



### 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"> <li>• Cost varies: see below</li> <li>• \$500 Deposit: collected with certification fees</li> <li>• Remaining cost: invoiced after inspection (Net 15 Terms)</li> <li>• \$75 QCS service fee per inspection</li> <li>• Unannounced inspection may occur (see below)</li> </ul>
	Next 10	\$1525	
	Additional Locations	\$775	

*Note: There may be additional administrative charges for review of more than 100 products. Please contact QCS for further information.*

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

Expedited Certification    \$1,875 per location. Contact the QCS office if you seek priority application processing

**Other Fees: As applicable**

Additional Products	\$45/hour or \$180/hour if expedited. To add certified products during the certification year (not during the annual renewal), please contact the QCS office.
Transaction Certificate	\$45 each. Includes domestic overnight mailing; additional expense for international mailing will be billed.
Reinstatement Fee	\$300 if suspended for administrative reason, \$500 if suspended for technical reason, 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 \$45/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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 size and complexity of the operation inspected, the distance that must be traveled, the ability to group with other nearby inspections, and the individual inspector assigned. Operation complexity is determined in the initial review phase. It should be noted that most operations are rated by QCS as simple or moderate for inspection purposes. Complex inspections are not as common, and are usually very large companies that produce numerous multi-ingredient products. The chart below should be used as a general guide to how much an inspection may cost.

Operation Type	Operation Complexity		
	Simple	Moderate	Complex
Retail Establishments & Restaurants	800-875	900-975	1000-1275

A \$200 deposit is due at the time of the initial application (1<sup>st</sup> year) and on submission of renewal applications. Clients will be invoiced at the conclusion of the inspection for the following, described below:

***(Inspector fee & travel expenses + \$75 QCS service charge) - less deposit***

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 encourage clients to submit their application in a timely manner so that inspections can be coordinated as to save on travel expenses. The inspection service fee is retained by QCS for associated costs, and is the only portion of the amount charged to the inspected party that is not paid to the inspector.

**Assessments** Assessment fees are mandatory, and based upon the amount of gross sales of QCS-certified organic product(s). These fees are due January 31<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> 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 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.