Employees and Motor Vehicle Crashes

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of workplace death in the United States.

Crashes affect all employees both on and off the job. Crashes are a top cause of unintentional injury death for everyone in the U.S., throughout our lifetime.

Every 5 seconds a crash occurs, every 7 seconds an injury occurs, every 15 minutes someone dies in a motor vehicle crash, according to Injuy Facts®, 2017 Edition. Many of these incidents occur during the workday or during the daily commute to-and-from work.

When considering a driver safety program in the workplace, keep in mind that all employees are exposed to crash risk, even beyond drivers of fleet vehicles like commercial vehicle drivers, field sales and technicians. Many employees drive to meetings or run errands as part of their jobs. In addition, crashes happen off the job. Employers bear the brunt of costs for injuries that occur in all crashes, on and off the job.

Solution: Workplace Driver Safety Program

By implementing a driver safety program in the workplace, you can greatly reduce the risks faced by your employees and their families while protecting your company’s bottom line.

In Guidelines for Employers to Reduce Motor Vehicle Crashes, OSHA says the real tragedy is crashes are largely preventable. A growing number of employers have established traffic safety programs in their companies, recognizing the opportunity that they have to save lives. No organization can afford to ignore a major problem that has such a serious impact on both their personnel and the company budget.
Include Off the Job Crash Prevention in a Safety Program

What happens to employees when they are not at work can have a dramatic impact on business operations and finances. Crash-related injuries can mean days away from work, which can greatly impact employer costs, including:

- Health, life and disability insurance premiums
- Sick leave
- Contributions to workers’ compensation, medical, and disability insurance
- Vehicle property damage
- Liability insurance
- Crash-related legal expenses
- Lost productivity
- Recruiting and training to replace an injured employee

Given the enormous expenses associated with crashes and injuries, can you afford not to develop and support a companywide traffic safety program for all employees?