

PURPOSE

This Addendum identifies to which certifying partner an employer should apply.

STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

Section 2.1:

The employer will apply to the certifying partner serving the industry or classification unit(s) in which the employer is registered or another partner for an industry sector in which they intend to work...

If there is no certifying partner for the industry sector, WorkSafeBC will attempt to align the employer with an existing certifying partner in another industry sector, by the principle of natural alignment, on a case-by-case basis. For example, a window manufacturing and installation company spending a significant amount of time on construction sites would be, for COR certification purposes, considered naturally aligned to the construction industry. Likewise, a landscaping company wishing to contract to perform brush clearing for a client in the oil and gas sector, could be required to obtain COR certification through the certifying partner for that sector in order to successfully bid on the work.

Section 3.3:

Where questions arise concerning which certifying partner is appropriate for a particular employer, WorkSafeBC will make a determination on the basis of natural alignment.

INTERPRETATION GUIDELINES

(a) Contracted and assigned classification units

Certifying partners serve employers in one or more classification units. There are two reasons why a certifying partner has been chosen to serve a particular classification unit. The first reason is that a certifying partner is generally also a health and safety association and a particular classification unit funds that health and safety association. These are known as "contracted classification units."

The second reason is that WorkSafeBC has assigned a particular classification unit to a certifying partner based on one or more of the following criteria:

- The assigned classification unit is in a sector or subsector that is dominated by a particular certifying partner;
- Employers in the assigned classification unit predominantly provide an input into, or receive outputs from, a contracted classification unit; and/or
- The assigned classification unit shares similar processes to a contracted classification unit.

These are known as "assigned classification units."

The remaining classification units (i.e. not contracted and not assigned) are not served by a certifying partner. These are known as “un-served classification units.” A complete list of contracted, aligned, and un-served classification units can be obtained from WorkSafeBC. The classification units served (contracted or assigned) by a certifying partner may be amended by WorkSafeBC, as required.

If an employer is in a classification unit that is served by a certifying partner, that employer should apply to that certifying partner. Where a classification unit is served by more than one certifying partner, the employer may select any one of those certifying partners. Where a classification unit is un-served, the employer will contact WorkSafeBC for a determination.

(b) Exceptions

There are some situations where an employer is in a classification unit served by a certifying partner but that employer intends to work in an industry served by a different certifying partner. As well, some employers are in an un-served classification unit but intend to work in an industry served by a certifying partner.

An employer may apply directly to a certifying partner that serves that industry if the employer requires certification from a specific certifying partner in order to bid on a contract, including a timber sale.

In addition, an employer may make a request to WorkSafeBC to be aligned to a certifying partner if the employer has any other legitimate business reason. In this situation, WorkSafeBC will make the determination.

(c) Changing certifying partners

Once an employer has been aligned to a certifying partner, that employer may remain aligned to that certifying partner indefinitely. In particular, if an employer has already received COR-certification from a particular certifying partner, that employer is not required to apply to a different certifying partner in the following circumstances:

- A classification unit becomes contracted to a different certifying partner;
- A classification unit becomes aligned to a different certifying partner; or
- A classification unit ceases to be contracted or aligned.

At any time, an employer may request a new determination from WorkSafeBC.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2014