

Certificate of Recognition (COR)

A **Certificate of Recognition (COR)** is given to employers who have developed health and safety programs that meet established standards.

Certificates are issued by Certifying Partners and are co-signed by Alberta Human Resources and Employment.

Achieving and maintaining a valid COR is required to earn a financial incentive through the WCB's Partners in Injury Reduction program. Also, it is not unusual for Alberta corporations to expect contractors bidding on projects to hold a valid COR.

Benefits

A COR is proof that the health and safety management system of an employer has been evaluated by an external auditor and meets the standards of Partnerships.

Effective health and safety management systems have been shown to have an impact on reducing injuries. Eliminating the social and financial effects of injuries can strengthen the business success of participating employers.

In addition, COR holders can receive a reduction of up to 20% on their WCB premiums.

For employers with fewer than 10 employees there is a Small Employer COR available through most of the Certifying Partners involved in Partnerships. The small employer COR process has been developed to accommodate the needs of small businesses.

A Medium Employer COR is also offered by some Certifying Partners. The MECOR applies to employers with 11 to 30 employees.

Contact a Certifying Partner for more information.

A **Certifying Partner** is an organization that has committed to working in partnership with Alberta Human Resources and Employment towards improving health and safety for Alberta workers.

Certifying Partners review audits to ensure quality and issue CORs to employers whose health and safety systems meet specified standards.

Alberta Human Resources and Employment signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Certifying Partner outlining the commitments of both parties.

To acquire a COR, an employer must take the following steps:

- contact a Certifying Partner
- develop and implement a Health and Safety Management System that meets Partnerships standards
- select an appropriate audit instrument, recognized by the Certifying Partner
- select an auditor, external to the organization being audited and acceptable to the Certifying Partner
- complete and pass the audit
- submit the audit to the Certifying Partner for Quality Assurance review
- request the Certifying Partner issue a COR if the audit meets the standards required

The Partners Audit Standard Equivalency (PASE) has been introduced for employers that already have a complex safety management system in place.

PASE allows the use of the employers existing information therefore avoiding duplication of effort in gathering information and auditing.

For detailed information:

Click: www.gov.ab.ca/hre/whs/partners/cor.asp

For frequently asked questions:

Click: www.gov.ab.ca/hre/whs/partners/cor_faq.asp

For a list of Certifying Partners:

Call: (780) 427-8842 in Edmonton, toll-free by first dialing 310-0000.