## Join the Movement

## Get Certified Organic by CCOF

# When you produce organic foods, you make a commitment to your customers.

CCOF honors this commitment by offering certification your customers can trust.

#### Recognition for Your Organic Commitment

The only way to become truly recognized for your dedication to producing and manufacturing organically is to become certified organic.

Research shows that there is increasing consumer confidence in the USDA organic seal. CCOF is proud of the role we play in ensuring organic integrity in the eyes of the consumer.

#### **CCOF** is Your Certification Choice

CCOF advances organic agriculture for a healthy world. We advocate on behalf of our members for organic policies, support the growth of organic through education and grants, and provide organic certification that is personal and accessible.

CCOF is a nonprofit organization governed by the people who grow and make our food. Founded in California in 1973, today our roots span the breadth of North America and our presence is internationally recognized. We are supported by an organic family of farmers, ranchers, processors, retailers, consumers, and policymakers. Together, we work to realize a future where organic is the norm.

Our certifications and member services have expanded across the food supply chain to include a wide variety of operations both large and small. From field to fork, we certify over 5,000 organic growers, livestock producers, ingredient suppliers, handlers, packaging companies, warehousing and storage facilities, brokers, wholesalers, private label brand owners, importers, retailers, and restaurants.

CCOF

**Organic** 

### **CCOF Provides**:

- » Excellent service and regional representatives throughout North America
- » Competitive pricing
- » Unsurpassed dedication and integrity
- » Extensive technological resources to make certification and materials search simple
- » Trained, highly qualified, and helpful staff
- » The most prestigious seals in the organic marketplace
- » An "Organic is Non-GMO & More" label for your product's packaging
- Online certification management through MyCCOF
- » Organic advocacy and education programs to support and grow your business
- » Membership in your local CCOF chapter for networking and resource-sharing opportunities
- » USDA National Organic Program-accredited certification
- » Access to international markets, including EU, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Switzerland, Korea, and Taiwan



Learn how CCOF makes organic certification easy »

## Get Certified Organic by CCOF

Get Certified Organic by CCOF

Easier than you think - become certified

organic in just six simple steps!

#### Submit Application and Organic System Plan (OSP)

» Pay new application fee

#### 2

#### Review of Application and OSP

- » CCOF reviews your application for completion and ability to comply
- » CCOF requests missing items or clarifications
- » CCOF invoices you for your certification fee when your application is accepted

#### 3

#### **Annual Inspection**

- Inspector will review your practices and your OSP
- » To remain certified you will be inspected at least annually
- » Pay your inspection fee

#### **Review of Inspection Report**

- » CCOF will review on-site observations
- » New applicants must pay first year certification fee before a certification decision is made

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#### **Certification Decision**

» Once you have paid your certification fee, CCOF will notify you of any requirements for initial or ongoing certification

#### Annual Continuation of Certification Contract

» You must renew your certification with CCOF annually by completing a simple contract and paying the annual certification fees



#### FAQS

#### How long does organic certification take?

You could be certified in as little as 90 days, however we generally recommend that you start the process several months before harvest or launch of your organic product.

We understand that you may be pressed for time or require certification by a certain deadline. In these cases, CCOF offers expedited services. An Expedited Certification Service form can be downloaded at <u>www.ccof.</u> <u>org/resources/resource-library.</u>

## How much does CCOF organic certification cost?

CCOF certification is competitively priced to provide both superior value and allow new farms, processors, and other businesses to easily enter the organic marketplace. Certification costs are based on an initial application fee, the cost of inspection, and an annual certification fee.

Small farms and processors are routinely certified for between \$600 and \$2,000. Larger operations receive competitive rates while maintaining personalized service. Additional detailed information is available online at <u>www.</u> <u>ccof.org/certification/fees.</u>

#### Visit <u>www.ccof.org/faqs</u> for all of our certification FAQs »

Applications are available for download online at <u>www.ccof.org/get-your-</u> <u>custom-application-</u> <u>packet</u>, by emailing CCOF at getcertified@ccof.org, or by calling CCOF at (831) 423-2263.

**Get Started Now!**