



QCS Retail Establishment/Restaurant Fee Structure

The following options are intended to provide a cost-effective certification for operations of various sizes and types. Please select the option for which you qualify and which represents the best value.

A \$25 non-refundable credit will be awarded each year if your application & fees are submitted by your renewal deadline

Description	Annual Certification Fees <i>Due with Application</i>		Inspection <i>Annually</i>
	Locations	Annual Fee per location	
Certification of a Primary Location and Additional Associated Location(s) (Each require separate Organic System Plan and inspection)	First 5	\$2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cost varies: see below ● \$500 Deposit: collected with certification fees ● Remaining cost: invoiced after inspection (Net 15 Terms) ● \$75 QCS service fee per inspection ● Unannounced inspection may occur (see below)
	Next 10	\$1525	
	Additional Locations	\$775	
<i>Note: There will be an additional fee for the review of more than 75 single ingredients or 40 multiple ingredient products.. This will be billed at the rate of \$60/hour Please contact QCS for further information.</i>			

Additional Certification Options (ADD-ONS): Fees due with application and upon annual renewal.

Expedited Certification	\$1,875 per location 30-40 working days.
	\$3,750 per location 15-20 working days.
Other Fees: As applicable	
Renewal Late Fee	\$100
Finance Fee	10% for every 30 days past due date.
Additional Products	\$60/hour 15-20 working days or \$180/hour expedited 3-5 working days, \$360 for 24-48 hour turnaround (QCS reserves the right to decline this service depending on availability). To add certified products during the certification year (not during the annual renewal), please contact the QCS office.
Transaction Certificate	\$60 each. Includes domestic overnight mailing; additional expense for international mailing will be billed.
Reinstatement Fee	\$500, due with initial app.
Mediation Fee	\$250 for mediation resulting from an administrative noncompliance (e.g. failure to renew), \$450 for mediation resulting from technical noncompliance; due upon QCS acceptance of request for mediation.

QCS reserves the right to charge additional fees, as applicable, for all other administrative and certification related services not specifically listed. Administrative time is billed at \$60/hour.



DESCRIPTION OF FEES AND REFUND POLICY

Certification Fees Certification Fees are the base annual fees due each year for certification. The amount of fees to be paid depend on the fee option chosen from the above table and are in addition to the inspection fees charged and the assessments (where applicable). Certification fees are due at the time of initial application (1st year) and on anniversary date in subsequent years. A flat rate fee may be negotiated at QCS's discretion. A \$25 non-refundable credit will be awarded each year if your application and fees are submitted to QCS by your renewal deadline. Certification fees take into account the requirement for QCS to conduct additional inspections (primarily unannounced) and sampling at a percentage of QCS certified operations, as described in the organic standards.

Inspection Fees The final cost for inspection varies based upon the complexity of the operation inspected, the ability to group with other nearby inspections, the individual inspector assigned, and how long the inspection takes. In addition to fees for the inspector's time, all travel expenses are paid by the party to be inspected. This may include travel time, gas, mileage, car rental and/or airfare, meals, lodging, tolls, etc. We strongly encourage clients to submit their application in a timely manner so that inspections can be coordinated as to save on travel expenses.

Operation complexity is determined in the initial review phase using a standardized formula taking into account things like size and type of operation, length of time certified, number of suppliers, whether there's parallel uncertified production, past noncompliances, past inspection length, etc.

The chart below indicates the minimum cost and the expected total price range of an inspection based on the operation's assigned complexity. For example, a moderate retail establishment/restaurant inspection is going to cost a minimum of \$900, and is expected to fall within the range of \$900 to \$1000 when travel expenses are taken into account. Note that actual inspection time and travel expenses may increase the inspection cost above the anticipated range. However, QCS greatly strives to keep inspection costs within these ranges.

Operation Type	Operation Complexity		
	Simple	Moderate	Complex
Retail Establishments & Restaurants	800-900	900-100	1000-1275

A \$200 deposit is due at the time of the initial application (1st year) and on submission of renewal applications. Clients will be invoiced at the conclusion of the inspection for the following: **Inspection cost + \$80 inspection service fee – deposit**. The inspection service fee is retained by QCS to cover administrative costs associated with our inspection program.

Assessments Assessment fees are mandatory, and based upon the amount of gross sales of QCS-certified organic product(s). These fees are due January 31st and July 31st annually. The assessment fee is 0.5% (one-half of one percent) of gross sales during the given period, less the cost of certified organic goods/ingredients incorporated into final certified product.

Period 1 (January 1 – June 30) and Period 2 (July 1 – December 31)

Clients will be provided with notice and all necessary paperwork at least 30 days before the deadline. Assessments are capped at various levels depending on the certification option chosen from the above chart. The maximum assessment for an individual certified location is capped at \$10,000 annually. The maximum assessment for multi-unit umbrella is capped at \$20,000 annually.

Expedited Certification

Expedited certification is intended for clients that are seeking priority processing of their Organic System Plan (OSP) – 15 to 20 working days or 30-40 working days for certification. QCS' ability to complete the certification process in this time frame depends on submittal of a completed application/organic system plan, supporting documentation and fees; a willingness to respond quickly with any additional information requested by QCS; inspector availability; and availability of client to be present at inspection. Expedited certification fees are in addition to certification fees. Additionally, fees for expedited inspections may be higher than regular inspections due to last minute travel arrangements. The inspected party must pay all inspection fees including additional travel expenses incurred to accommodate the expedite inspection. Please see certification fee schedule for more detailed information regarding inspection fees.

Refund Policy If the application is withdrawn before an inspector has been assigned, one half of certification fee may be credited. If withdrawn after inspector has been assigned, certification fees are nonrefundable. Upon withdrawal of application and written request, the inspection deposit will be credited (as long as inspection hasn't taken place). Inspection fee nonrefundable after inspection has taken place. Expedited certification fees are nonrefundable. If you are denied certification, fees are nonrefundable and all invoices must be paid according to terms. Inspection charges must be paid if the inspection was conducted.