



**Michigan Organic Food & Farm Alliance PO Box
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Organic Cost Share for 2010

DEADLINE Sept 15, 2010 All docs must be received.

In March 2009, Michigan signed an amendment to reimburse agreement with USDA's National Organic Program to reimburse eligible Michigan organic producers and handlers for a portion of their certification costs for October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. Due to budget constraints, the MDA was planning to discontinue the program in Michigan. The Board of Directors of MOFFA authorized a committee to explore options that would allow the certified organic growers and handlers in the state to continue to receive the cost-share that is available to producers in other states.

Michigan Organic Food and Farming Alliance (MOFFA) signed an agreement to manage the 2010 cost share program under the guidance of Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). The program began on August 4 and all applications must be in to MOFFA by September 15, 2010.

If you are a producer or handler and wish to apply for reimbursement under this program, please complete and attach the following. **Be sure package is complete since there is a short window of time for this process.**

- Completed cost share application.
- Copy of certificate or renewal that you received from your certifying agent dated between **October 1, 2009 and September 15, 2010.**
- Confirmation of payment, either copy of canceled check or receipt from certification organization of certification expenses between Oct 1, 2009 thru Sept 15, 2010. This includes certification fees, inspection fees, any % of sales paid to agency but NOT membership dues to agency incurred during this period.
- W-9 form– Completed with Taxpayer Identification Number or Social Security number (whichever you use for your business).

Your operation must have been inspected and certified by a National Organic Program accredited certifying agent during this time period. The Michigan Department of Agriculture is authorized to pay up to 75% of the certification costs up to \$750.00. **Certifying agency membership dues and chapter dues do not qualify for reimbursement under the cost share program.**

FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED WILL OMIT YOUR ELGIBITY. APPLICATIONS FOR OTHER TIME PERIODS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THIS TIME. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THIS OFFICE ALONG WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT.