

# FEE SCHEDULE AND SCALE OF SANCTIONS

(Effective January 1, 2019)

1900 Hendon Ave, Saint Paul MN 55108 • tel 612-625-7766 • fax 612-625-3748 • mncia@mncia.org • www.mciaorganic.org

## **Crop/Wild Crop/Livestock Producer Fee Schedule**

Base Fee - Payment of the base fee and membership/application fee is due with the application

Base Fee	\$375.00
Livestock Fee	\$100.00
On-Farm Processing Fee	\$100.00 (for less than \$10,000 in sales, primarily farm-raised ingredients/products)
Membership/Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$50.00

**Inspection Charges -** will be the cost of the inspection. Inspection charges may include: inspection preparation time, on-site inspection time, travel time, mileage at the current IRS rate and inspection report writing time. A cost estimate will be provided.

If an unannounced inspection takes the place of your full-annual inspection, the inspection fees as stated above will apply.

**Final Fees** - Payment of final fees is due for all updating applicants if organic sales occur. Final fees must be made at least once annually, or can be paid more often if desired. Please refer to the Instructions - Final Fees for more information.

### For Crops/Livestock/Wild Crop Producers

First \$500,000 in sales	0.5%
\$500,001 to \$750,000	0.25%
\$750,001 and up	0.1%

### **Additional Charges**

Late Fee for Renewing Applicants	\$100.00/month (starting June 1st)
Late Fee for New Crop Applicants	\$100.00 (after October 1st)
Rush Fee	\$500.00 - \$1000.00
Additional Inspections/Site Visits	\$75.00/hr (\$150.00 minimum, travel charges may apply)
Settlement Agreement Fee	\$100.00
Reinstatement Fee (reinstatement of Suspended Operations)	\$500.00
Additional Services such as input review for non-OMRI or non-WSDA Approved products, adding new products or services to Certificate	\$75.00/hr
Extending MCIA Certification during Transfer or to Sell Inventory	\$50.00 + Final Fees on products sold under MCIA Certification
International Certificates	\$50.00/certificate
Return Check Fee	\$30.00
Payment Plan Set-up	\$10.00

# **Handler/Processor Fee Schedule**

Base Fee - Payment of the base fee and membership/application fee is due with the application

Base Fee	\$500.00
Membership/Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$50.00

**Inspection Charges -** will be the cost of the inspection. Inspection charges may include: inspection preparation time, on-site inspection time, travel time, mileage at the current IRS rate and inspection report writing time. A cost estimate will be provided.

If an unannounced inspection takes the place of your full-annual inspection, the inspection fees as stated above will apply.

**Final Fees -** Payment of final fees is due for all updating applicants if organic sales occur. Final fees must be made at least once annually, or can be paid more often if desired. Please refer to the Instructions - Final Fees for more information.

#### For Handlers/Processors

First \$1,000,000 in Sales	0.5%
\$1,000,001 to \$2,000,000	0.25%
\$2,000,001 to \$5,000,000	0.1%
\$5,000,001 to \$10,000,000	0.05%
Over \$10,000,000	0.025%

# For Handlers/Processors that meet the definition of Exemptions and/or Exclusions (See §205.101 of the NOP for definition)

First \$1,000,000 in Sales	0.25%
\$1,000,001 to \$2,000,000	0.125%
\$2,000,001 to \$14,500,000	0.05%
Over \$14,500,000	\$10,000 (Max)

### **Additional Charges**

Late Fee for Renewing Applicants	\$100.00/month (past the due date)
Rush Fee	\$1,000.00 – Request for certification to be completed within 4 weeks
	\$500.00 – Request for certification to be completed within 4-6 weeks
Additional Inspections/Site Visits	\$75.00/hr (\$150.00 minimum, travel charges may apply)
Settlement Agreement Fee	\$100.00
Reinstatement Fee (reinstatement of Suspended Operations)	\$500.00
Additional Services such as input review for non-OMRI or non-WSDA Approved products, reinstatements, adding new products or services to Certificate	\$75.00/hr
Extending MCIA Certification during Transfer or to Sell Inventory	\$50.00 + Final Fees on products sold under MCIA Certification
International Certificates	\$50.00/certificate
Return Check Fee	\$30.00
Payment Plan Set-up	\$10.00

### Information available to any member of the public

For the current and 3 preceding calendar years, organic certification certificates, a list of producers, wild crop harvesters, and handlers whose organic operations MCIA has certified, and the results of laboratory analysis for residues of pesticides and other prohibited substances, and other business information as permitted in writing by the producer or handler is available to the public. Charges will be \$0.50 per page + shipping expense.

### **Refund Policy**

An operation should contact the MCIA office if a decision is made to withdraw an application from the certification process. If an operation withdraws or surrenders before the application review, a refund of the base fee minus \$75 will be given. After the application review, half of the base fee will be refunded. Once an inspection has occurred, 25% of the base fee will be refunded, but inspection charges will still apply.

## **Scale of Sanctions**

- 1. Statements for additional services and inspection costs will be rendered at the time of contract and monthly thereafter.
- 2. Payment for such services is due within thirty days.
- 3. Late fees may be negotiable under certain circumstances.
- 4. If payment is not received within 90 days, or when MCIA has reason to believe that an applicant for certification is not in compliance with NOP requirements, MCIA will provide a written notification of noncompliance to the applicant that will be submitted simultaneously to the Administrator for the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). After this, if other services are requested, the applicant is notified that MCIA cannot provide other services until payment is made or arrangements have been made for payment or the applicant has made rebuttal or corrected each noncompliance and submitted supporting documentation of each such correction when correction is possible.
- 5. If rebuttal or correction of each noncompliance is not received within 30 days after the letter specified in #4 above is sent, MCIA shall issue written notification of proposed suspension or revocation of certification that is submitted simultaneously to the AMS Administrator, USDA.
- 6. If the applicant fails to submit or make arrangement for payment, resolve through rebuttal or mediation, or file an appeal, MCIA shall send the operation a written notification of suspension or revocation that is submitted simultaneously to the AMS Administrator, USDA.
- 7. For accounts on "Credit Hold" for which no activity has been requested for six months, a letter is sent to the applicant indicating that if payment is not made within thirty days, the account will be turned over to a collection agency. At the end of thirty days, if the account has not been paid and no contact made, the account shall be turned over to a collection agency and an amount added to the statement to pay the fees for the collection agency.
- 8. If the collection agency notifies that legal action is necessary for collection, such action shall be authorized and the increased collection fees charged by the collection agency shall be added to the amount due.
- 9. The President/CEO is authorized to negotiate, upon recommendation of the collection agency, if the full amount cannot be collected.
- 10. For accounts with consistent collection problems, the President/CEO is authorized to require payment in advance before services are performed.