

Getting Started with an Approved Audit Program: EQUITABLE FOOD INITIATIVE



QUICK FACTS

- Applicable for farming operations, including pack & processing facilities
- Audits conducted in the Americas
- Three-year certification with annual verification audits
- Drives business performance and compliance simultaneously
- Training is required
- Not a membership organization

Equitable Food Initiative (EFI) certification includes labor practices and two additional [standards](#) in one audit while implementing a unique labor management collaboration model. More than certification, EFI offers workforce development on farming operations which engages workers, drives collaboration and a commitment to continuous improvement. Management systems and communication improve, driving business performance as well as compliance. Farming operations have been certified in Canada, Guatemala, United States and Mexico. Learn more about [EFI certification](#).

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is not a requirement to pursue EFI certification. An [EFI-trained Leadership Team](#) 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 [EFI Standards](#) and then calls for an audit from a third-party [certifying body](#).

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 |



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Visit the **Responsible Sourcing Academy** for access to resources, training and answers to common questions.

SHARE FACILITY INFORMATION WITH WALMART

Provide visibility to facility information and certificate to Walmart 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 Walmart 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 Walmart 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 Walmart

Certificates must be emailed to the Global Supplier Compliance 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

Instructions to Submit Certificate to Walmart*

**To be accepted by Walmart, the audit must be conducted by an APSCA-registered or certified auditor on behalf of an APSCA member firm. Confirm with your selected program that the approved firm and auditors are in good standing with APSCA.*



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Have additional questions? Contact the Supplier & Facility Administration team:
[North, South, Central America](#)
[China & Far East](#)
[All other countries](#)

