

2023 Virginia Organic Certification Cost Share Program
Qualifying Period: October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) has just received approval by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) for funding through the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP). The OCCSP funds will provide reimbursement to eligible organic growers and processors for 75 percent of their 2022-2023 organic certification costs up to a maximum of \$750 per category of certification.

The reimbursements will be for those who have successfully completed their organic certification from a USDA accredited organic certifying agency between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023. **All paperwork must be submitted to VDACS no later than November 15, 2023.** Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until they have been depleted.

The application must contain the following:

1. VDACS OCCSP Application, completed and signed, which can be found here: <http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/organiccostshare.pdf>
2. Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) W-9 tax form with original physical signature, which can be found here: https://www.doa.virginia.gov/forms/CVG/W9_COVSubstitute.pdf. NOTE: For security reasons, if you use your social security number (SSN) as your business identifier, **do not email the completed COV W-9 with the SSN**; please mail the completed form to the address listed on the application;
3. Current copy of the applicant's organic certificate from an accredited certification agency;
4. Itemized receipt(s) from the certifier detailing the total cost of services rendered and showing the date of payment within the program time-frame.

Please direct questions to:

Kierra Hall at **804-786-3951** or kierra.hall@vdacs.virginia.gov



*VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES*

Organic Certification Cost Share Application

**Cost Share Funds Available on a First-Come, First-Served Basis
Each Applicant will receive 75% of Certification Costs up to \$750 per Scope**

Farm Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County where farm is located: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Website: _____

Federal ID Number or Social Security Number: _____

Total acreage certified organic: _____

Certification Company: _____

Products Certified: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Application must be signed and accompanied by the following:

- Copy of current organic certificate showing certification date
- Copy of itemized receipt(s) from the certifier detailing total cost of services rendered, showing date of payment
- Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) W-9 tax form with original signature; NOTE: For security reasons, if you use your social security number (SSN) as your business identifier, **do not email the completed COV W-9 with the SSN**; please mail the completed form to the address below.

Send to:

VDACS Division of Marketing and Development
Attention: Kierra Hall
102 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
PHONE: 804-786-3951; FAX: 804-371-7786



For Office Use Only – Cost Code

Approved Amount \$ _____

Approved By _____

Date _____