

# **Drug Free Workplace**

he news headlines report accidents and violence on a daily basis that can be related to the abuse of alcohol or drugs. Employers are faced with the daunting task of not only providing a safe work environment for their employees with protecting them from co-

can be effective without all five elements, the DOL recommends that each be examined to develop a policy for your company.

Today, companies have an employee handbook that guides the newly

# 5 Basic Elements of a Drug –Alcohol Program

- 1.Written Policy
- 2.Supervisor Training
- **3.Employee Education**
- 4.Employee Assistance Program
- 5.Drug Testing

workers that may be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

By ensuring a drug-free workplace, companies find that an effective policy adds value to their health and safety program.

### Where Do I start

The most common question employers have regarding a drug—alcohol program is how do I start? The US Department of Labor advises that most successful company programs have five basic elements. Programs hired workers in the day-to-day activities and processes of the company. The written policy for a drug and alcohol program is not different.

### Questions to consider when developing a policy

The written policy answers but is not limited to the following questions:

- What is the purpose of the program?
- Who is covered by this policy?
- If convicted of a drug/alcohol offense, will the employee be

required to notify the company?

- Will employees, lockers or personal belongings on company premises be subject to searches?
- Will the policy include drug and/or alcohol testing?
- What type of testing will be conducted?
- Who will conduct any testing?
- What are the consequences to any violations of the policy?
- Is the policy zero-tolerance or will there be a return-to-work program?
- Will there be any assistance / counseling available?
- Who pays for this assistance?
- How will employee confidentiality be protected?
- Who will enforce the policy?
- What type of training will they receive?
- Will all employees receive training on the new policy?
- How will the policy and/or any changes be communicated to employees?

As these questions are addressed in a written policy, the remaining elements quickly fall into place.





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# **About DTRIC Insurance Risk Consulting Services**

The Risk Consulting Services team at DTRIC Insurance is designed to help you reduce accidents and injuries in the workplace. Our approach involves our proven **A.I.M.** process that is easy to understand and simple to implement.



#### ANALYZE

We start by helping you understand and assess your current situation with services including:

- Safety audits
- Property and liability hazard surveys
- Accident investigation training
- Graphical analysis
- Job hazard analysis

#### INFORM

Keeping your team members informed is essential to success. We'll help you:

- Develop a safety committee
- Provide educational resources
- Work with your management team to develop their skills and knowledge of regulations
- Address loss trends with training on key issues
- Open communications within your organization

### ΜΟΤΙVΑΤΕ

The more safety is promoted in your workplace, the more motivated your team members will be to make safety a top priority. Whether you motivate with promotions, incentives or recognition, we'll help you develop a results-driven method to encourage safety at all times.

DTRIC's Risk Consulting Services team will work closely with you to create a program to effectively improve your bottom line.



**Risk Consulting Services** 

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