



FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST **Safety Excellence Initiative**

The **Florida Municipal Insurance Trust's Safety Excellence Initiative (SEI)** is a voluntary safety accreditation program that recognizes and rewards FMIT members for their safety management processes.

This robust, step-by-step program provides members with the knowledge and tools to develop and implement an effective safety management system. The program runs annually from October 1 to September 30.

For members that do not have existing safety management systems, SEI provides a step-by-step accreditation action plan. This includes all the written resources needed to successfully develop and implement organizational-specific health and safety management systems that meet established standards.

For members that have existing safety management systems, SEI provides a benchmark for members to compare industry best practices. The self-evaluation and eventual Safety Improvement Assessment can pinpoint areas that require additional attention and allow for continual improvement.

An expansion of the Safety Grant Program, SEI also offers an opportunity to achieve funding for safety and health-related resources once accreditation has been achieved. Through this multi-level rewards program, participants earn awards and funding in Bronze, Silver, or Gold status.



A well-implemented safety management system will reduce losses, injuries, and illnesses.

Accreditation

Our dedicated risk and safety team will help members implement the various safety management processes. Once accredited, members will be eligible for exclusive benefits, including:

- ✓ A Certificate of Safety Excellence (CSE)
- ✓ Peer Recognition
- ✓ Access to the Safety Leadership Certificate Program
- ✓ Perpetual Tower Trophy as accreditation levels are met
- ✓ Monetary reimbursement, based on accreditation level achieved and premium

There are **five separate accreditation paths** based on organization size and the type of public services provided. Members can choose from:



Large Entity
Certificate of Safety Excellence



Small Entity
Certificate of Safety Excellence



Office Only
Certificate of Safety Excellence



Law Enforcement
Certificate of Safety Excellence



Fire Department
Certificate of Safety Excellence

Qualifying members will **receive reimbursement based on the level achieved and the assessment score earned*** up to \$6,000 per year per city.

Bronze/Level 1 – Assessment score of 65%
Silver/Level 2 – Assessment score of 75%
Gold/Level 3 – Assessment score of 85%

If Level 3 Gold is achieved on the first assessment, a three-year waiting period to focus on continuous improvement and implementation before being eligible for re-accreditation. Once re-accreditation is secured, only then would the group be eligible to apply for SEI Award to secure funding. SEI Award funding is only available as accreditation levels are earned.

Law enforcement and fire departments will be eligible for their own accreditation, when applicable.

Accreditation Path - Criteria

LARGE ENTITY

Any member with a decentralized organizational structure in which department directors are responsible for implementing department-specific safety plans and operate using general directives with minimal guidance from the executive leadership team.

- ▶ Example: The City of XYZ has very broad safety directives for its departments. Each department (public works, utilities, parks, library, building/code enforcement) has the autonomy to develop and implement its own safety management system that best fits its needs and operations.

SMALL ENTITY

Any member with a centralized organizational structure where the executive team provides the departments with specific safety plans and requirements.

- ▶ Example: The City of ABC has a safety management system that its departments (public works and building/code enforcement, etc.) must follow. The department directors work together with human resources to coordinate the city's safety efforts.

OFFICE ONLY

Any member who provides only administrative services to the public should select the Office Only pathway. This could include a community development district with a single administrative employee or a county clerk of courts with more than 500 employees in multiple buildings.

- ▶ Since administrative work is relatively low risk, fewer technical requirements are needed to obtain the Office Only Certificate of Safety Excellence.
- ▶ Note: For organizations like housing authorities that have a small group of employees who conduct other hands-on tasks (maintenance work, project management, etc.), we recommend selecting the Small Entity option to ensure that all required programs are in place.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

As law enforcement officers and fire/EMS employees face very different risks than other municipal workers, they can achieve a Certificate of Safety Excellence independent from their municipality.

- ▶ Note: Achieving a Certificate of Safety Excellence is not related to any state or federal accreditation that you may have. However, implementing the safety management systems discussed in this initiative will complement your police or fire accreditation process.

Accreditation Process

1. Conduct a self-assessment based on your chosen accreditation path.
2. Implement any applicable or missing safety management elements.
3. Focus on continuous implementation and improvement.

Note: This is a voluntary, scalable program. Participants may achieve and/or maintain any level of accreditation based on the needs of their organization.

Safety Improvement Assessment Scoring

To obtain a **Certificate of Safety Excellence**, each member is evaluated using the safety improvement assessment for its chosen accreditation path. Points are awarded based on objective, observable, and measurable criteria, and members must demonstrate effective implementation of the element to obtain the score. This means participants must demonstrate the implementation using documentation, written programs, training records, or other supporting information.

The Certificate of Safety Excellence will be awarded based on the following scoring criteria:

LEVEL	PASSING SCORE
Bronze/Level 1	65% overall with no applicable elements scoring less than 50%
Silver/Level 2	75% overall with no applicable elements scoring less than 60%
Gold/Level 3	85% overall with no applicable elements scoring less than 70%

Note: Significant changes in operations, personnel, or claims history may prompt a more frequent review of the effectiveness of the system.

Resources

The FMIT website offers a wealth of resources to assist you with the process every step of the way. Visit insurance.flcities.com/safety-excellence-initiative to access:

✓ Self-evaluation checklists for each accreditation path

✓ An online resource library featuring:

- ▶ written programs
- ▶ safe work practices
- ▶ specialized training programs



If you have any questions regarding the Safety Excellence Initiative, please contact your Risk and Safety Consultant:

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