



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Regarding the Factory of Choice Program

Question 1: What is the Factory of Choice (FOC) Program?

Factory of Choice is an award that is issued for going above and “beyond audits.” It is awarded to factories that demonstrate leadership and successful implementation of the Code.

Question 2: What are the levels of recognition?

There is currently one level of recognition called the “One-Star” award

Question 3: What is required for the One-Star Award?

One Star is awarded to factories that completed the Validated Audit Process (VAP), achieved a minimum score of 160, closed all Priority findings (see VAP Recognition Program FAQs for more information), has an RBA-Certified Factory Lead and a functioning forum for workers to provide ongoing input to management regarding the workplace. The One-Star award can be assessed and awarded remotely.

Question 4: Do factories have to apply for the award?

Yes, because factories must provide information on how the worker forum functions at the site, and they must apply and agree to be held to the requirements of the program.

Question 5: What is the form of the award?

Each recipient will receive a package from the RBA, which includes a letter from the Executive Director, a digital copy of the award and a plaque sent to the factory. The digital logo may be posted on your printed material or website as long as the usage guidelines are followed. See Usage Guidelines for more information, located on the member SharePoint site.

Question 6: What are the usage guidelines?

In summary, the digital logo may be posted on your printed material or website as long as the unique ID and expiration date are provided. Once the expiration date has passed, the logo can no longer be published in print or online. See Usage Guidelines for complete information, located on the member SharePoint site.

Question 7: When is the program launching?

April 2, 2018.

Question 8: Can I announce the award to my customers?

Yes. The award demonstrates a high-level commitment to the RBA Code of Conduct. The award can be shared with customers, investors, employees or any other interested party and posted to your website as long as the usage guidelines are followed.

Question 9: What is the difference between the Factory of Choice and the VAP Audit Recognition Program?

The VAP Recognition is a prerequisite to the Factory of Choice. The VAP Recognition demonstrates that a factory is committed to the RBA Code of Conduct, has completed an audit and closed all Priority findings through a Closure VAP. This must be completed before applying for the Factory of Choice Program.

Question 10: Can Site Recognition be taken away?

Yes. There are several reasons an award can be revoked. Proactive reasons include gross misconduct or any action that puts the lives of workers in danger. Reactive reasons include an expired VAP or a factory that decides to stop participating in the program. The RBA may grant a 6-month extension for extenuating circumstances determined by RBA Staff. All extensions and revocations will be documented and made available upon request.

Question 11: How can I verify an RBA Factory of Choice Award?

Each Factory of Choice Award is issued a unique ID and an expiration date. To verify the validity of an award, email FOC@ResponsibleBusiness.org

Later in the development of the program this will be automated and available on the RBA website.

For more information about the program, please contact FOC@ResponsibleBusiness.org