



Meet The Principal® 10 Best Companies

Argon ST

Fairfax, Virginia

Type of business: Systems engineering and development company providing full-service command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance solutions

Number of employees: 850

Founded: 1997

Web site: www.argonst.com

Benefit highlights:

- 85 – 90 percent employer-paid medical insurance premiums for employees and dependents
- Health reimbursement account (HRA) for expenses not covered under the medical/dental plans
- Profit sharing/401(k) plan with an automatic employer contribution of 3 percent and a discretionary profit sharing contribution up to 3 percent, plus a 100 percent match up to 6 percent deferred; average employee deferral is 10 percent
- 100 percent employer-paid premiums for short-term and long-term disability insurance

Percent of employees participating in 401(k) plan:

85 percent

How they've dealt with rising medical insurance costs:

Argon ST experienced a 12 percent medical cost increase in 2006. "We're looking at wellness programs more to help control health costs," explains Debbie Jaudon, human resources director at Argon ST. "After doing some analysis on our claims history, we found that a lot of our health costs are lifestyle-related. Helping employees stay fit and conscious of their role in containing costs is part of our culture."

Other interesting facts:

- Robust wellness program that includes weight loss programs, exercise facility, sports teams, cholesterol screening, glucose screening and more
- Offers tuition reimbursement



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