



2020 Audit Update

The due date for recertification audits are back to their usual due dates. Maintenance audits are due by year-end but should be submitted as close to your normal time as possible to line up for your next re-certification audit.

WorkSafeBC has released an [update for the COR program](#). It contains the plans and methods for auditing for the balance of 2020.

Regular COR and SAFE Companies audits are expected for the remainder of the year with appropriate COVID-19 safety protocols. This applies to recertification and maintenance audits. Any company that has delayed their regular audit and is now able to conduct and submit one, should do so at their earliest opportunity. Companies typically auditing in the fall of 2020 should attempt to audit in their normal month.

The WorkSafeBC waiver program, where eligible companies were able to receive a one-year extension on their COR and SAFE certificates, ended on August 31st, 2020. Companies that received a waiver will retain it, but no new waivers were processed after August 31st.

For BASE employers, remote video interviews are now permitted as a secondary option when in-person interviews present:

- A risk to the worker or the auditor
- Unusual and significant logistical challenges
- Require an in-person visit to worker's homes
- Or are otherwise restricted by the community or applicable First Nations.

Remote video interviews will NOT be recorded. Virtual observations have been reviewed by WorkSafeBC and will not be allowed by WorkSafeBC in lieu of on-site observations as they cannot be relied upon to confirm or deny that observed tasks meet audit criteria.

If performing a normal audit is unsafe or technologically impractical for your company, please contact our office for advice on maintaining your SAFE certification and/or COR incentive. Email us at safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org or call us at 1-877-741-1060. 📞

New BASE Auditor Training Workshop Format

Over the summer, the SAFE Companies and BCFSC training team developed a revised format for the BASE auditor workshop. The update was not only necessary for pandemic control, but also reduces the time requirements for the course by removing the need for student travel.

Several years ago, the course moved from three consecutive classroom-based days to an online, self-paced, fifteen-hour course which included a one day in-person requirement for interview and writing practices. The most recent course update eliminates the in-person requirement. The course has now been changed to seven hours of remote-based learning over the course of three days with small groups and one-on-one remote learning sessions with experienced BASE auditors/instructors. With shorter daily sessions, students will be able to discuss course material learned during their online course and complete course assignments during remote learning sessions and still have time for most of their regular daily duties during their workday. In addition, new COVID-19 safety protocols for auditing and how to effectively perform remote interviews will be covered in the course outline.

Initially, students will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis but there will be ample opportunity for flexibility and swapping time slots once participants are provided their initial schedules.



The removal of student travel requirements not only enhances safety, but also reduces additional costs such as mileage, accommodation, meals and extended losses of work time. Auditor students are typically a company's safety coordinator with many other duties to perform, both routine and unexpected. The nature of this session-based course will allow for those safety coordinators to continue reducing the risk of serious injuries and fatalities at their company more effectively.

For more information please visit the [BASE Auditor course](#) on our website. 📞