**Qualifying for CSEP Benefits and Incentives**

**02/04/15**

The CSEP Advisory Board recognizes two performance tiers that have an impact on the level of incentives available to a CSEP participating company. The two company performance tiers are titled “Participating” and “Qualified”. At the completion of the CSEP program year, a company’s average performance score will place them into one of these two performance tiers. Company performance scores are compiled during CSEP monthly audits for all CDPS permitted projects during the course of the CSEP program year. To be eligible to receive a “qualified” designation, a minimum of three months of program performance data must have been recorded during the previous year. The CSEP Advisory Board retains the authority to change a participant’s performance category based on recent performance results if deemed in the best interest of the CSEP and an accurate identification of the participant’s level of compliance and environmental protection. Categories, related qualifications, and available benefits or incentives for each are as follows:

1. **“Participating”** CSEP Companies – Combined average score for all active projects is greater than 1.0
	1. **Benefits**:
		1. Improved compliance and regulatory risk reduction through monthly CR oversight, training and assistance visits
		2. Reduced MS4 inspections. MS4 permittees may elect to use the CSEP monthly audits toward meeting their MS4 Permit, MM#4 construction sites oversight requirements. Note that based on findings, MS4 follow-up may still be required to address significant non-compliance with the MS4 permittee’s program.
		3. CDPHE compliance assistance visit available once per project, as CDPHE resources allow, and upon participant request to any CSEP project. EPA, CDPHE or MS4 always retain the authority to inspect any permitted project at any time, per the terms of state or local permit.
		4. CDPHE site visits conducted to support the CSEP program subject to the WQCD Clean Water 4 policy for Stormwater Management System Administrator Oversight Site, including procedures indentifying that the inspection is targeted at compliance assistance for the participant and to allow for a minimum of 24 hours to correct most findings prior to a compliance inspection.
2. **“Qualified”** CSEP Companies – Combined average score for all active projects is less than or equal to 1.0, or, with combined average score of greater than 1.0 but determined by unanimous vote of the board of directors to meet the “qualified” level.
	1. **Benefits:**
		1. All benefits noted for “Participating” status above
		2. Display on all CDPS permitted projects of the official CSEP “Qualified Company” banner. Banner must be as designed and approved by the CSEP Advisory Board
		3. Special recognition and awards from CDPHE directly or through CO ELP
		4. Annual CDPHE onsite company assistance or education visit
		5. CDPHE site visits conducted to support the CSEP program subject to the WQCD Clean Water 4 policy for Stormwater Management System Administrator Oversight Site, including procedures indentifying that the inspection is targeted at compliance assistance for the participant and to allow for a minimum of 24 hours to correct most findings prior to a compliance inspection.
		6. Reduced or eliminated CDPHE targeted compliance inspection per Colorado House Bill 11‐1026 (C.R.S.  25‐8, Part 8). Note that CDPHE inspection may still be necessary to address significant non-compliance or citizen complaints.
		7. Reduced or eliminated MS4 inspections. In addition to the option to have an MS4 permittees elect to use the CSEP monthly audits toward meeting their MS4 Permit, MS4 permittees may reduce overall inspection frequency for CSEP qualified participants. CDPHE is in the process of incorporating this allowance into renewal MS4 permits. This procedure document will be revised following issuance of MS4 permits top address the specifics.
		8. SRM money-back zero-enforcement guarantee

A board determination that a company will be categorized as a “Qualified” participant, regardless of having a “non-qualifying” combined average score for all active projects is greater than 1.0, shall be based on consideration of extraordinary circumstances that are determined to result in a score(s) not representing the level of compliance and environmental protection present at the sites. All such determinations shall be documented, including identifying the specific circumstances that the determination was based on, and provided to CDPHE within one week of the determination.