

2016 ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE PROGRAM

Directions and Program Information

RULES & REQUIREMENTS

- Cost-share payments are limited to 75% of *allowable certification costs up to a maximum of \$750 per scope;
- There are 4 scopes: crops, livestock, wild crops, processing/handling;
- The eligibility period includes bills PAID between 10/1/15-9/30/16;
- If you have farms in multiple states, apply in the state in which the certified operations are located;
- You must have obtained your first certificate between 10/1/15-9/30/16 **OR** be a renewing producer/processor in good standing to apply;
- Only 1 application per operation will be accepted per cost-share year.

*ALLOWABLE COSTS: application fees, inspection fees (including travel costs for inspector), certification costs, user fees/sales assessments, postage (with receipt)

*UNALLOWABLE COSTS: inspections due to violations, charges relating to non-USDA organic certification (such as JAS certification), transitional certifications, labeling program, materials, supplies, & equipment, LATE fees, MEMBERSHIP fee, consultant fees

INSTRUCTIONS

If you are certified with: Ecocert ICO (ICO), International Certification Services, Inc (ICS), Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS), Minnesota Crop Improvement Assn (MCIA), Midwest Organic Services Assn, Inc. (MOSA), Nature's International Certification Services (NICS), Organic Crop Improvement Association (OCIA), Quality Certification Services (QCS) your certifier has agreed to provide the necessary documentation to support your application. You only need to complete and submit:

- Application
- W9**

If your certifier is NOT listed above, they have not agreed to provide this information. You will need to provide the following:

- ✓ W9**
- ✓ Receipt from certifier of eligible fees paid between October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016 for organic certification.
- ✓ Copy of most recent organic certificate.

**W9s are valid for 18 months. If you received cost-share last year, you do not need to complete a new one unless your information has changed. An example of a change of information would be if you moved and have a new address or if your name changed due to marriage or a business name change. The number used on application should match the W9.

Payment information will be requested from certifiers on a scheduled basis – allow 4 weeks to receive payment.

Send to: Iowa Department of Agriculture (IDALS)

Organic Certification Program

Wallace Building, 502 East 9th Street

Des Moines, IA 50319

Contact: **Tammy Stotts (515)281-7657** or tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov

Deadline: Applications are due in our office by **November 7, 2016.**