



# Alternate Locate Provider Program

## Locate Service Provider Pre-Assessment Preparation Considerations

### Alternate Locate Provider Program Overview

The Alternate Locate Provider (ALP) Program model is an alternative approach to delivering locates in Alberta. The goal of the ALP Program is to provide an additional option for project owners to receive locates in line with project requirements and provide further certainty over project timing and costs. The registered Alternate Locate Service Provider (ALSP) works for the Project Owner on their timeline and can serve to reduce downtimes and improve outcomes. ALSPs must be registered for participation in the ALP Program and must meet specific criteria such as specialized training, quality assurance audits, reporting, insurance, experience and capabilities.

This document outlines considerations that an Employer can reference to understand actions that may be considered and/or required prior to seeking formal ALSP registration assessment. This document provides guidance for Employers interested in doing locating for the ALP program, however, Utility Safety Partners (USP) cannot guarantee success during the registration assessment process. More detailed specifics about the ALSP registration process can be found on USP's website.

### Considerations for Interested Employers Prior to Assessment:

- ✓ **Records and Mapping:** You will be required to use the Multiviewer geospatial mapping viewer required by the buried facility operators in order to participate in the ALP program. This will provide access to buried facility mapping. Further details will be provided once the process begins, however, prior to registration it is recommended that you assess your IT capabilities to set up and integrate GIS viewer systems. Set up time is expected to be approximately 1 month.
- ✓ **Safety Reporting Systems:** It will be a requirement to be registered with one of the recommended safety tracking systems (ie. ISNetWorld). It is possible it may take time for data to be populated and scores to be uploaded for the assessment. It is suggested this process start at least 1 month prior to seeking formal registration assessment.
- ✓ **Quality Assurance (QA):** Any employer wishing to participate in ALP will be required to demonstrate that a QA system is in place and being followed. If your QA practices are not documented or formalized, it is recommended that this is done prior to assessment.
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- ✓ **Ticket Management Process:** An electronic ticket management process is required to participate in ALP, either via email or ticket software. This also includes demonstrating your capabilities to provide and submit locate packages electronically. At this time, email is sufficient to manage this process, however ticket management software is another option. While software is not a mandatory requirement to participate in ALP at this time, future processes may involve integration into the USP locate request system, resulting in mandatory use of ticket software at that time. As such, interested LSPs may wish to start the process and engage with suppliers early as the timing to get a system properly in place can be 3-6 months.
- ✓ **Contractual Capabilities with Facility Owners:** As part of the ALSP set up, your company will be required to contract formally to the buried facility operators through a Consortium Agreement. While there will be no pricing in this agreement, there will be terms around risk, liability, safety and associated terms and conditions. Your company should be prepared to review and assess your ability to sign on to this type of contract prior to seeking formal assessment.
- ✓ **Locate Experience:** For excavators or employers not currently performing locates, but looking to get approved as an ALSP, it is highly recommended that you have experienced locators and supervision in place prior to seeking registration assessment. It will not be possible to formally assess your company without trained and qualified locate resources in place.
- ✓ **ALSP/Excavator Relationship Management:** ALSPs will be required to contract to the excavator or project owner directly to provide ALP locates and receive payment. How you choose to structure this is outside of the ALP program oversight, but it is recommended that any ALSP engage with the excavators and align on payment and terms prior to formal ALP ticket submission in order to avoid delays in the process. This may require a formal contract that covers liability, procedures, and/or pricing depending on the parties involved.

Below is an overview of the above considerations you may plan for prior to ALSP Assessment.

3+ Months Prior	2 Months Prior	1 Month Prior
Engage with Ticket Software Provider (non-mandatory)	Engage with Multiviewer GIS Records Provider	Finalize Contract Templates and ALP Pricing
Formalize QA and Training Programs	Engage with Safety Reporting System (ie. ISNet)	Assess ability to enter contract with Consortium

### Further Program Information

For further ALP program information: [utilitysafety.ca/learning-centre/alp-program-faq/](https://utilitysafety.ca/learning-centre/alp-program-faq/)

For ALP questions and support, email USP at: [info@utilitysafety.ca](mailto:info@utilitysafety.ca)