

ATLANTIC COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

2024 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM



January 1, 2024

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INTRODUCTION

The 2024 Safety Incentive Program provides members of the ATLANTIC COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND with a blueprint for success with their safety programs. Best practices and suggestions are provided through your safety consultants and within this document. As we continue to "*Change the Way We Think about Safety*," we acknowledge that health and wellness initiatives play a role in safe work practices, employee morale, and claims management.

To change behaviors and promote workplace Safety and Wellness, we need to have both a "Top Down" and "Grassroots-Led" program. We remind all members that the key to an effective safety program starts with management and the Safety Committee. Our program is based on the six essential elements required to have an effective program: Management Commitment, Controlling Hazards, Continuing Education, Communication, Coaching, and Claims Management.

Our goal is to help every member succeed with their safety program and qualify for the Safety Incentive Awards. We encourage members to make full use of all the JIF and MEL services, including instructor-led and online training through the MEL Safety Institute, Safety Bulletins, Toolbox Topics, Regional Training Topics, and Law Enforcement Resources, to name a few. Please reach out to your Safety Consultants if you have any questions:

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HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

- JIF Safety Consultants are required to review program records. Safety Coordinators are encouraged to maintain these program records in a centrally located file. The file should contain the members' Safety Committee Minutes, Hazard Inspections, Training Records, Job Safety Observations, and any other documentation that would assist with an objective evaluation of the member's program efforts. Maintenance of this file will assist in making sure that the member receives full credit for their efforts.
- Members will qualify or not qualify (Pass or Fail). The program runs on a calendar year basis.
- Wellness suggestions have been incorporated into the program.

2024 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM SIZE CATEGORIES

M	Absecon
M	Avalon
L	Brigantine
S	Buena
L	Cape May City
XS	Cape May Point
XS	Commercial
XS	Deerfield
S	Dennis
XS	Downe
XS	Estell Manor
XS	Folsom
XL	Galloway
XL	Hamilton
M	Linwood
S	Longport
L	Lower
L	Margate
L	Middle Township
XL	Millville

S	Mullica
XS	Newfield
L	North Wildwood
M	Northfield
XL	Ocean City
XL	Pleasantville
L	Sea Isle City
M	Somers Point
M	Stone Harbor
S	Upper Deerfield
M	Upper Twp.
L	Ventnor
M	Waterford
XS	West Cape May
XS	West Wildwood
XS	Weymouth
XL	Wildwood
M	Wildwood Crest
XS	Woodbine

XS – Extra Small (11) S-Small (5) M- Medium (9) L-Large (8) XL – Extra Large (6)

39 Total Member Towns

REQUIRED ELEMENTS TO QUALIFY

1. Sign and return the 2024 Safety Contract (Pg. 6/7) by February 23, 2024
2. Submit your Safety Committee schedule (Pg. 8) by February 23, 2024
3. Send a delegate to the Safety Kickoff Breakfast (TBD)
4. Send a delegate to the Safety/Claims/Wellness Coordinators Roundtable (TBD)
5. Send a delegate to at least one half-day of the JIF Annual Planning Retreat (TBD)
6. Show significant participation and commitment in all best practices listed on pages 9 and 10
7. Members will hold, at a minimum, quarterly Safety Committee meetings. Include representation from all departments.
8. Members must have representation at all applicable Regional Training events.
9. Complete a minimum of (1) quarterly Job Safety Observation (JSO) in each applicable department within a calendar year.
 - Police Department
 - Fire/EMS Departments
 - Public Works Department

*** Lifeguards will complete a minimum of (4) JSOs per season***
*** Administration will complete a minimum of (1) JSO within a calendar year***
10. Complete a minimum of (12) Toolbox/Safety Talks throughout the year.
11. Complete a minimum of (6) Safety/Facility Checklists in each applicable department within a calendar year.
 - Administrative/Police Department
 - Fire/EMS Departments
 - Public Works Department
 - Parks/Playgrounds/Skate Park/Boardwalk/Lifeguards/Unique Exposures

SAFETY INCENTIVE AWARDS

Level	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large
<i>NON-QUALIFIER</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>MAXIMUM AWARD</i>	\$2,000.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,750.00	\$3,000.00

**2024 SAFETY CONTRACT
ATLANTIC COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND**

We, the governing body of _____, recognize the important role an effective safety program plays in lowering employee injury rates, reducing lost time accidents, and cutting insurance costs, all of which contribute to greater employee safety and lower tax rates. Health and Safety must never be compromised. Employee safety, along with the safety of the public, is our number one priority. We applaud the JIF's initiative in providing many of the safety resources needed to enhance our local safety efforts, and we hereby declare our support of the JIF's safety programs. We strive to achieve an accident-free environment through a health and safety culture built on:

- **TRUST:** We respect each other's opinions and decisions and will follow through on all health and safety concerns
- **CARE:** We approach each day with the determination to care for ourselves, co-workers, and the community we serve.
- **KNOWLEDGE:** We seek the education and skills to properly fulfill our responsibilities.
- **COMMUNICATION:** We communicate with each other in a transparent, open, and honest manner.

Because mutual respect is so important, we cannot tolerate harassment or other forms of discrimination.

We place "Safety and Wellness" on the Council Agenda at least once a year.

We understand the Safety Best Practices and will continue to promote all elements.

We have established a Safety Committee that meets at least quarterly.

We encourage supervisors to make "daily safety contact" with employees.

We manage our claims by reporting all claims promptly, offering transitional duty, and investigating incidents and near misses.

We establish a motor vehicle fleet safety program.

We keep our regulatory training and written programs current.

We conduct periodic Hazard Inspection Surveys and Job Safety Observations.

We actively promote and support Health and Wellness activities.

Accepted by:

(Mayor)

Date

(Administrator/Clerk/Manager)

Date

Municipality: _____

The following applicable departments participate in the Safety Incentive Program:

	Department	Department Head Signature	Date
	Public Works		
	Building & Facilities Maintenance		
	Police		
	Fire		
	EMS		
	Utility / Water & Sewer		
	Parks & Recreation		
	Administrative		
	OEM		
	Beach Patrol / Lifeguards		

Please sign and return the completed Safety Contract (Pg. 6/7) to the Safety Director by February 23, 2024, to:

J. A. Montgomery Consulting, Attn: Melissa Meccariello
 P.O. Box 99106
 Camden, New Jersey 08101
 E-mail: mmeccariello@jamontgomery.com

2024 Safety Incentive Program

2024 Safety Committee Meetings Dates:

1. Members will hold, **at a minimum, quarterly** Safety Committee meetings.
2. Please include the meeting location, date, and time.
3. Complete and return by 2/23/24.

#1 Date: Location Time:	#2 Date: Location: Time:	#3 Date: Location: Time:	#4 Date: Location: Time:
#5 Date: Location Time:	#6 Date: Location: Time:	#7 Date: Location: Time:	#8 Date: Location: Time:
#9 Date: Location Time:	#10 Date: Location: Time:	#11 Date: Location: Time:	#12 Date: Location: Time:

Please sign and return the completed Safety Committee Meeting dates to the Safety Director by February 23, 2024, to:

J. A. Montgomery Consulting, Attn: Melissa Meccariello
 P.O. Box 99106
 Camden, New Jersey 08101
 E-mail mmeccariello@jamontgomery.com

SAFETY BEST PRACTICES

1. COMMITMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Understand the Atlantic JIF Loss Control Policy.
- Understand the Roles and Responsibilities of the Safety Coordinator.
- Place "Safety and Wellness" on the governing body agenda at least once a year.
- Management sets the tone - and supports safety and wellness efforts.

***Remember to utilize the Atlantic JIF Website (www.acmjif.org) and MEL website (www.njmel.org) for all resources**

2. CONTROLLING HAZARDS

- Inspect all municipal facilities, playgrounds, walkways, and public areas for safety concerns and promptly take corrective action. Maintain written records.
- Maintain the "Roadway, Sign, and Walkway" Program (RSW) that includes inspections, record keeping, and prompt correction of hazards. A log of inspection items, complaints, and corrective actions is maintained, and referrals are made to the proper authorities. This should include Boardwalks or similar if applicable to a member town.
- Conduct Job Safety Observations to identify at-risk behaviors and conditions by observing employees at work and giving immediate feedback.
- Complete all Outstanding Suggestions for Improvement promptly. Member towns should not have any "Important" SFIs that are more than two years old and no Outstanding "Urgent" SFIs that have not been addressed.
- Maintain a written fleet safety program. Conduct annual MVR checks for drivers and abide by DOT and CDL requirements.
- Maintain and update written regulatory programs, including:
 - Hazard Communication/RTK/Central File
 - Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan
 - LockOut/TagOut
 - PPE Hazard Assessments
 - Emergency Action/Fire Protection
 - Indoor Air Quality
 - Hearing Conservation Program
 - Confined Space Entry
 - Respiratory Protection Plan
 - OSHA Logs (300/300A)
- Utilize Departmental Summary Reports.

3. CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Assign a Training Administrator for the MEL Safety Institute.
- Make sure safety training is up to date. Utilize the Training Needs Assessment Guide.
- Provide new employees with safety orientation during their first month of work.
- Attend applicable Regional Training workshops.
- Make use of the safety and wellness content from the MSI NOW.
- Utilize the MEL Safety Institute - MSI LIVE, JIF Website, MEL Website, MEL Mobile App, S:ERVE, Distracted Driving Resources, and First Responder Resources.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- Promote daily safety contact. Start **every job/workday** with a pre-shift briefing.
- Use Toolbox meetings and safety videos.
- Hold regular Safety Committee meetings (at least 4 per year/quarterly) and encourage all members' full participation. Keep written agendas and minutes.
- Put "Health & Wellness" on the Safety Committee agenda.
- Maintain safety and wellness communication center and keep it current.
- Post and review Safety Director Bulletins/Messages.
- Utilize the MEL Mobile App.
- Promote the concept of "Zero Harm" in everyday activity.

5. COACHING

- Conduct Job Safety Observations to identify at-risk behaviors and conditions by observing employees and giving immediate feedback. Include ergonomics and proper body mechanics in the observations.
- Remind one another to work safely.
- Complete or update Job Hazard Assessments and review them with crew members.
- Encourage Supervisors to attend MSI classes with their employees.

6. CLAIMS MANAGEMENT

- Report all claims promptly (within three (3) days of the incident).
- Implement a Transitional Duty Program.
- Investigate incidents and "near misses" to uncover responsible conditions. Complete and submit the "*Supervisors Incident Report*" form on All Claims.
- Review incident reports at Safety Meetings. Fact-Finding vs. Fault Finding. Assign follow-up actions, including what to do, who will be responsible, and by when.
- Share claims summary/performance with the governing body at least annually.
- Maintain Roadway, Sign, and Walkway logs, inspection records, audits, and equipment inventories for all playgrounds.

7. HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Keep Health and Wellness on the Safety Agenda.
- Create/Adopt a Wellness Policy.
- Promote/Encourage Wellness activities throughout all departments.
- Make Wellness an ongoing process throughout the year.