



**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
National Organic Program (NOP)
Organic Integrity Learning Center
Course Offerings**





NOP-010: Introduction to the USDA Organic System

This course presents a core regulatory overview of organic farms, crops, livestock, and handling practices. The course also introduces fundamentals of organic production practices, including soil management and pest management.



NOP-020: Sound and Sensible Organic Certification

This course describes a certification process that is affordable, accessible, and attainable for all farms and businesses. This course provides a range of resources for farms and businesses seeking organic certification to help them understand and navigate the certification process and requirements.



NOP-030: Fundamentals of Inspection

This course is designed to provide inspectors and reviewers with an understanding of the inspection process, so you can begin to conduct basic onsite inspections of organic crop, livestock, and handling operations. You will learn inspection procedures and tactical skills for performing efficient and effective onsite inspections as well as tips for writing reports and communicating with certifiers. The course aligns with USDA's goals of fair and consistent organic certification and enforcement, and National Organic Standards Board's recommendations for inspector qualifications.



NOP-040: Compliance and Enforcement: Adverse Actions, Appeals, and Reinstatements

This course is designed for certifiers and inspectors responsible for investigating complaints, issuing noncompliance and adverse actions against certified operations, and navigating mediation and appeals processes. The course also addresses the reinstatement process.



NOP-050: Certification Administration Essentials

The course outlines the managerial and administrative tasks of an accredited organic certification agency, the systems and procedures needed to address them, useful resources for management, and interpretations of the regulations. The course presents a myriad of tasks required to plan, develop, implement, and monitor a system designed to achieve and maintain United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) accreditation. Certifiers provide a critical connection among all organic stakeholders (certifiers, inspectors, applicants, certified operations, the USDA, and the public). This course helps certifiers understand the quality management system necessary to implement procedures that meet NOP accreditation requirements. This course is also part of the Sound and Sensible approach to help certifiers determine what documentation is needed so that it is neither excessive and beyond what is necessary to determine compliance nor insufficient for verification that the operation is compliant with organic regulations. This course is designed for certification staff and contractors including: quality managers, inspection coordinators, inspectors, and certification reviewers.



NOP-060: Import Oversight Essentials

This course covers requirements for organic products imported into the United States and certifier responsibilities to verify the compliance of organic imports with USDA organic regulations.



NOP-070: Advanced Inspections: Investigations

This course provides inspectors and reviewers with the fundamentals needed to plan for and conduct a thorough investigation, specifically one involving an inspection. The course focuses on planning, collecting evidence to support an ongoing investigation, and documenting your work. The course is for experienced inspectors and reviewers who have completed the Fundamentals of Inspection course and the Compliance and Enforcement: Adverse Actions, Appeals, and Reinstatements course.



NOP-080: Traceability Techniques

This course teaches certifiers, inspectors, and reviewers traceability auditing techniques for handling operations. This course reviews the purpose of traceability techniques within the organic control system. It teaches certifiers, inspectors, and reviewers traceability auditing technique, and it explains and demonstrates two types of audits: a Trace-Back Audit and a Mass Balance Audit.

The course is for experienced inspectors and reviewers who have already completed the NOP-030: Fundamentals of Inspection and the NOP-040: Compliance and Enforcement: Adverse Actions, Appeals, and Reinstatements courses.



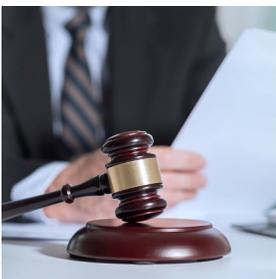
NOP-090: Organic Dairy Compliance

This course covers a range of requirements related to livestock management, with a special focus on organic dairies. The primary audiences include organic certifiers, inspectors, and reviewers, who assess organic dairies for compliance with the organic regulations. Organic dairies will also benefit from knowing the National Organic Program's expectations for certifiers in overseeing their operations.



NOP-100: Organic Fraud and the Criminal Mind

This course presents an introduction to product fraud and key criminology and behavioral sciences insight to understand "Organic Fraud and the Criminal Mind." This insight can then be applied to identify the fraud opportunity and focus inspections and investigations accordingly.



NOP-110: Preventing the Organic Fraud Opportunity

This course expands on "Organic Fraud and the Criminal Mind" course to review key elements and processes for conducting an organic fraud vulnerability assessment. The course reviews several case studies, and applies intelligence gathering and analysis to understand where system weaknesses occur. The course helps certifying agents and inspectors understand whether certified operations have implemented effective organic fraud prevention strategies and whether the strategies are active and being reviewed for effectiveness.



NOP-120: Input Material Review

This course provides instruction to organic stakeholders on how to make reliable and consistent material review decisions. This includes knowing which sources of inputs are allowed, and which restrictions apply to the use of specific input materials (and when). This course builds a solid understanding of general material review fundamentals; organic regulatory requirements; resources available to make informed compliance decisions; and complex real-world examples. This course also includes practical exercises designed to help solidify learning. This course is divided

into four lessons: Fundamentals of Material Review; Crop Inputs; Livestock Inputs; and Handling Inputs. Each lesson is further divided into sections based on subject area.



NOP-140: Recordkeeping

This course introduces learners to a variety of recordkeeping systems encountered across the range of certified operations. It examines challenges posed by different operational activities and complexity levels. The course guides learners in determining whether commonly encountered recordkeeping issues are limited or systemic in nature. Finally, this course will help certifiers structure internal and collaborative recordkeeping reviews across operations.



NOP-150: Organic System Plans

The Organic System Plan (OSP) is a document used as the basis for communication between the applicant for organic certification, the certifier, and the inspector. It is the foundation of the organic certification process. This course teaches requirements related to OSPs in the USDA organic regulations, examines the different functions of the OSP, discusses critical organic control points and potential obstacles in the certification process, and provides OSP evaluation and design considerations for certifiers. This course is intended for certifiers and inspectors.

Before taking this course, learners should complete the following courses: NOP-010 Introduction to the USDA Organic System NOP-050 Certification Administration Essentials.



NOP-160: Organic Regulations and Retail Labeling

This course introduces the federal organic standards and the stakeholders responsible for rulemaking, implementation, and enforcement. This course is intended for farms and businesses considering organic certification and for organic professionals who participate in the regulatory process. It also explains the different components of the organic standards—the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA or the Act), the USDA organic regulations, and the NOP Handbook. This course also covers the rules for labels, labeling, and marketing of organic retail products.



NOP-170: Certification Review Essentials

This course introduces learners to the Organic System Plan (OSP) requirements, organic control points in compliance evaluation, and inspection report review. The course also guides learners to identify non-compliances and correct citation of the USDA organic regulations through case scenarios. This course helps reviewers gain confidence in completing effective and efficient reviews that lead to appropriate and defensible certification decisions.



NOP-190: Sampling and Testing

This course provides an overview of the regulations and guidance that authorize certifiers to collect samples. It also examines appropriate responses to sample result findings. The course covers proper procedures for collecting samples of organic products in a variety of settings. Lastly, the course describes how sampling and testing is a tool for certifiers to verify compliance with the organic standards and effectiveness of certified operations' contamination prevention plans.



NOP-220: Organic Integrity and Energy Infrastructure

This course addresses how organic certifiers and inspectors can identify and mitigate potential risks associated with energy infrastructure on organic farms. It also provides organic farmers who encounter infrastructure development with information to help manage what happens on their land. Practical case studies emphasize proactive communication strategies with the full range of stakeholders involved in energy infrastructure projects.



NOP-250: Natural Resources and Biodiversity

This course teaches certifiers and inspectors how to assess natural resources and biodiversity requirements as indicated in organic system plans (OSPs) and on-site during annual inspections. The course provides tools that help you know what to review and what to include in inspection protocols and reports.



NOP-998: National Organic Program Presentations

This course contains a library of NOP presentations delivered at conferences and meetings. Most presentations were recorded following the event and therefore are not the live versions. They are posted to keep the organic community informed about our work as we speak in different venues.



NOP-999: National Organic Program Training Archive

This course holds the content for all published courses in the Organic Integrity Learning Center, so you can continue to access course content once you have completed a course. The course also includes a separate page, called Archived Slides: that includes selected material from the National Organic Program's annual training sessions for certifiers, on topics not yet integrated into Organic Integrity Learning Center courses. Training content that has been integrated into Center courses is not repeated here.