

2022 Performance Improvement Award Rules

General Rules Overview

- Applicants must be Society of Chemical Manufactures and Affiliates (SOCMA) members actively engaged and currently **in good standing** with ChemStewards® or participate in an accepted alternative or equivalent EHS&S management program. If you have any questions on your alternative or equivalency to ChemStewards® contact a member of the ChemStewards® staff.
- Awards are based on an individual facility's achievement and improvement.
- Gold Award recipients must be a ChemStewards Tier III facility.
- Applicants must answer all general questions and award-based questions to be eligible to receive an award.
- Submit all applications via this online format. Print applications will not be accepted.
- The ENTIRE application must be filled out in order to be judged in the gold, silver or bronze categories. If a section is not relevant, please put "N/A."

When completing your application, either:



1. *Complete it in one session.*
2. *Save your work and email Tammy Netherland at TNetherland@socma.org to receive a link that will allow you to return to your application.*

Application does not guarantee an award.

Criteria	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Tier Level	Tier III	Tier II or Tier III	Tier I or Tier II
CS Core Principles	Must excel in ALL 5 core principles	Must excel in at least one core principle	
Number of Awards	Awarded to only 1 or 2 companies	Awarded to two winners for each core principle	Awarded to three winners for each core principle
CS Engagement	Must be actively engaged i.e., attending SOCMA events, engaging in committee discussions and participates in planned activities		
Metrics Submissions	On-time submission of metrics and other ChemStewards requirements		
Zero Fatalities	If a facility has any work-related fatality in the last 36 months, it will be disqualified from receiving an award.		
Regulatory Violation	A facility that has major, willful, repeat violation and/or pending investigation in the last 12 months will be disqualified from receiving an award.		

Disqualification

Contact the SOCMA team prior to application submission in the following situations. If you do not communicate with SOCMA prior to application submission, you will be automatically disqualified.

- Fatality at the facility during the past three years.
- Major regulatory violation including entering into a consent agreement and/or potential violation that is in the discussion/negotiation phase.
- Environmental event that adversely impacted a member (non-employee) of the community (Examples: Hospitalization, insurance claim, lawsuit, evacuation, etc...)
- Any use of your company name, identifier, reference to company location, or personnel names in text responses throughout the application – Sections 1-6.
- **Note:** Minor regulatory violations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be cause for disqualification.

Judging

- The judging is a blind-blind process.
- The SOCMA staff will select the judging committee and keep their identities confidential until after the judging process completes.
- The members of the judging committee will not be allowed to submit an application.

Important Dates

- 2022 Awards will capture facility activities during the timeframe of June 2020 – May 2021 and metrics or agency data for the year 2020 – 2021.
- Members will not be able to access the application after midnight of the application deadline of **August 31, 2022**.

Hints/Other Notes

- To focus on performance improvement and not general requirements, we will be limiting word counts. Be concise and focus your answers on program improvements only.
- Prior to submitting the application double check sections 1-6 to remove all identifying company information (company name, identifier, reference to company location, or personnel names).
- Avoid re-using identical information in multiple fields.



If you are unable to complete your application in one session, save your work and email Tammy Netherland at TNetherland@socma.org to receive a link that will allow you to return to your application.

[Download and preview the Performance Improvement Awards Application Questions.](#)