NIOSH
Total Worker Health®
Affiliate Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Total Worker Health® (TWH) means policies, programs, and practices that integrate protection from work-related safety and health hazards with promotion of injury and illness prevention efforts to advance worker well-being. The Total Worker Health program is a research-to-practice effort developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Read more about our program at http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh.

What is the purpose of the NIOSH TWH Affiliate Program?

The mission of the NIOSH Total Worker Health Affiliate (Affiliate) Program is to foster an integrated approach to protecting and promoting worker well-being through collaborations with public and not-for-profit organizations. The goals of the Affiliate Program are the following:

1. Increase the visibility, uptake and impact of TWH to advance the safety, health, and well-being of workers.
2. Attract new collaborators to enrich and broaden current NIOSH TWH translational research.
3. Attract new collaborators to enrich and broaden current NIOSH TWH practice and dissemination efforts.
4. Publicly recognize the contributions of the Affiliates to the development and dissemination of TWH research and practice.

Who is eligible?

Potential Affiliates include academic institutions; labor organizations; non-profit associations that are related to health and occupational safety; public sector entities, including federal, state or local agencies; and similar/related organizations. Potential Affiliates should disclose to NIOSH any significant existing or potential occupational safety and health issues which create or may create an appearance of misalignment with the principles of TWH. This includes investigations or citations by federal, state, or local health, environment, and labor agencies and violations of occupational safety and health regulations or laws.

How is the Affiliate designation made? How does the program work?

Interested parties initially meet with NIOSH to discuss shared goals and opportunities and to plan possible joint activities. A *Memorandum of Agreement* (MOA) or other similar document may be executed to formalize the Affiliate arrangement. While an Affiliate designation is not necessary to conduct activities jointly with the NIOSH TWH program, such a designation indicates a more enduring commitment to values and goals that are shared by NIOSH and the Affiliate. Participation in the program is voluntary, and the relationship can be discontinued at any time by NIOSH or the Affiliate. Affiliates meet with NIOSH on an annual basis, at minimum, to discuss renewal and continuation of Affiliate status.

How is Affiliate status designated on website and in communications products, tools or services?

NIOSH will allow the Affiliate to use elements of the NIOSH Total Worker Health® brand and Affiliate badge(s) on Affiliate's publications as allowed by policy and Federal law. With official designation, Affiliates may use the marks of the NIOSH Total Worker Health® program, "Total Worker Health®", the "TWH" mark, and the Total Worker Health® design element on the Affiliate's website, print materials, communications and similar products. The NIOSH Total Worker Health® brand elements, including the Affiliate badge, may be used only on materials and products that are each consistent with the TWH mission. NIOSH will list all Affiliates on the NIOSH TWH program website.

What activities might NIOSH and Affiliates undertake together?

Affiliates and NIOSH may consider the following activities: conduct joint research; develop programs, interventions and other work-products; collaborate on seminars, meetings, trainings, and educational events; create and disseminate publications and other communication products; cross-promote individual and joint activities; and engage in related activities.

What are the benefits of becoming an Affiliate?

Affiliates must share NIOSH's commitment to assuring safe and healthful working conditions for all workers and to advancing the safety, health, and well-being of workers. Through the display of the Affiliates official designation, Affiliates will receive recognition for this shared commitment to the principles of TWH and for their partnership efforts with NIOSH. Other potential benefits include increased capacity to develop important research findings (through sharing methodology, combining databases, etc.) and enhanced ability to deliver effective interventions (through the broadened research capacity noted above and shared problem solving, materials, approaches, etc.).

Is NIOSH funding associated with the Affiliate status?

NIOSH does not guarantee any funding will be associated with or related to the Affiliate designation. Affiliate status does not affect any other NIOSH funding opportunities such as grants, training programs, contracts, awards or related funding.

How can my organization become an Affiliate?

Academic, labor, non-profit, public sector, and similar parties with an interest in advancing worker safety, health, and well-being by becoming a NIOSH TWH Affiliate may contact us at twh@cdc.gov.

How can organizations that are not eligible for Affiliate status collaborate with the NIOSH TWH program?

Affiliate status may not be appropriate for all organizations, even those who still have a strong interest in TWH research or interventions. Examples may include organizations that are interested in shorter, limited collaborations with NIOSH or private sector partners who are focused on an integrated approach for their own workforce or for client organizations. Such organizations should contact the NIOSH Office for TWH (twh@cdc.gov) to discuss other options for meeting shared goals, identifying a NIOSH-funded center to collaborate with, or exploring other opportunities.