

Accredited Certification Bodies Service Snapshot

What is the difference between Regional and ISO Certification Bodies?

Both types of agencies can certify products to the British Columbia Certified Organic Program (BCCOP) while ISO agencies can also certify to the Canada Organic Regime (COR) thus allowing the certified organic product to be shipped out of the province. BCCOP Certified Organic products can display the BCCOP checkmark on approved labels, while COR certified products can also use the Canada Organic Regime logo.

Chart Key

- 1 F = Farms, OFP = On-Farm Processing, P/H = Processors & handlers
- 2 AA = Accepting Applications all year, AD = Application Deadline
- 3 FT = Fulltime, PT = Part-time, V = Volunteer, Other
- 4 E = Entire Province, R = Regional Area
- 5 C = Canada Organic Standards, AR = Additional Requirements
- 6 G = Grower Meetings, T = Transition Workshops, Other, FT = Farm Tours, ES = Educational Seminars, M = Mentoring

Accreditation	Certifier	Scope ¹	Entry Window ²	Office Hours ³	Geographic Area ⁴	Standard ⁵	Other Services ⁶
ISO	BCARA, BC Assoc. for Regenerative Agriculture	F, P/H	AA new AD renewal Mar31	PT	Fraser Valley/Canyon, Sunshine Coast, Gulf Islands, Okanagan, Vancouver Island	C	G
ISO	FVOPA, Fraser Valley Organic Producers Association	F, P/H, OFP	AA	FT	Canada Wide	C	G
ISO	PACS, Pacific Agricultural Certification Society	F, P/H, OFP	AA	FT	Canada wide	C	
Regional	BDAS, Biodynamic Agricultural Society of BC	F	AD Mar 31	PT	E	C, Demeter International	
Regional	IOPA, Island Organic Producers Assoc.	F, OFP, P/H	AA	PT	Vancouver Island and the other Gulf Islands	C, Guidelines available at: www.iopa.ca	G, ES, listserve, resource directory
Regional	KOGS, Kootenay Organic Growers Society	F, P/H, OFP	AD Mar 31	10 hrs per month	East of Creston, Kootenay South, Nakusp South	C	G, FT, mid- season gatherings
Regional	LEOGA, Living Earth Organic Growers Assoc.	F	AD Mar 31	V	Okanagan & Similkameen up to Peachland, Naramata and Oliver	C	
Regional	NOOA, North Okanagan Organic Assoc.	F	AA	PT	E	C	G, ES, M
Regional	SOOPA, Similkameen Okanagan Organic Producers Association	F, OFP	March 31	PT	Mainly Similkameen & south Okanagan Valleys	C + whole farm policy	