Maryland Department of Agriculture
Organic Certification Program
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Suite 449
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-5769 Fax (410) 841-2750
Email: organic.certification@maryland.gov

Organic Certification Application Instructions

GENERAL:
Your organic certification application must include all completed forms for all applicable scopes that you are requesting certification for: crops, wild crops, livestock, and/or handler/processor. All applications must include a crop application. Livestock, wild crops, or handler/processor applications will not be complete without a completed crop application.

All forms can be completed electronically (MS Word fillable forms) or by hand. Use the appropriate form as specified in the filename (electronic vs. handwritten). Forms that do not specify in the filename can be filled out either electronically or by hand. **Forms that are completed electronically should be submitted electronically as MS Word documents via email to ensure a streamlined update process in the future. Signature pages may be mailed/scanned separately as needed.**

Use the guide below to determine which forms must be completed based on activities that occur on your operation. Please call or email MDA with any questions regarding forms or application requirements at the contact information listed above.

Section 1: Organic Crop Application Documents	
All applicants for organic certification must include a crop application. Organic livestock must have access to certified organic pasture and MDA's certification of operations under the handling/processing scope is limited to on-farm handling/processing activities related to crops produced on-farm.	
If the following applies to your operation…	**You must complete these forms…**
You are applying for organic certification of crops produced on your farm in order to sell, label, or represent crops as organic.	• MDA_DOC_002 Crop and Pasture OSP • MDA_DOC_059 Crop Appendix C Field and Crop Information • MDA_DOC_134 Organic Fraud Prevention Plan • MDA_DOC_098 Organic Certification Remittance Form
You use seeds, seedling, or planting stock to produce crops on your farm.	• MDA_DOC_050 Crop Appendix A Seeds, Seedlings, Planting Stock
You use or plan to use organically approved materials inputs (fertilizers, pest management products, cleaners/sanitizers, etc.).	• MDA_DOC_051 Crop Appendix B Material Inputs List
You have managed all or some fields requested for initial certification for the past 3 years.	• MDA_DOC_091 Field History Sheet – New Fields
Another person/party has managed all or some fields requested for initial certification for the past 3 years.	• MDA_DOC_007 Land Use Affidavit
Some or all of your fields do not require buffers because neighboring land is managed organically.	• MDA_DOC_131 Adjoining Land Use Verification
You plan to harvest wild crops and sell, label, or represent as organic.	• MDA_DOC_130 Wild Crop OSP

Section 2: Organic Livestock Application Documents	
If the following applies to your operation…	**You must complete these forms…**
You are applying for organic certification of livestock and/or livestock products produced on your farm in order to sell, label, or represent livestock and/or livestock products as organic.	• MDA_DOC_004 Livestock OSP
You raise ruminant livestock.	• MDA_DOC_055 Livestock Appendix A DMI Calculation Worksheet • MDA_DOC_127 Livestock Appendix C Ruminant Herd List
You use or plan to use organically approved material inputs for livestock production (feed additives/supplements, medicines, sanitizers, pest control products, etc.).	• MDA_DOC_057 Livestock Appendix B Material Inputs List
Your livestock graze or are custom managed at another certified organic operation at any time during production.	• MDA_DOC_132 Livestock Custom Grazing and Management Affidavit
You have or will purchase certified organic livestock from another operation.	• MDA_DOC_133 Livestock Transaction Record
Section 3: On-Farm Processor/Handler Application Documents	
All processing/handling activities must occur on-farm and must involve crop and/or livestock products produced on-farm. Off-farm handling/processing facilities are not eligible for certification with MDA.	
If the following applies to your operation…	**You must complete these forms…**
You are applying for organic certification of handled/processed crop and/or livestock products produced on your farm in order to sell, label, or represent processed/handled products as organic.	• MDA_DOC_018 On-Farm Processor Handler OSP • MDA_DOC_056 Processor Handler Appendix A Products List • MDA_DOC_089 Processor Handler Appendix C Ingredients List
You use or plan to use organically approved materials inputs for processed/handled products (cleaners, sanitizers, facility pest management products, water treatments, etc.)	• MDA_DOC_063 Processor Handler Appendix B Material Inputs List
You plan to process multi-ingredient products to be sold, labeled, or represented as organic	• MDA_DOC_019 Organic Product Profile Multi-ingredient

Application Submittal

For forms completed electronically, please submit as MS Word documents via email to organic.certification@maryland.gov. Attestation/signature pages can be scanned/mailed separately.

For forms completed by hand, please either:
1) Scan and submit via email to organic.certification@maryland.gov or
2) Mail to: Maryland Department of Agriculture, Organic Certification Program, 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Suite 449, Annapolis, MD 21401

All check payments and remittance forms **must be mailed to the appropriate address listed on the Remittance Form.**