



How The Process Works: Snapshot



1

Choose Your Certifier & Apply

Choose from list of APR-approved certification bodies (CB) and send email to get started.



2

Collect Data

Contract with CB and submit necessary documents, usually 6-12 months of data, including supplier data.



3

Complete Audit

CB reviews data, confirms PCR content using appropriate calculations, and performs an on-site audit if applicable.



4

Receive Certification

Upon successful completion, CB will issue certificate. APR will provide marketing toolkit and help promote.

How The Process Works: Details

1 Choose Your Certifier & Apply

1. Organizations wishing to obtain PCR certification will review the process information available on the APR website and email APR at certification@plasticsrecycling.org to begin the process.
2. APR will determine if the organization meets the requirements for eligibility for certification. Note: Reclaimers pellet or flake must contain a minimum of 90% PCR content to be eligible for APR certification.
3. If APR determines the organization is eligible, APR will connect the organization with a representative from the certification body (CB) of their choice.

2 Collect Data

4. The CB will work with the organization to complete a contract, complete all necessary administrative actions, develop an audit plan and obtain all documents needed for review prior to conducting the audit.
5. The auditor will review the documentation to determine if the organization fulfills the audit requirements and is eligible for an on-site audit.

3 Complete Audit

6. If all the requirements are met, an on-site audit will be conducted.
7. Upon completion of the on-site audit, the CB will prepare the audit report and will present any non-conformities identified and comments to the organization along with whether a recommendation will be made to grant, continue, or renew certification depending on the audit interval.
8. The organization will have 30 days to present corrective and preventative actions for all non-conformities found and 90 days to complete those corrective actions.

4 Receive Certification

9. The CB will issue a final report with a statement of conformity and detailed audit findings within 12 weeks from the date the audit was completed.
10. The CB will provide the organization with a certificate signed by the CB or designee that will include a final statement of conformity to this standard and a list of products or product types included in the scope of the certificate. A copy of the final certificate will be sent to APR for validation, licensing agreement and listing on the APR website (if desired).
11. Certified organizations will be eligible to use the APR certification mark according to the APR standard module for logo, label and claim Use. APR will also issue a marketing toolkit for promotional use.

About the Association of Plastic Recyclers

APR is an international non-profit and the only North American organization focused exclusively on improving recycling for plastics. Our tools & resources help companies design packaging that can be recycled, support innovations that overcome existing recycling challenges, and encourage stable and reliable markets for post-consumer recycled content. Learn more at www.plasticsrecycling.org.

For more info, send an email to Certification@plasticsrecycling.org