



Anyone can be an organic farmer

Certification is easier than you think! Five Steps to Organic Certification

1. APPLY

OCIA's international network of members and staff can help you. Please call (402) 477-2323, or write to info@ocia.org to locate a regional office or chapter near you. You can also access information and application forms online at OCIA.ORG.

2. PRE-INSPECTION REVIEW

After OCIA receives your completed application, staff review it for initial compliance to regulations/ programs you have applied and tells you the results.

3. INSPECTION

Next, OCIA assigns an OCIA-approved inspector to visit your operation. The inspector verifies compliance of your Organic System Plan and tells you any findings, then sends an inspection report directly to OCIA International. You also get a copy.

4. POST-INSPECTION REVIEW

OCIA's Certification Decision Team reviews your application and the inspection report for compliance with certification requirements.

A complete application includes:

- o An Organic System Plan
- o An Operator Licensing Agreement
- o Supporting documents
- o Payment of fees as outlined in the [OCIA Fee Schedule](#).

5. CERTIFICATION DECISION



Finally, OCIA sends you its decision letter and an organic certificate, if your operation is found compliant. The letter includes a checklist and guidance on improvements for your organic operation, along with any deadlines for responses to Noncompliances.

Annual update forms and inspections are required to maintain your organic certifications.