

OSHA Outreach Training Institute adds \$5.00 fee

The North Dakota Safety Council received notification from the OSHA Outreach Training Institute (OTI) that they will begin charging a \$5.00 processing fee for each student course completion card issued. They are adding this \$5.00 fee due to the huge amount of growth they've experienced in the past 18 years.

Here is an excerpt from their letter:

OSHA began the OSHA Training Institute (OTI) Education Center Program in 1992. Since that time, the OSHA Outreach Training Program has grown exponentially, from 51,000 student trained in 1992 to 781,000 student trained in 2010. As the training numbers increased, OSHA did not have the resources required to process the increasing number of student cards. As a result, OSHA began requiring its OTI Education Centers to process trainer card requests in 2003. While this alleviated the burden for OSHA, it proved to have a significant impact on the administrative work load for the OTI Education Centers. On average, the 25 OTI Education Centers process 1,000 requests for student course completion cards per week. In the past two years, OTI Education Centers have processed over 1.3 million student course completion cards. While the number of workers trained continues to increase, so does the administrative burden for the OTI Education Centers.

It has always been OSHA's position that because the OTI Education Centers receive no funding from OSHA, they have the authority to charge fees to cover the costs involved in issuing student course completion cards. Although the OTI Education Centers have long sought to avoid implementing such a fee, the costs currently associated with managing the program necessitate this action. As such, beginning October 1, 2011, the OTI Education Centers will begin charging a \$5.00 processing fee for each student course completion card issued. Additional information will be forthcoming over the next few months.

Due to this increase in processing fees, the North Dakota Safety Council will be increasing the rate for all OSHA 10 hour and 30 hour courses by \$5.00. These rates will be effective October 1, 2011.