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Contact Us

Please contact your local
We Choose Health representative
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assistance in achieving the
Healthy Worksite Designation:

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Illinois “Healthy Worksite” Designation

Recognizing
Workplaces That
Make Employee
Health a Priority

An employer's guide to
qualify for recognition





Annual Recognition Program

Description

“We Choose Health” is a community transformation grant that is administered nationally by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and locally by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Its purpose is to make communities healthier and reduce chronic disease. Worksite Wellness is one of the statewide strategies to achieve this goal.

The Illinois “**Healthy Worksite**” designation was created to engage workplaces in healthy practices that benefit both the employer and employees. The 3-year designation includes Gold, Silver and Bronze achievement levels. Annual recognition allows worksites to be considered for higher-level honors. An awards program provides statewide publicity from the following sponsors: Governor’s Council on Health & Fitness, Illinois Department of Public Health and Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

How It Works

Workplaces seeking to qualify for the designation are invited to work with their county health department to satisfy the requirements of the five criteria. The health department will provide helpful ideas and resources to assist in achieving the designation.

Evidence of satisfying the criteria is to be submitted to the county health department by May 1st each year. The University of Illinois at Chicago’s Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition will evaluate the evidence and determine those qualified to receive the designation. A statewide recognition program is then held in June and features a Certificate of Achievement from the Governor’s Office.

This project is part of the Illinois Department of Public Health’s We Choose Health Initiative, which is made possible by funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Designation Criteria

BRONZE RECOGNITION

- 1.) Actively promote and support healthy nutrition at work.
- 2.) Provide and encourage opportunities for physical activity at work.

SILVER RECOGNITION

- 3.) Develop a 12-month Health & Wellness Calendar and an ongoing communication plan to promote employee health and well-being throughout the year.
- 4.) Demonstrate a commitment to employee health and well-being by making it part of the organization’s mission statement, goals and operations.

GOLD RECOGNITION

- 5.) Develop lifestyle and disease management strategies and measure their success annually.