





## Gold Shovel Standard Membership Application

Promotion – Gold Shovel Standard grows when members share the benefits of the program

The power of Gold Shovel Standard grows exponentially as more and more members embrace it. To that end, all members commit to publicly supporting the program and encouraging others to support it. It's expected that new members announce their membership via press release. Most typically, announcements would be made to the public, to their excavation vendors or subcontractors and for the benefit of their peer companies. Likewise, members can and should use the Gold Shovel Standard trademark in the promotion of their operations and goals, and expect Gold Shovel Standard to use the member's name in promoting the program.

Cross-Reference – Damage data is used to confirm incident reporting by excavators

Gold Shovel Standard is underpinned by the incident-reporting-mandate, requiring all excavators to report all incidents. To ensure compliance, all members allow Gold Shovel Standard to cross-reference the member's damage data, to incidents reported to the program by excavators. That is, private member incident data that details which companies have incidents on their network is leveraged to ensure compliance with the reporting mandate. Member data remains private, but is used for the cross-reference purpose.

Fees – Annual membership fees are set by the Gold Shovel Association Board of Directors.

Currently the annual fees are \$2400 for corporations and \$1500 for municipalities and an invoice will be sent later. If the fees present an obstacle to membership, the Association may at its discretion waive fees for those members with difficulty paying or hardship. Please attach a letter detailing the difficulty or hardship for review if applicable.

We have reviewed the expectations above, and would like to apply for membership in the Gold Shovel Association.

NOTE: Nothing in this document is intended to create a legally binding obligation on any applicant or the Association

GSS Approval:

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Name

Signature

Date

\* The Best Practices are a publication of the Common Ground Alliance, a District of Columbia, non-profit corporation. The Common Ground Alliance and the Gold Shovel Association are independent organizations and are not affiliated. References by the Gold Shovel Association to the Common Ground Alliance Best Practices do not express or imply an endorsement by either organization of the other or its programs. While the Gold Shovel Association's certification requirements for excavators currently require compliance with the Common Ground Alliance Best Practices, the Common Ground Alliance, itself, does not maintain such a requirement.