

Getting Started with the Equitable Food Initiative (EFI) Audit



QUICK FACTS

- Applicable for farming operations including field, packing & processing facilities
- Three-year certification cycle
- Not a membership organization

Equitable Food Initiative (EFI) <u>certification</u> can be customized to satisfy requirements for labor conditions, food safety and pollinator health in a single audit. Producers may add Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)-recognized food safety and a Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) addendum to the audit based on their operational needs. EFI certification can be applied to fresh fruit and vegetable operations throughout North, Central and South America.

EFI-led training fosters engagement and collaboration among workers across the operation, driving quality, safety and a commitment to continuous improvement. The EFI model builds foundational skills in communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution across the workforce, creating channels for worker input and participation. EFI's approach leads to better, healthier working conditions that attract and retain workers as well as business efficiencies and improvements.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is not a requirement to pursue EFI certification. An <u>EFI-trained Leadership Team</u> must be active on a farming operation to be eligible for certification.

EFI SUPPORT

The EFI certification begins with customized training and guidance on creating an EFI Leadership Team on the farming operation. The team works to bring the operation into compliance with the <u>EFI Standards</u> and then calls for an audit from a third-party <u>certifying body</u>.

SUPPORT	
General Information	Website (English): equitablefood.org Website (Spanish): equitablefood.org/espanol Email: info@equitablefood.org Phone: 202-730-6672
Technical Support	certification@equitablefood.org





SHARE FACILITY INFORMATION WITH FLIPKART

Provide visibility to facility information and certificate to Flipkart Group with the steps below. EFI does not currently offer a platform to share audit reports.

Step 1: Obtain the audit report, CAP report and certificate

The facility owns the EFI certification documentation and can provide copies upon request. Share the necessary documents with Flipkart Group per the requirements below.

Step 2: Validate and confirm

- Validate a facility's certification status through the certification body listed on the certificate
 - Facility must be in "Certified" status
- Confirm that any noncompliances identified during the most recent audit (Certification/Re-Certification or Verification audit) have been closed out on the CAP report and noted as such by the certification body
 - All noncompliances must be closed before submitting a Certificate

Step 3: Document requirements

- Most recent Certificate indicating completion of the EFI Ethical Charter Addendum
 - Facilities are required by Flipkart Group to complete the Ethical Charter Addendum as part of the EFI certification process; this must be completed before submitting the certificate
- Upon recertification, an updated Certificate must be submitted

Step 4: Submit only the certificate to Flipkart

Certificates must be emailed to the Flipkart Group Supplier & Facility Administration team. Certificates will not be accepted directly from the facility.

• Confirm that any noncompliances identified during the most recent audit have been closed out on the CAP report and noted as such by the certification body

Additional Requirements

To be accepted by Flipkart Group:

- 1. The audit must be conducted by an APSCA-certified auditor on behalf of an APSCA member firm. Confirm with APSCA and your selected program that the approved firm and auditor(s) are in good standing.
- 2. Audits must be conducted as semi-announced (within a window of time) or fully unannounced beginning August 1, 2024. (The EFI initial audit may be excluded from this requirement.)





Flipkart Responsible Sourcing Compliance Hub

for additional requirements, access to resources, training and answers to common questions.

