



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Marketing

Joe Sanderson
Director

2015-16 Organic Certification Cost Share Program
Frequently Asked Questions

Operations that have successfully received their initial USDA organic certification from a USDA-accredited certifying agent or have incurred expenses related to the renewal of their USDA organic certification from a USDA-accredited certifying agent between **October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016** are eligible to receive reimbursements.

What costs qualify? Allowable expenses include application fees, inspection costs, first-time USDA NOP certification fees, travel costs/per diem for organic inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage. Late fees, inspection due to violation of NOP regulation, materials and supplies, equipment and transitional certifications are not eligible. All charges must be for USDA organic certification.

How do I apply? Submit your completed application and supporting documentation to NCDA&CS by December 1, 2016. Incomplete applications will not be processed

How much am I eligible for? Payments are limited to 75% of an individual producer's or handler/processor's certification costs up to a maximum of \$750 per certificate or category of certification per year. Expenses related to the certification must have been incurred between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

When is the application due? Applications must be postmarked by December 1, 2016. Incomplete applications will not be processed. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds are depleted.

If I received a payment last year, can I participate this year? Yes

I operate in more than one state. Where do I apply? Apply to the state that appears on your organic certificate.

Where do I send the application? Mail to Heather Barnes, 1020 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1020 or Fax to 919-715-0155 or Email to heather.barnes@ncagr.gov.



North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
2015-16 Organic Certification Cost Share Application Form

For costs incurred between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016 related to obtaining or renewing USDA National Organic Program Certification. Applications must be postmarked by December 1, 2016. Applications are approved on a first-come, first served basis until funds are depleted.

Farm/Company Name		<input type="checkbox"/> New Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Certification	
Contact Person		County	
Mailing address	City	State	Zip
Email	Phone	Fax	
Make check payable to:			
Certifying Agency	Acres	Category(ies) of Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Crop <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Crop <input type="checkbox"/> Handler/Processor	
Crops/Livestock Grown or Products Processed/Handled			

You must submit the following with your application in order for it to be processed:

- 1) IRS W-9 form with either a Social Security Number OR a Tax ID number. The Name must match the number provided and must match "Make Check Payable to" entry on the application.
- 2) Detailed invoices/statements from your certifier listing all NOP certification costs INCURRED and PAID between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016. Cancelled checks are not acceptable.
- 3) A copy of your current certificate or letter from your certifier stating you have met the requirements for certification.

If you are a farm, do you want your operation added to NC Farm Fresh, NCDA's online farm directory? Yes No

I certify the information submitted with this form is true, complete and accurate; the operation above was certified by a USDA accredited certification agency; and costs were incurred during the qualifying time period.

Applicant Signature

Date

Send application and documentation to: Heather Barnes, NCDA&CS 1020 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1020, Fax: 919-715-0155 Email: heather.barnes@ncagr.gov	<i>For Office Use Only</i>		1020-2677-2016
	Total eligible costs		x 75% =
	Total Reimbursement		
	Reviewed by	Date	