

QP MERIT PROGRAM

October 2023

Purpose:

- Build a viable QP Accreditation Merit Program.
- Eligible accreditations: QP1, QP2, QP3, QP6, QP8, QP9 & QS1.
- Ensures objectivity and transparency across all applicable programs.
- To combine the best qualities of the SSPC RAP and NACE NIICAP Five Star Programs.
- Fills the mandate from the Transition Team for a combined program.

Scope:

- Eligible companies are exempt from paying the audit fee every other calendar year.
- Companies who have not received more than 2 “CAP” resolved minor findings or any sustained major findings on any audit for which a QP accreditation is held during the prior 3 years are eligible to apply to participate in the Merit Program.
- Companies holding multiple QP accreditations must meet the program requirements for all accreditations held to participate in the Merit Program.¹
- The company must complete and submit a 1-page application for enrollment into the Merit Program no later than July 1st to be eligible to participate on January 1st of the following year.
- In qualifying non-audit years, eligible companies will only be charged an administrative fee but will still be required to submit an annual Accreditation Maintenance Application by December 15th.
- AMPP reserves the right perform random, announced, or unannounced audits at AMPP’s expense during non-audit years. The Merit Program member must remain in compliance during a random audit.
- If the company fails to qualify for the Merit Program, it has the right to submit an appeal in writing to the Program Director or Program Manager within 30 days of receiving notification. To be considered, appeals must include substantive evidence supporting reversal.

¹ Duplicate findings assessed on more than one accreditation audit will be treated as “one” finding. For example, if a company holding QP1 & QP3 accreditations, is cited for the same finding for both QP1 and QP3 audits, the finding is only counted once.

General Disqualifications Apply When:

- Any disruption in accreditation status occurs (examples: failure to renew prior to deadline, failure to maintain qualifications for any QP accreditations held).
- The organization has had any modification that required a change in Tax ID, or EIN, or registration with the governing Jurisdictional Authority within the prior three (3) year period or at any time while enrolled in the Merit Program.
- The company has filed for bankruptcy in the past 3 years or declares bankruptcy during the term of the Merit Program.
- Major changes in company organization that have occurred as defined in the “Special Provisions” section of the QP Program Rules Guide during term. (Example: ownership or executive management changes).
- Any Disciplinary Action Criteria (DAC) violations are affirmed.
- There’s an occurrence of an occupational fatality.
- There’s an occurrence of a “serious” occupational accident as defined in the DAC.
- Any of the above situations occur and are not reported to AMPP as required by the QP Program Rules Guide or the DAC.

If you have any questions regarding the QP Merit Program, please contact QPInfo@ampp.org.