD#14-01 OSHA Strategic Partnership Program for Worker Safety and Health, April 25, 2014.

IV. **Distribution:** 

Dr. Tamika Ledbetter, Commissioner, State of Alaska, DOL&WD Cathy Munoz, Deputy Commissioner, State of AK, DOL&WD Barbara Goto, Regional Administration, OSHA, Region X Joseph Knowles, Director, Labor Standards and Safety Elaine Banda, Chief of Consultation and Training

Ron Larsen, Chief of Enforcement

Arlene Lamont, Area Director, Anchorage, OSHA, Region X

V. **Cancellations:** All previous versions.

VI. **Renewal:** This SOP will be renewed every three years by the Chief of

Consultation and Training and the CHASE Coordinator

VII. **History:** History of previous versions includes June 29, 2018

VIII. Contact: Donald Farwell, CHASE Coordinator

IX. **Originator:** Elaine Banda, Chief of Consultation and Training

X. **Background:** AKOSH procedures for applying for the CHASE Program

XI. **Procedures:** Appendix A – Qualification Criteria, Process, Levels, and Incentives

Appendix B – Employer Self-evaluation Checklist Appendix C – CHASE Partnership Agreement

Appendix D – Employee Worksite Daily Safety Inspection Checklist

Appendix E – Partnership Application

Appendix F – CHASE Participant Job-Site Evaluation

Sample 1 – CHASE Executive Summary

Sample 2 – Chief of Consultation Renewal Letter

Sample 3 – Chief of Consultation Congratulatory Letter Sample 4 – Commissioner Recommendation Letter Sample 5 – Commissioner Congratulatory Letter

Sample 6 – CHASE Case File Check List

Sample 7 – CHASE Certificate

## **Executive Summary**

This SOP provides policy and procedures for the AKOSH CHASE partnership program. The CHASE Program will be implemented in three levels: AK-BLUE, AK-GOLD, and AK-FLAG. All Partnership applicants must initially qualify for the basic level of AK-BLUE. All entry level applicants who qualify initially for AK-BLUE will, upon approval and mutual acceptance, maintain this level of performance for a minimum of 1 year. At the end of one year, applications may be submitted for acceptance to the second level known as AK-GOLD. At the end of the second year, applications may be submitted for acceptance to the third or highest level known as AK-FLAG, the highest level of achievement in the "AK-CHASE" Partnership. Applications may be submitted at the beginning of each quarter. Eligibility status must be renewed on an annual basis.

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The CHASE partnership program is an agreement developed to provide procedures and establish a strategic partnership between the State of Alaska, and licensed construction contractors in the State of Alaska, including members of the Associated General Contractors (AGC).

### II. Scope

This policy applies to all construction contractors interested in participating in, and are approved into a partnership with the State of Alaska, CHASE partnership.

#### III. Action

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Standards and Safety, Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Consultation and Training section (AKOSH) will carry out the project following the procedures described in this policy.

#### IV. Background

According to US Bureau of Labor Statistics for 2002, the overall accident rate for the construction industry in Alaska exceeds the national average. This accident rate is unacceptably high. The focus of the AK-CHASE partnership will be to address this issue.

### V. Goals

The CHASE partnership promotes relationships between AKOSH Consultation and Training and construction contractors in Alaska. To enter into this partnership, the construction contractors must, with assistance and oversight from AKOSH, develop and implement programs to reduce the injury rates. Participating contractors must provide oversight to ensure their employees comply with safety and health regulations and safe operating procedures.

Joseph Knowles

Director, Labor Standards and Safety

## Alaska Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Partnership Program

#### Introduction

CHASE project promotes a partnership between AKOSH and construction contractors in Alaska. To enter into this partnership, the construction contractors must, with assistance and oversight from AKOSH, develop and implement programs to reduce the injury rates. Participating contractors must provide oversight to ensure their employees comply with safety and health regulations and safe operating procedures. The contractor shall control safety and health hazards and initiate and maintain an effective safety program. AKOSH consultation will assist in this process through training and consultative visits to verify that partnership requirements are met and program goals are being attained. Consultation visits include conducting employee interviews, reviewing evidence of regular and effective safety audits and inspections by company personnel, and reviewing training documentation, accident investigations and injury/illness data.

**Partnership goals:** The contractor shall control safety and health hazards and initiate and maintain an effective safety program. AKOSH consultation will assist in this process through training and consultative visits to verify that partnership requirements are met and program goals are being attained. Consultation visits include conducting employee interviews, reviewing evidence of regular and effective safety audits, regular inspections by company personnel, and reviewing training documentation and accident investigations and injury/illness data. CHASE participants strive to achieve the following goals:

- a. Decrease in the frequency of serious injuries, illnesses, and fatalities for the participating construction contractors.
- b. Improve construction contractor safety and health programs.
- c. Utilize AKOSH resources by using this partnership as a tool to reduce the need for enforcement inspections while achieving a higher level of worker safety and health.
- d. Leverage of AKOSH Consultation and Training resources by promoting more active employer action and responsibility in safety and health management.
- e. Promote a more cooperative relationship between construction contractors and AKOSH.
- f. Enhance employee involvement in safety and health through "near miss" or similar programs.
- g. Enable participating construction contractors and AKOSH to better share resources like training, hazard identification and effective and efficient abatement methods through improved communications.
- h. Establish a protocol for qualifying, recognizing and rewarding construction

contractors who consistently meet or exceed the minimum qualifying partnership requirements. There will be three levels of recognizable achievement. These levels will be termed AK-BLUE, indicating initial acceptance into the Partnership. AK-GOLD and AK-FLAG, represent progressively higher levels of achievement. Specific requirements for each level, along with a self-evaluation form will be found in Appendices A and B of this document.

#### A. Consultation Scheduling System:

When a contractor has entered into the partnership agreement with AKOSH, qualifying members will:

- 1. Receive a comprehensive on-site safety and health consultation visit according to the guidelines established in CPS 02-00-003.
- 2. Be placed on a lower priority general scheduled inspection list for enforcement.
- 3. Receive initial training and assistance in developing site-specific safety and health programs. Due to the limited resources and manpower of AKOSH, it may be necessary to complete the on-site visits on an incremental basis. It is anticipated that the initial term for each partnership in this program will be five years before the contractor is expected to apply for the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) or Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). However, the contractor may choose to remain in CHASE at their current level or apply for a higher level of CHASE. AKOSH oversight will include assisting the construction contractors in tracking hazard trends and communicating this information to augment the self-audit program.

A comprehensive consultation visit will include a review of the employer's safety and health management program. The review will determine whether or not the following controls are in place:

- 1. Written program elements and procedures are in effect company-wide.
- 2. Serious and imminent danger hazards are corrected immediately.
- 3. The employer provides regular worker safety training.
- 4. Controls are implemented in the following priority order when reducing or eliminating a hazard:
  - a. elimination of hazards
  - b. engineering controls
  - c. administrative controls
  - d. personal protective equipment issued to and utilized by employees

The consultation visits will follow CPS 02-00-003 requirements. Un-programmed enforcement inspections conducted in response to complaints, accidents, and fatalities shall be conducted in accordance with established AKOSH procedures.

### B. Partnership Requirements:

The partnership is a written agreement between AKOSH and the construction contractor. It may include creation of a joint steering/oversight committee to assist in validating a commitment to create and maintain effective, comprehensive, written safety and health programs. The contractor's commitment includes self-inspections to ensure safety and health requirements are being followed at the site. AKOSH Consultation will provide safety and health program advice and support and will conduct consultation visits as described in policy manual.

In general, the requirements for all levels include instituting and maintaining a comprehensive safety policy, ensuring employees receive appropriate and adequate safety and health training, encouraging employee involvement in safety meetings and site inspections, and conducting frequent safety inspections.

Requirement topics are addressed specifically in Appendix A by level and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Application: The participating construction contractor must submit the following documents:
  - Appendix E Partnership Application
  - Appendix B Employer Self-Evaluation Checklist
  - Summary of the contractor's OSHA 300 logs for the last three years
  - Copies of any written safety/health programs
  - Copies of any program implementation documents
- 2. Safety Policy: Participating construction contractors must have a written policy addressing employer and employee safety. This policy will ensure compliance with regulations and include implementation of safety training, site inspections, accident investigations, safety meetings and site-specific programs.
- 3. Training: The training goal is to ensure that employers and employees will understand safety and health regulations and safe work practices, and work together to reduce or eliminate workplace hazards. Participating construction contractors will be required to involve employees in identification and correction of safety and health hazards ("Near Miss" or equivalent will be required). Guidance for training will be the OSH Act, OSHA regulations, Alaska's OSH laws and additional regulations, and other industry safety and health standards.
- 4. Safety Inspections: A participating construction contractor will perform and document comprehensive safety and health inspections of its operations that address all aspects of the safety and health program. An initial consultation visit to each construction contractor by AKOSH will be conducted as scheduling by AKOSH Consultation permits. Comprehensive inspections by the employer will be conducted on a monthly basis to monitor the continued effectiveness of the safety and health program. In addition, daily site inspections will be conducted (see Appendix D). All hazards observed must be corrected according to established policies.

- 5. Hazard Correction: A participating construction contractor will establish an effective policy for correcting hazards and procedures for dealing with non-compliant supervisors or employees. Serious and imminent danger hazards will be documented with time, date and action taken to gain compliance. Hazards with a high probability of causing serious injury are to be corrected immediately and action taken to ensure the condition does not recur.
- 6. Employee participation: A participating construction contractor will promote employee involvement by requiring employee participation during safety meetings and site inspections.
- 7. Annual evaluation: Participating construction contractors will submit the following documentation on or before March 1 each year to the AKOSH consultant who has been assisting them, or to:

CHASE Partnership Program AKOSH Consultation and Training 1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 109 Anchorage, AK 99504

The following information will be used to evaluate continuing the partnership:

- a. Information of accident investigations conducted and training provided during the previous year.
- b. OSHA 300 injury logs from participating construction contractors including total employee work hours for the year. (This information is used to calculate the initial base rate and to determine progress in reduction of workplace injuries and illnesses).
- c. Verification of safety hazards found during inspections. This includes the number and type of hazard found, date and how the hazards were corrected. (A sample format is found in Appendix D).
- d. Worker Compensation injury information for all of the participating contractors for the year. (This information may be presented in summary form with sufficient documentation for validation).

#### C. Incentive:

Participating construction contractors, when accepted as partners with AKOSH may promote the agreement and status as a partnership.

Nothing in the requirements for partnership will exempt the participating construction contractors from meeting their obligation to control the site and to promptly remove employees at the site from serious safety and health hazards. Additionally, the partnership agreement does not remove the employer from the primary responsibility to maintain a safe and healthful workplace.

#### D. Outreach:

The AKOSH Consultation and Training section will carry out various outreach activities to introduce this project and to promote comprehensive employer safety and health programs. Efforts will be made to contact all interested parties. The following list of activities provides a framework for action:

- Information and training sessions can be provided by AKOSH and/or partnership
  contractors on request. These sessions will target interested parties. The purpose of
  these sessions will be to discuss program specifications, obligations of AKOSH,
  partner responsibilities, partnership as a choice, benefits of a comprehensive
  workplace safety and health program, and AKOSH and OSHA regulatory
  requirements
- 2. Enlist the support and help of various organizations to promote awareness of the project.
- 3. Compile an inventory of resources for use in the development of safety and health programs for project participants.
- 4. Provide safety and health resources to assist employers in the development of effective safety and health programs.
- 5. Seek support of insurance companies and other employers known to have successful policies and programs.

### E. Partnership Agreements:

Appendix C provides a sample copy of the signed agreement between AKOSH and the participating construction contractors. Either party can cancel partnership agreements by written notice. The partnership agreements will require a review after two years to determine if the partnership is working as planned. The partnership will continue for three more years if agreed on by the parties of the partnership.

## F. <u>Disqualification</u>:

If a participating construction contractor receives a citation classified as willful or failure-toabate which has become a final order within the last three years, the contractor will not be accepted into the CHASE partnership program.

Additionally, if a participating construction contractor receives a willful, repeat, or failure-to-abate citation during the term of this agreement, the contractor will be terminated from the partnership agreement. Enforcement inspections conducted at partnership sites resulting in numerous violations or high gravity serious violations will be considered for disqualification as a partner by AKOSH.

## G. Evaluating Protocol for Partnership Candidates:

A construction contractor entering into a partnership with AKOSH will be evaluated in accordance with paragraph I of this instruction. Appendix B provides a checklist for evaluating approved contractors for possible partnership agreements.

The participating construction contractor will provide, upon request, a list of project locations to AKOSH Consultation and Training section. The contractor will be evaluated to determine if they qualify for the partnership.

A comprehensive safety and health consultation visit will be completed. The consultation visits will remain in progress as long as all hazards have not been corrected and the correction due date has not lapsed. Serious hazards that are not corrected within the established time frame may be referred to enforcement.

## H. Recording in the OSHA Information System (OIS):

Evaluation for potential partnership consultative visits will be entered in the OIS. In the Your Request tab under Special Programs Name select: Other and describe the request as: CHASE applicant.



#### I. Evaluation of the Partnership Program:

By March 1 of each year, if the partnership program remains active, AKOSH shall conduct an evaluation of the partnership program which will examine the following factors:

- 1. Number of Approved Contractors.
- Loss Work Day Injury and Illness (LWDII) rate of partnership as a whole and
  individual approved contractors compared to their individual base rate (best two out
  of three previous years' average prior to the start of the partnership based on the
  OSH 300 data).
- 3. Number of fatal accidents on partnership sites compared to base rate (best two out of three previous years' average prior to the start of the partnership based on the OSH 300 data).
- 4. Evaluation of safety and health program implementation for the partner.
- 5. Hazards corrected and employees removed from risk by partners.
- 6. After successful completion of five years in the AK-CHASE partnership, the

construction contractor will be expected to apply for the SHARP or VPP. However, the contractor may choose to remain in CHASE at their current level or apply for a higher level of CHASE.

By February 1<sup>st</sup>, contact will be made by the AKOSH CHASE Program Manager to each participating contractor as a reminder for the submission requirements listed above. However, the required submittals will be the sole responsibility of the partnering contractor. Failure to submit this documentation may result in removal from the CHASE program.

If the participating construction contractor injury rate has not shown improvement and the employer has not developed and implemented the necessary safety programs and prevention strategies, the employer's participation in the partnership will be evaluated and may be discontinued. The CHASE partner will have 30 calendar days to respond with:

- 1. A detailed report on the current progress of their program
- 2. A specific response indicating why the program is deficient
- 3. What procedures and timelines the employer has in place for improvement

In case the partnership with the contractor is discontinued, the participating construction contractor in the partnership with AKOSH will be formally notified in writing of removal from the partnership arrangement.

## **APPENDIX A – Qualification Criteria, Process,** Levels, and Incentives

- I. **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS** for the Multi-Step Program: AK-BLUE (basic partnership approval), AK-GOLD, and AK-FLAG (representing higher levels of safety and health achievement). Note: It may be necessary or desirable to form a committee of designated representatives of Qualifying Members of the AK-CHASE PARTNERSHIP. This committee should represent general and specialty construction contractors. Meetings should be held via teleconference or electronically when practical.
  - A. The AK-CHASE Program will be implemented in three levels: AK-BLUE, AK-GOLD, and AK-FLAG. All Partnership applicants must initially qualify for the basic level of AK-BLUE. However, some initial applicants may qualify for one of the higher levels, depending on experience and performance.

Applicants who qualify for higher levels will receive all incentives associated with those levels. Applicants who qualify immediately for AK-FLAG will be expected to contribute to the partnership by acting as mentors to contractors on their worksites who may not qualify for the higher levels. (Qualification will be determined by AKOSH.)

Typically, consideration for higher level qualification will require a minimum of three years' experience including all relative documentation of program development, implementation and performance in safety and health. Applicants who may be new to Alaska or have formed new companies will be given consideration based on the same criteria.

- B. All entry level applicants who qualify initially for AK-BLUE will, upon approval and mutual acceptance, maintain this level of performance for a minimum of 1 year. At the end of one year, application may be made for acceptance to the second level known as AK-GOLD. This level must also be maintained for one year. At the end of the second year, application may be made for acceptance to the third or highest level known as AK-FLAG, which represents the highest level of achievement in the "AK-CHASE" Partnership.
- C. Applications may be submitted throughout the year. Eligibility status must be renewed on an annual basis. The self-audit evaluation of the applicants' programs will be administered by the applicants' designated staff. The application will be reviewed by AKOSH. (If a partnership committee has been formed it will designate an auditor and AKOSH will take an advisory role). In either case, the application will either be rejected or approved. Successful applicants will be accepted into the AK-CHASE Partnership. New applicants will:

I. C – APPLICATION	AK-BLUE	AK-GOLD	AK-FLAG
Complete AK-CHASE application consisting of: Appendix E – application form; and Appendix C – Partnership Agreement form; and	X	X	X
Include previous 3 years of OSHA 300 forms	X	X	X
Complete the Employer's Self-Audit evaluation of applicant's program - Appendix B.	X	X	X

Requirements: Participating contractors will fulfill the following according to the level of safety and health program achieved:

I. D - Level I - AK-BLUE -Requirements	AK-BLUE	AK-GOLD	AK-FLAG
Provide verification of safety hazards found during inspections. Include number and type of hazards found, date and how hazards were abated – Use Appendix D or similar format.	X	X	X
Develop a written policy that addresses employer and employee safety including requirements for assurance of compliance with regulations, safety training, site inspections, accident investigation, safety meetings, and other site-specific programs. Use Appendix D or a similar format.	X	X	X
I. D - Level I – AK-BLUE -Requirements	AK-BLUE	AK-GOLD	AK-FLAG
Ensure employees are trained in hazard recognition specific to OSHA standards, AKOSH statutes and regulations, other safety standards and approved employer policies and procedures.	X	X	X
Perform and document comprehensive safety and health inspections at all operations which address all aspects of the safety and health management program on a monthly basis.	X	X	X
Conduct daily site inspections and correct observed hazards according to I-5 of the AK-CHASE Partnership project agreement.	X	X	X
Establish an effective policy for dealing with non-compliant supervisors or employees.	X	X	X
Document serious and imminent danger hazards including time, date and action taken. Take immediate action to correct hazard and ensure condition does not reoccur.	X	X	X
Promote employee involvement by requiring employee participation during safety meetings and site inspections.	X	X	X
Provide on or before <b>March 1</b> each year: information on accident investigations conducted and training provided during the previous year.	X	X	X
Provide on or before <b>March 1</b> each year: OSHA 300 injury logs from participating contractors.	X	X	X
Provide on or before <b>March 1</b> each year: verification of the number and type of safety hazards found during inspections, including the date and how hazards were corrected. (Appendix D Daily Safety Inspection).	X	X	X
Provide on or before <b>March 1</b> each year: Worker Compensation injury information for all of the participating construction contractors.	X	X	X
I. D - Level II - AK-GOLD Requirements	AK-BLUE	AK-GOLD	AK-FLAG
Continue to meet all requirements of AK-BLUE (items 1-12) and the following nine requirements (13-20).			
Assign at least one trained employee to administer the program and conduct documented inspection of ongoing work; training equivalent to the OSHA Training Institute Advanced Course in Construction Standards, OTI #500 or 510 (such as the AGC Safety Management course), will be deemed satisfactory. An employee with extensive experience in craft, who can document equivalent knowledge may be considered on a case by case basis. (Significant craft experience will be considered an asset when judging the qualifications of designated safety personnel).		X	X
Conduct an orientation of all new employees and of employees who may have been hired prior to the implementation of the current program and show firm evidence of the effectiveness of this orientation, including the disciplinary program. (Written quizzes, records of observed behavior, employee interviews, etc. constitute qualifying evidence).		X	Х
Conduct and document weekly safety meetings and toolbox/tailgate meetings for all non-typical tasks.		X	X

Conduct and document job-site hazard inspections including notes on corrective action. (Appendix D is an efficient format and is easily modified to be project specific).		X	X
Encourage and document employee involvement in all facets of program implementation, including mishap investigations.		X	X
Develop and maintain a Substance Abuse Program.		X	X
Provide all field construction supervisory personnel with training.		X	X
I. D - Level II – AK-GOLD Requirements	AK- BLUE	AK- GOLD	AK- FLAG
Equivalent to the OSHA Training Institute Construction Standards Class #500, the AGC Supervisor Safety Competency Training Course or other qualified programs.			
For partners entering the gold and flag levels, their injury/illness rate goal over a 5-year period of time should be a reduction by 15% or better from their entering base rate. If a contractor falls below the base rate the company partnership will be reevaluated to determine future participation.		X	X
I. D - Level III – AK-FLAG Requirements	AK- BLUE	AK GOLD	AK- FLAG
After meeting AK-BLUE and AK-GOLD requirements for a minimum of one year each, qualifiers will continue to meet all requirements of AK-BLUE (items 1-12), AK-GOLD (items 13-20) and the following 13 requirements (21-33).			
Ensure that written, site-specific safety and health plans are used by all contractors			X
on the project and that all implementation is documented.  Applicants achieving AK-FLAG status agree to serve as mentors for contractors on their projects who have yet to achieve the same level of recognition within the			X
partnership. AK-FLAG participant companies will agree to maintain a copy of the specialty contractors' applicable programs or require the specialty contractors to follow its programs.			
Ensure designated safety personnel conduct documented safety and health inspections of all work on their project(s). Safety personnel, through training and experience, must be able to recognize hazards and will have the authority to take prompt corrective action. Training curriculum equivalent to the OSHA 30-hour Construction Outreach Course will be deemed satisfactory. Craft experience will be considered an additional asset.			X
Train all field construction supervisory personnel in the safety aspects of supervision. In addition to the supervisory Safety Competency Course, training shall be provided for competent persons in such areas as Scaffolding, Excavation, Fall Protection, Confined Space Entry etc.			X
Provide evidence of effective employee involvement in all aspects of program development and implementation, including applicable documentation. Near miss or equivalent will be deemed adequate.			X
Provide full and effective employee program orientation and show evidence of training effectiveness for hazard avoidance.			X
Conduct fully documented weekly safety meetings that include employee participation.			X
Implement and maintain a Substance Abuse Program.			X
Implement a six (6)-foot Fall Protection Policy for scaffolds with a footprint less than four feet in width.			X
Receive a qualifying on-site consultation visit at a minimum of one representative job site by AKOSH Consultation.			X
Have no willful violations in the last 3 years.			X
Have no repeat violations in the last 3 years.			X
Have no fatalities or catastrophes in the last 3 years that resulted in serious or willful citations related to the incident.			X

II. Incentives	AK- BLUE	AK GOLD	AK- FLAG
Participating contractors will receive the following incentives according to the level of safety and health program achieved. AKOSH Consultation verification visits to sites will be scheduled at the discretion of the Chief of AKOSH Consultation.			
Exemption from programmed Enforcement inspections through completion of all corrective action, including all extensions.	X		
Will not receive citations for other-than-serious violations identified during Enforcement action that may occur after expiration of the exemption. (Provided that the corrections are made within a prescribed period of time).	X		
Will receive special recognition from AKOSH, designating the contractor as a qualifying participant in the AK-CHASE program at the AK-BLUE level.	X		
Exempt from programmed Enforcement inspections through completion of all corrective action, including all extensions, or six months, whichever is longer.		X	
Will receive special recognition from AKOSH, designating the contractor as a qualifying participant in the AK-CHASE program at the AK-GOLD level.		X	
Will be given the maximum good faith penalty reductions available under AKOSH Enforcement programs for any citations issued during an Enforcement action that occurs after expiration of the exemption.		X	
Will not receive citations for any other-than-serious violations identified during any Enforcement action that may occur after expiration of the exemption.		X	
Will be given special recognition from AKOSH designating the contractor as a participant in the AK-CHASE Program at the AK-FLAG level.			X
AK-FLAG participant job sites will not receive another programmed Enforcement inspection within the next 12 months.			X
AK-Flag participants will receive unprogrammed Enforcement inspections only in response to imminent danger in plain sight of a public right of way, fatalities/catastrophes, and formal complaints. AKOSH will use telephone or fax to address all other complaints except those involving injuries requiring hospital admission. When an inspection of a nonformal complaint is deemed necessary by special circumstances, a copy of the complaint will be provided to the participant's Safety Director or other designated representative at the time of the inspection.			X
AKOSH will not issue citations for other-than-serious violations provided the violations are abated at the time of the inspection.			X
If cited by AKOSH, AK-FLAG participants will receive the maximum good faith and history penalty reductions available under existing AKOSH Enforcement policy.			X
During an AKOSH Enforcement inspection of a multi-employer work site, AK-FLAG participants, whose program has previously been verified by an AKOSH Consultation visit, will not be included in the inspection unless the Enforcement Officer documents that the participant is responsible for any employee exposures to serious hazards such as falls, struck by, caught in/between, excavation or electrocution hazards.			X
Participating construction contractors may promote the agreement and status as a partnership.	X	X	X
A congratulatory ceremony will be held on-site or at the Participants home office. An official certificate of program approval and a 3' X 6' banner will be presented representing the partnership between the Contractor and AKOSH.	X	X	X
III. Partnership Evaluation	AK- BLUE	AK- GOLD	AK- FLAG
All qualifying AK-CHASE Partners should submit data to AKOSH to assist evaluating the overall success of the program. A list of applicable criteria will be furnished to Partners on an annual basis. The data will be compiled and evaluated by AKOSH or by AKOSH and the Committee of Qualifying Partners jointly, if such a committee is formed. In this case, the Committee would take the lead role with AKOSH serving in an advisory capacity.	X	X	X

	X	X	X
Results will be made available to all Partner Contractors, their respective	11	11	11
organizations and committees and to the Director of ADOL & WD, LS&S.			
Individual names and other identifying data will be removed from the report.			
Using the above data, the partnership will be evaluated annually to determine	X	X	X
whether the goal of an overall 15% reduction in the number of injuries, illnesses			
and fatalities over a 5-year period is being met.			
Participant incidence of injuries from the hazards that are the four leading causes of	X	X	X
death on construction (falls, struck-by, caught in/between and electrocutions) will			
be measured and compared against a baseline established in the first year of the			
partnership.			
If all signatory partners agree, partnership criteria may be revised annually based	X	X	X
on recommendations for continuous improvement.			
Continual evaluation will be made throughout the year with consultation visits. This	X	X	X
will consist of a health or safety (or both) consultation visit at least once per quarter.			
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IV. Contractor Termination	AK-	AK-	AK-
	BLUE	GOLD	FLAG
A contractor's participation may be terminated by AKOSH Consultation if one or	X	X	X
more of the following occurs: (If a Committee of Qualifying Partners has been			
formed, the termination may be subject to its review).			
An on-site visit by AKOSH Consultation reveals a significant deviation from	X	X	X
program criteria.			
The contractor has falsified information on the application or supporting records.	X	X	X
The contractor fails to work toward a reduction in illness and injuries in the	X	X	X
workplace.			
The contractor takes other such actions that may be determined to be grounds for	X	X	X
termination.			
Prior to final termination of a contractor's status, the following will occur:	X	X	X
The contractor will be notified in writing of the intent to terminate.	X	X	X
The notice will include an explanation of the reasons for termination.	X	X	X
The contractor will have an opportunity to reply to the written notice within a period	X	X	X
of 30 days and			
The contractor will have the right to appear before the Committee of Qualifying	X	X	X
Partners if such a committee has been formed.			
The Committee of Qualifying Partners, if formed, will have the authority to	X	X	X
reinstate the contractor if it determines that the contractor's experience was unusual			
and not necessarily inconsistent with a sound safety and health program. In this			
event, AKOSH Consultation may conduct another on-site visit for verification.			
Any contractor may terminate participation in the program at any time.	X	X	X
V. Term And Location Of Partnership	AK-	AK-	AK-
	BLUE	GOLD	FLAG
The partnership will have an initial term of five years and may be renewed if all	X	X	X
signatory parties concur.	21	4.1	21
Any signatory party to the partnership may withdraw from the agreement at any			
in, organizate party to the partitioning many mandraw month the agreement at any	X	X	X
time after submitting written notification of intent to the other partner.	X	X	X

• Applicants for AK-GOLD or AK-FLAG who are new to Alaska must provide documentation of performance that meets all of the criteria detailed in the corresponding section of this appendix. In addition, supporting data furnished by former or current clients, licensing agencies, insurance carriers and trade organizations or the equivalent, must accompany the application. Applicants for AK-GOLD or AK-FLAG who have started new companies but are not new to Alaska must also meet all of the corresponding criteria and supporting documentation from previous employers, partners, licensing agencies, insurers, etc. or the equivalent.

- OSHA Training Institute course information, including descriptions and scheduling is available on the federal OSHA web page at WWW.OSHA.GOV
- The burden for determining the level of supervisor that will be required to have supervisory safety training will fall upon the participating contractor. As a minimum, the following categories should be included: Top management when their duties affect any portion of field operations, including estimating (safety expenses); onsite project managers and superintendents, general foremen and foremen through the working foreman level. In addition, care must be taken to ensure that lead men or temporary foremen who may have responsibility for directing work on smaller, non-typical tasks that may involve unusual hazards are adequately trained.
- The contractor's illness/injury base rate is figured on the best two out of three past year's incidences prior to entering the partnership as reported on OSHA 300 data and compared to annual average number of employees. The calculation formula is that used on the OSH 300 form: (# of incidents\*200,000) / Total annual hrs. worked = annual base rate).

## **Appendix - B - Employer Self-Evaluation Checklist**

	Yes	No
MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT AND LEADERSHIP		
1. Policy statement: goals established, issued, and communicated to Employees		
2. Program reviewed/revised annually		
3. Participation in safety inspections by supervisors		
4. Commitment of resources is adequate		
5. Safety rules and procedures incorporated into site operations		
6. Supervisors observe, communicate, and enforce safety rules		
7. Safety and Health programs are reviewed by AKOSH consultation		
ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY		
1. Supervisors knowledgeable and accountable		
2. Supervisor safety and health responsibilities are understood		
3. Participating Members will ensure Employees follow safety regulations		
IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF HAZARDS		
1. Periodic documented safety inspections (monthly) by on-site management,		
(daily) by foreman, craft journeyman or qualified employee representative.		
Documentation should utilize a site-specific checklist format. (Appendix D		
or equivalent)	_	_
2. Documented safety meetings (at least weekly)  2. Proventive controls in place (PDF, maintenance ancincering controls)		Ц
3. Preventive controls in place (PPE, maintenance, engineering controls)		
4. Action taken to address hazards		
5. Technical references available		
6. Enforcement procedures developed by the Employer. (Fully developed and implemented disciplinary program—zero tolerance for immediate danger to life or health (IDLH.)		
TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
1. Supervisors and Employees receive basic training		
2. Specialized training taken when needed (e.g. Documented tail-gates for		
non-typical tasks) 3. Employee training program exists, is ongoing, and is effective		
4. Training is internally certified and records are maintained		
RECORD KEEPING AND HAZARD ANALYSIS		
1. Records are maintained of employee illnesses/injuries		
2. Supervisors perform accident investigations, find causes and initiate		
corrective action 3. Employees participate in accident investigation, find causes and		
recommend corrective action	Ш	

		Yes	No
FIRST AID AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  1. First aid supplies and equipment, including stretcher, are available two Employees are first aid and CPR trained			
2. Employees are trained in first aid and CPR at all remote work	rksites		
3. Reliable communication for summoning emergency respons	se available at		
all work sites 4. Employees understand emergency action plan and procedure	es		
	YES	NO	N/A
OTHER SAFETY/HEALTH PROGRAMS WHICH	I		
MAY BE REQUIRED	_		
1. Hazard Communication Program		Ш	
2. Hearing Conservation Program			
3. Energy Control Program (lockout/tagout)			
4. Hazard Assessment for Personal Protective Equipment			
5. Emergency Action Program			
6. Confined Space Program			
7. Fall Protection Program			
		YES	NO
EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT			
1. Employees are required to attend safety meetings at least we			
Documented tail-gate meetings prior to all non-typical tasks 2. Employees participate in site inspections which are documented of all corrective action taken. (Sample documentation	nted, including		
Appendix D) 3. Employees are trained in required safety programs and prochow to identify safety problems. Training review for all new	projects or		
at least annually. Project specific orientation must be included. Employees comply with safety and health regulations and safety and health regulations.			
procedures 5. Employees wear provided personal protective equipment			
6. Employees are required to notify supervisors of serious and hazards immediately. (Fully implemented "Near Miss" or ed	imminent quivalent)		
EVALUATION COMMENTS  1. Written program meets the requirements for a partnership			
Comments attached 2. Site inspection meets requirements for a partnership Comments attached			
3. Qualify for partnership approval Comments attached			
EVALUATION COMMENTS 1. Qualify for partnership pending corrective action or program Comments attached	n modification		
	Doto		
Reviewed by Management (signature):	Date:		
Reviewed by Consultant (signature):	Date:		

## **Appendix - C – Alaska Construction Health and Safety Excellence Partnership Program Agreement Between:**

State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Labor Standards and Safety Division Occupational Safety and Health Consultation and Training

## and Company Name

The undersigned party mutually agrees to the goals and objectives described in paragraph G of this partnership program executed under AKOSH Program Directive 13-02. We are committed to Employee safety and health through the proper implementation of this agreement and related documents. The undersigned parties agree to operate within the scope of this agreement. The undersigned Approved Construction Contractor agrees to meet the requirements of paragraph I for participation in this partnership.

The undersigned parties understand that either party can cancel this agreement by written notice; and, in addition, the undersigned parties understand that this agreement will require renewal action every five years (in accordance with paragraph K). The undersigned Approved Construction Contractor is aware of the disqualification clause specified in paragraph L of this agreement.

Date:
Date:
Expiration Date:

## **Appendix - D – Employee Worksite Daily Safety Inspection Checklist**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

PROJECT	DATE:	TIME:
MANAGER:		
LOCATION:	INSPECTED	INSPECTION
	BY:	NO:

INSPECTION ITEMS (Check all items as appropriate, provide activity identification if correction is required).

Legend: OK=satisfactory CR=correction required LOC=location requiring correction

NA= not applicable

(Disable charge is available for fill in)

(Blank space is available for fill in)									
1.0 HOUSEKEEPING	OK	NA	CR	LOC		OK	NA	CR	LOC
WALKWAYS CLEAR									
STAIRWAYS CLEAR									
EGRESS AREAS CLEAR									
MATERIAL STORAGE									
EQUIPMENT STORAGE									
TRASH REMOVAL									
2.0 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIP. HARD HATS									
SAFETY SHOES									
EYE PROTECTION									
HEARING PROTECTION									
APPROPRIATE CLOTHING									
RESPIRATORY PROTECTION									
3.0 PORTABLE POWER & HAND TOOLS									
ELECTRICAL CORD INSULATION									
ELECTRICAL CORD GROUNDING									
4.0 HAZARD COMMUNICATION									
CURRENT CHEMICAL INVENTORY									
POSTED SDS									
CONTAINER LABELING									
USE OF PPE									

**INSPECTION ITEMS:** (Check all items as appropriate, provide activity identification if correction is required). LOC=location requiring correction Legend: OK=satisfactory CR=correction required NA= not applicable ZT= zero tolerance item (Blank space is available for fill in) O N  $\mathbf{C}$ Z O N C  $\mathbf{Z}$ L L K A R T O K A R T O C  $\mathbf{C}$ ZERO TOLERANCE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (Indicate the category, location, and corrective action taken as required) ACTION TAKEN CATEGORY # LOC NAME CORRECTIVE ACTIONS (Indicate the category, location, and corrective action taken as required) CATEGORY # LOC NAME ACTION TAKEN Notes

## **Appendix - E - Partnership Application**

1 2	
Physical Address:	
Phone: Fax:	E-mail:
Authorized Contact Person:	
List Company Principals or Officers (Ow	vners, Partners or Officers of the Corporation).
Name:	Title:
Contracting Category: □ Building □ Highway □ Heavy □ Utilities □ Industrial □ Specialty	Primary Client Base: ☐ Military ☐ Residential ☐ General Government ☐ Large Commercial ☐ Oil or Mining ☐ Light Commercial ☐ Other:
NAICS: License #: _	Expiration Date:
Years in Business:	Approximate # of completed projects:
Significant or unusual projects:	
Signature:	Date:
Print name:	Time:
Please complete the following items:  Appendix C – signed partnership agree	eement
☐ Appendix B – self-evaluation check l	
☐ Past 3 years OSHA 300 forms	
☐ Copies of written safety/health progra	ams
Please also include program implementation	documentation such as:
☐ Safety meeting minutes	
☐ Employee orientation form	
☐ Other employee training records	
☐ Job-site hazard inspection and correc	tion records

**Return Application and Attachments to:** 

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Occupational Safety and Health
Consultation and Training Section
1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 109
Anchorage, AK 99504

# Appendix - F - AK CHASE Participant Job-Site Evaluation

Construction Companies participating in the AK CHASE program have agreed to meet certain minimum requirements. In order for AKOSH to ensure CHASE participants are properly meeting the agreed upon standards consultants should complete this form after conducting an on-site consultation. Completed forms should be returned to the CHASE Coordinator. The CHASE Coordinator will perform an annual evaluation of all CHASE participants and provide a written evaluation for each participant to the Chief of Consultation by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

#### Evaluate the following based on the hazards and work conducted at the specific job site.

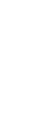
- 1. Is there a site-specific safety and health plan?
- 2. Are sub-contractors required to adhere the CHASE participant's safety and health program?
- 3. Are designated safety personnel conducting documented safety and health inspections?
- 4. Are competent persons in areas such as Scaffolding, Fall Protection, and excavation properly trained and designated?
- 5. Can the participant provide evidence of employee involvement in all levels of the safety & health program, such as self-audits, site inspections, job hazard analysis, training, and mishap investigations?
- 6. Can participant provide evidence for safety and health orientation for all new employees & show effective training for avoidance of hazards present at the specific job-site?
- 7. Are employee safety meetings held at least weekly?
- 8. Additional Comments:

## **Sample 1 - CHASE Executive Summary**

CHASE Executive Summary		
Contact Information		
Organization Name:		
Organization Type (e.g., private company, federal agency, association, etc.):		
Name:		
Title:		
Work Address:		
Phone Number:		
Visit Numbers Associated with this Summary:		
Fax Number:		
Email Address:		
Company Description		
A description of the company, their size, what they do, make or sell, their operations, organization, facilities or equipment. Comment on any interactions with AKOSH during the previous three years and/or any recent history including mergers, growth or downsizing. Include significant information about the workforce (turnover, pace of work, mobile employees, permanent or temporary, demographic information, training levels, etc.).		

Synopsis of the CHASE Process		
A description of the CHASE process with this company, when it started, who was involved, what was accomplished. (Reference report numbers and dates of visits to create a clear picture of what the CHASE process entailed. Description shall be in chronological order.) Summarize the progress made by the company in terms of improvements made in the safety and health management system.		
Claims Data		
Completed DART data for the most recent three completed years. For companies that are renewing CHASE, add the new year and continue to accumulate the data. Describe any anomalies or trends noted in claims data, and discuss accident investigation procedures. If the rates are above the state average, justify the recommendation for CHASE approval.		
Safety and Health Program Assessments		
Describe the findings noted in the initial and final assessments of the company's safety and health management systems. Note areas of program improvement. Note program strengths as well as weaknesses.  Consultants Recommendations		
Consultants statement verifying serious hazards were abated (or effective abatement plans in effect with interim protection in place with completion dates) and reason(s) why consultant(s) recommend this company be approved as (or to remain) a CHASE company.		

## Sample 2 - Consultation Chief Annual Recertification Approval Letter



## Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Labor Standards and Safety Occupational Safety and Health Consultation and Training

> 1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 109 Anchorage, AK 99504 Main: 907.269.4955 Fax: 907.269.3723

August 19, 2019

Company Name Company Address City, State Zip Code

RE: CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag Renewal

THE STATE

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Dear Company Representative,

I am pleased to approve Company Name renewal in the Construction Health and Safety Excellence Program (CHASE).

Company Name has been working with the AKOSH Consultation and Training section to improve occupational safety and health conditions for your employees over the past # years. Our consultants have conducted comprehensive evaluations on your annual data and verified that your company continues to meet CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag eligibility criteria. From the beginning, you have exhibited commitment and hard work toward this goal and the recommendations our consultants made were received freely and implemented to the effect of enhancing your program. We congratulate you for the positive attitude related to safety and health exhibited by you and your employees.

If you have questions or need assistance, Donald Farwell of the Anchorage OSH office is your contact person. He can be reached at (907) 269-4941 or <a href="Donald.farwell@alaska.gov">Donald.farwell@alaska.gov</a>. By March 1st of each year, please send him a copy of the OSHA 300 and 300A log summary which includes the injury and illness numbers and rates, the total hours worked, and the average annual employment. Also, include documentation as set forth in the CHASE Partnership Program Manual, section I.7.

Congratulations for your hard work and dedication to the principles embodied in CHASE. I wish you and your employees continued success in your safety and health efforts.

Sincerely,

Elaine Banda, B.A., M.Ed.

Elaine Banda

Chief of Consultation and Training

## Sample 3 – Consultation Chief Congratulatory Letter



Department of Labor and Workforce Development

> Labor Standards and Safety Occupational Safety and Health Consultation and Training

1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 109 Anchorage, AK 99504 Main: 907.269.4955 Fax: 907.269.3723

Month Day, Year

Company Name/Company Representative Company Address City, State Zip Code

RE: CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag Approval

Dear Company Representative

In recognition of the Commissioner's approval of your organization into CHASE at the Blue/Gold/Flag level, I'd like to congratulate you on this great achievement.

Your CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag approval shows the strength of your commitment to having a safe and healthy workplace. Your ongoing work to improve your safety and health program demonstrates this commitment and sets a role model for others. We encourage you to share what you have learned with other employers to assist them in growing their safety culture.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact Donald Farwell at (907) 269-4941 or by email at donald.farwell@alaska.gov. By March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, please send him a copy of the OSHA 300 and 300A log summary which includes the injury and illness numbers and rates, the total hours worked, and the average annual employment. Also include documentation as set forth in the CHASE Partnership Program Manual, section I.7 to:

Donald Farwell, CHASE Coordinator Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development Division of Labor Standards & Safety Occupational Safety and Health 1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 109 Anchorage, AK 99504

Mr. Farwell will be working with your staff on specifics for the CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag certificate delivery.

Congratulations for your hard work and dedication to the principles embodied in CHASE. I wish you and your employees continued success in your safety and health efforts.

Sincerely,

Elaine Banda

Elaine Banda, B.A., M.Ed. Chief of Consultation and Training

## Sample 4 - Commissioner Recommendation Letter

## MEMORANDUM DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

## STATE OF ALASKA

Labor Standards & Safety Division

TO: Dr. Tamika L. Ledbetter

Commissioner

DATE: Month Day, Year

THRU: Joseph Knowles

LSS Director

PHONE: (907) 269-4961

FROM: Elaine Banda, B.A., M Ed.

Chief of Consultation and Training SUBJECT: Recommendation for CHASE

Partnership Blue/Gold/Flag Level

Dear Commissioner,

I recommend approving Company Name into the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Partnership Program at the Blue/Gold/Flag Level.

A comprehensive evaluation of the company's health and safety management system as well as injury and illness records was conducted on Month Day, Year. We have determined that Company Name satisfies the qualification requirements for participation in the program as specified by the AKOSH Program Directive #04-03.

The employer has implemented and maintained a safety and health program that addresses all elements of the OSHA safety and health management guidelines. When approved, Company Name will be placed on a lower priority for general scheduled Enforcement inspections for five years. Participation in CHASE program does not diminish any of the rights and responsibilities provided to employees by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Employee complaints, imminent danger, fatalities, and catastrophes could result in an AKOSH enforcement inspection.

The employer fully understands their obligation to provide employees with safety and health protection and is fully committed to further this obligation as a participant in the CHASE program.

Sincerely,

Elaine Banda

Elaine Banda, B.A., M.Ed. Chief of Consultation and Training

## Sample 5 - Commissioner Congratulatory Letter



## Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Office of the Commissioner

PO Box 111149 Juneau, Alaska 99811 Main: 907.465.2700

#### Month Day, Year

Company Name Company Representative Name Company Address City, AK Zip Code

RE: CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag Approval

Dear Company Representative

I am pleased to approve Company Name in City, Alaska to the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Program.

Company Name has been working with the AKOSH Consultation and Training section to improve occupational safety and health conditions. AKOSH consultants conducted a comprehensive safety and health evaluation on Month Day, Year and verified the site meets the CHASE Blue/Gold/Flag eligibility criteria. On Month Day, Year the site was accepted into the Alaska CHASE for five years. From the beginning, you have exhibited commitment and hard work toward this goal and freely implemented recommendations to enhance your program. Thank you for the positive attitude related to safety and health exhibited by you and your employees.

Participation in CHASE does not, of course, diminish any of the rights and responsibilities provided to you and your employees by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Although your company will be placed on a lower priority general scheduled inspection list for enforcement from the date of this letter, employee complaints, fatalities or catastrophes, and significant chemical leaks or spills at your site will still result in normal AKOSH Enforcement activities.

Again, congratulations for your hard work and dedication to the principles embodied in CHASE. I wish you and your employees continued success in your safety and health efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tamika L. Ledbetter Commissioner

## **SAMPLE 6 - CHASE - Case File Check List**

Document	In Case File
Case File Check List	
<ol> <li>Partnership Application         Application: The participating construction contractor must submit the following documents:         <ul> <li>a) Appendix E Partnership Application</li> <li>b) Appendix B Employer Self-Evaluation Checklist</li> <li>c) Appendix C Partnership Agreement</li> <li>d) Commitment Letter</li> <li>e) OSHA 300 logs for the last three years and a comparison with the national average</li> <li>f) Copies of any written safety/health programs</li> <li>g) Copies of any program implementation documents</li> </ul> </li> <li>Original Visit Request</li> </ol>	
4. Enforcement Search	
5. Business License	
6. Full Service Safety and Health Visit	
Reports with Form 33	
7. Executive Summary	
8. Commissioner Approval	
9. Press Release	
10. Banner Receipt	
11. Copy of Certificate	
12. Pictures	
13. Consultation Job Site Evaluations	
(For every CHASE visit)	

# The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

## Occupational Safety and Health

This is to certify that

## **Company Name**

meets the requirements for the Construction Health and Safety Excellence

Program

## Blue/Gold/Flag Level

and participation is hereby approved on Month Day, Year ending Month Day, Year.