

# ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

MIKE BEEBE  
GOVERNOR

BUTCH CALHOUN

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



#1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205

PHONE: (501) 683-4851

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E-MAIL: SECRETARY@AAD.AR.GOV

## Organic Certification Cost Share Program October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

The Arkansas Agriculture Department (AAD) has entered into a cooperative agreement with the USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service for the allocation of organic certification cost share funds. The USDA National Organic Certification Cost Share Program was authorized by 7 U.S. C. 6523, as amended by section 10004 ( c ) of the Agriculture Act of 2014 which amended the Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. Under this act, USDA is authorized to assist producers and handlers of agricultural products in obtaining certification under the National Organic Program (NOP) by accredited certifying agents.

The program will reimburse certified organic producers, processors or handlers of organic agricultural products 75% of allowable expenses up to a maximum of \$750 per certification or category of certification. **To qualify, a producer, processor or handler's inspection and certification or recertification must occur between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014.**

NOP currently recognizes four categories of certification: crops, wild crops, livestock and processing/handling. Entities may receive one reimbursement per certification or category of certification per qualifying period. Application for multiple certification reimbursements must be made separately.

If you are interested in participating in the program, please submit the following documents:

- Completed AAD Organic Cost Share Application
- Copy of current certification (s) *(Must be dated between 10/1/13 and 9/30/14)*
- Complete W-9 Form *(Request for Taxpayer Identification Number)*
- Copy of invoice statement showing fees assessed for certification from a USDA accredited certifier
- Proof of payment to certifier for costs incurred for certification or recertification.

Mail all documents to:

**Organic Certification Cost Share Program  
Arkansas Agriculture Department  
1 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72205**

Application packets must **be received by October 31, 2014** to be considered.

The USDA - AAD agreement requires AAD to review applications for cost share reimbursement then file with USDA for the amount needed to disburse to producers and handlers.

Please distribute this announcement to anyone you feel may be interested.

For additional assistance, please contact:

Arkansas Agriculture Department

Phone: (501) 683-4851

E-mail: [zachary.taylor@aad.ar.gov](mailto:zachary.taylor@aad.ar.gov) or [melissa.lambert@aad.ar.gov](mailto:melissa.lambert@aad.ar.gov)

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## 2013-2014 Organic Certification Cost Share Application

Application will not be accepted if certification occurred before October 1, 2013 or after September 30, 2014.

Applications due October 31, 2014.

\*Please submit one application per certification type

<b>For assistance please call: 501-683-4851</b>		AAD Use Only – Date Received	
<b>Applicant Information</b>			
Last Name:	First Name:		Middle Initial
SSN or Federal Tax ID:			
Name of Farm or Business:		County:	
Mailing Address (street, town, zip)		Home Phone #	
		Cell Phone#	
Physical Address of certified Farm or Business (if different from above) (street, town, zip)		E-mail Address:	
		Website:	
<b>Certification Information</b>			
Date of Certification/ Recertification		Name of Certifying Agency	
What organic products do you produce?			
<b>*Certification Type:</b> (check one) Producer, Crops <input type="checkbox"/> Producer, Wild Crops <input type="checkbox"/> Producer, Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Processor/Handler <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Total Amount of Certification Costs:</b> _____	
I certify that all the information on this application is complete, true and factual to the best of my knowledge and belief.			
Signature: X _____		Date:  _____	
<b>MAIL TO:</b>	<b>Organic Certification Cost Share Program</b> <b>Arkansas Agriculture Department</b> <b>#1 Natural Resources Drive</b> <b>Little Rock, AR 72205</b>		<b>To Be Included In Mailing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Copy of Certification</li> <li>• W-9 Form</li> <li>• Invoice from Certifier</li> <li>• Proof of Payment</li> </ul>
<b>AAD Use Only</b>			
Date of Approval	Actual Certification Costs from Invoice(s)\$ _____ X.75=\$ _____ or \$750 (circle one)		
Approved By _____			