

Organic Fee Increase Rules Advisory Committee Meeting

September 11, 2026

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Program Summary

- Accredited on August 10, 2009.
- Certify for the Crop and Handler scopes only.
- Other funded program based on user fees.
- No fee increase in over 9 years.
- Strengthening Organic Enforcement has increased operations needing to gain organic certification.



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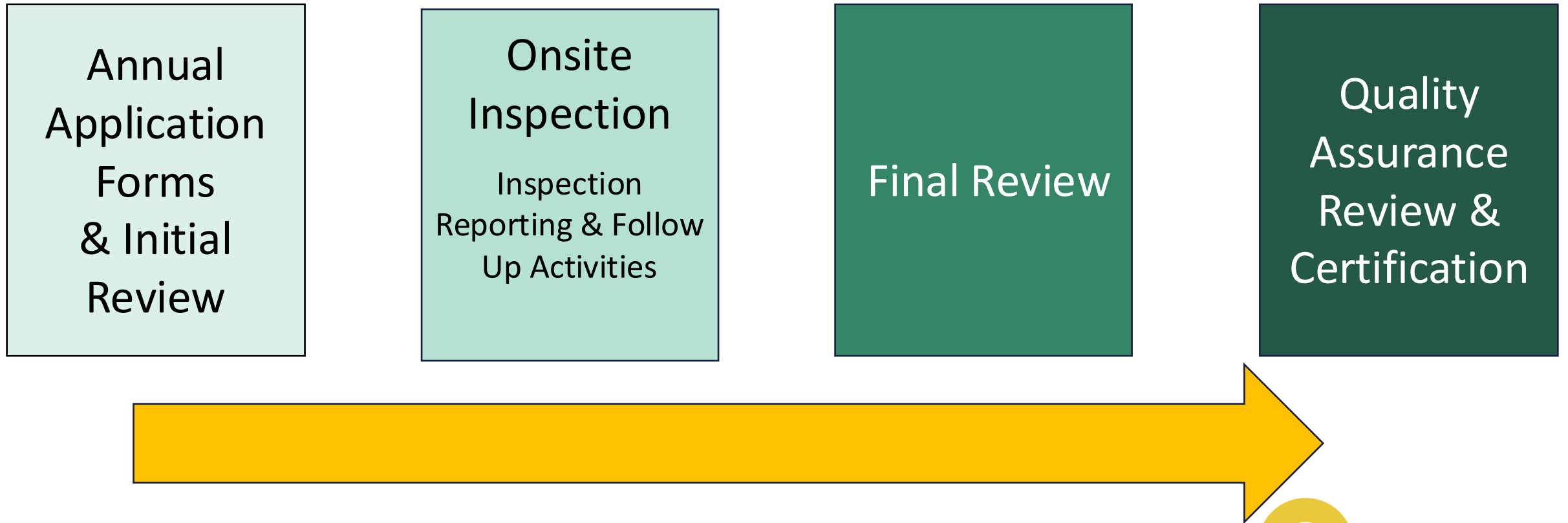
Strengthening Organic Enforcement

- Increased operations needing to gain organic certification.
- Effective March 19, 2024.
- ODA did not fully enforce this until 2025 for our customers. Allowing for an adjustment period for paperwork.



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Annual Steps to Certification



At a minimum, three people work on one file to avoid conflict of interest.



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Program Summary - Staff

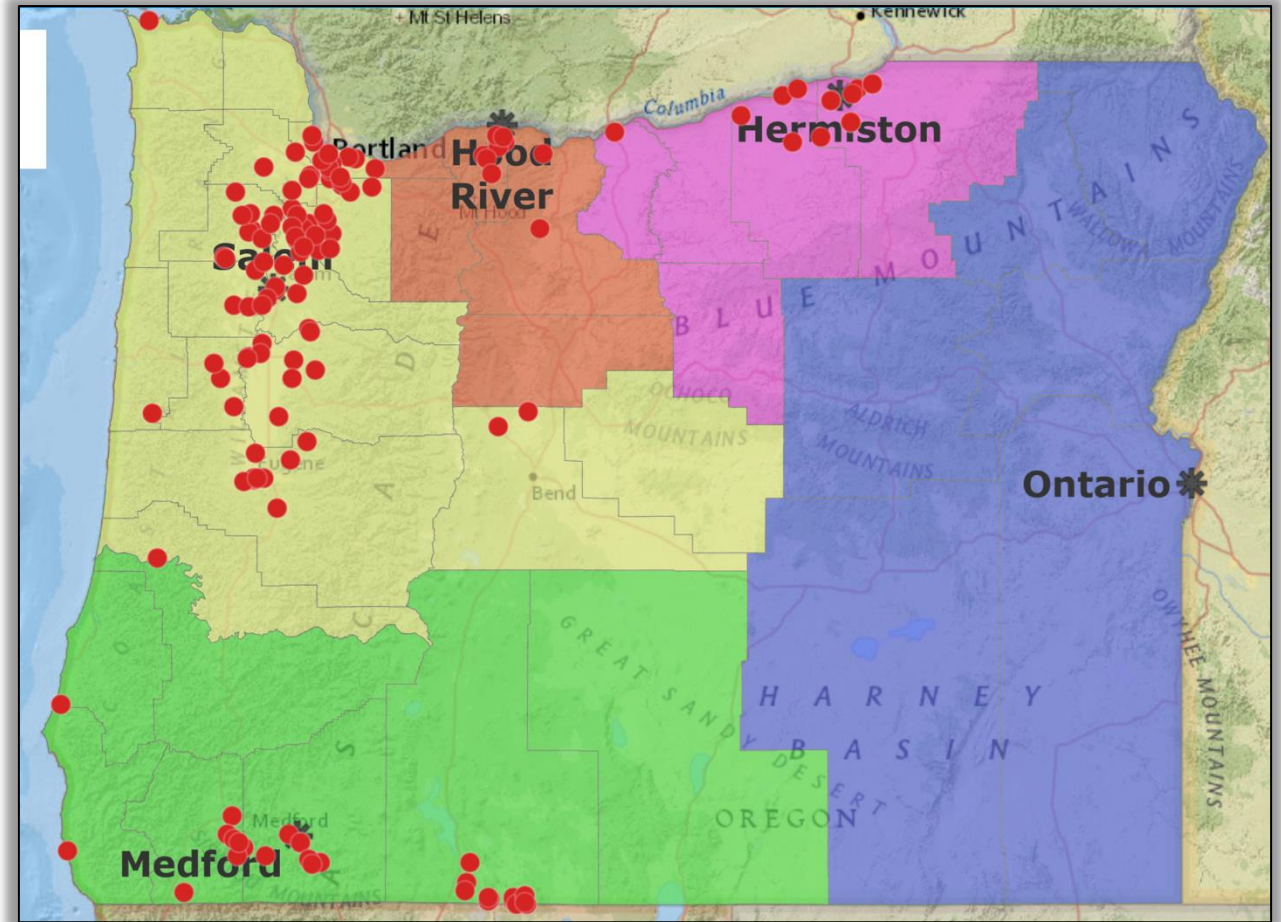
- No full-time organic program staff.
 - All staff share time in other programs
- 5 inspectors (including Program Manager)
 - Initial Reviews
 - Inspections & Reporting
 - Final Reviews
 - Label Reviews



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Customers

- No cut off time for accepting new customers throughout the year.
- Accept almost all new customers.
- 180 current customers.
 - 12 new customers in 2026, so far.
 - 19 new customers in 2025.



Current Program Fees

- Renewing customers annual fee \$750 / year / scope.
 - Crop and handler operation pays \$1,500
- New customers \$1,000 in the first year, then \$750 / year.
- \$108 / hour for all other work.
 - Initial review, inspection, drive time, final review, quality assurance review, certificate updates, label reviews, exports, etc.

	Annual Fee	Hourly Rate After Renewal Fee
New Customer	\$1,000 first year	\$108 / hour
Renewing Customer	\$750	\$108 / hour



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Program Finances

Costs Over Last Three Years

	2023	2024	2025
Fully Loaded Operating Costs	\$501,764.40	\$480,026.80	\$740,254.55

- Between 5-10 hours on one customer file is spent.
- We have not covering operating costs over the last three years.
- Program operating costs have been being supplemented by the Shipping Point Inspection program.

Program Finances

We are not covering operating costs.

	2025
Fully Loaded Operating Costs	\$740,254.55

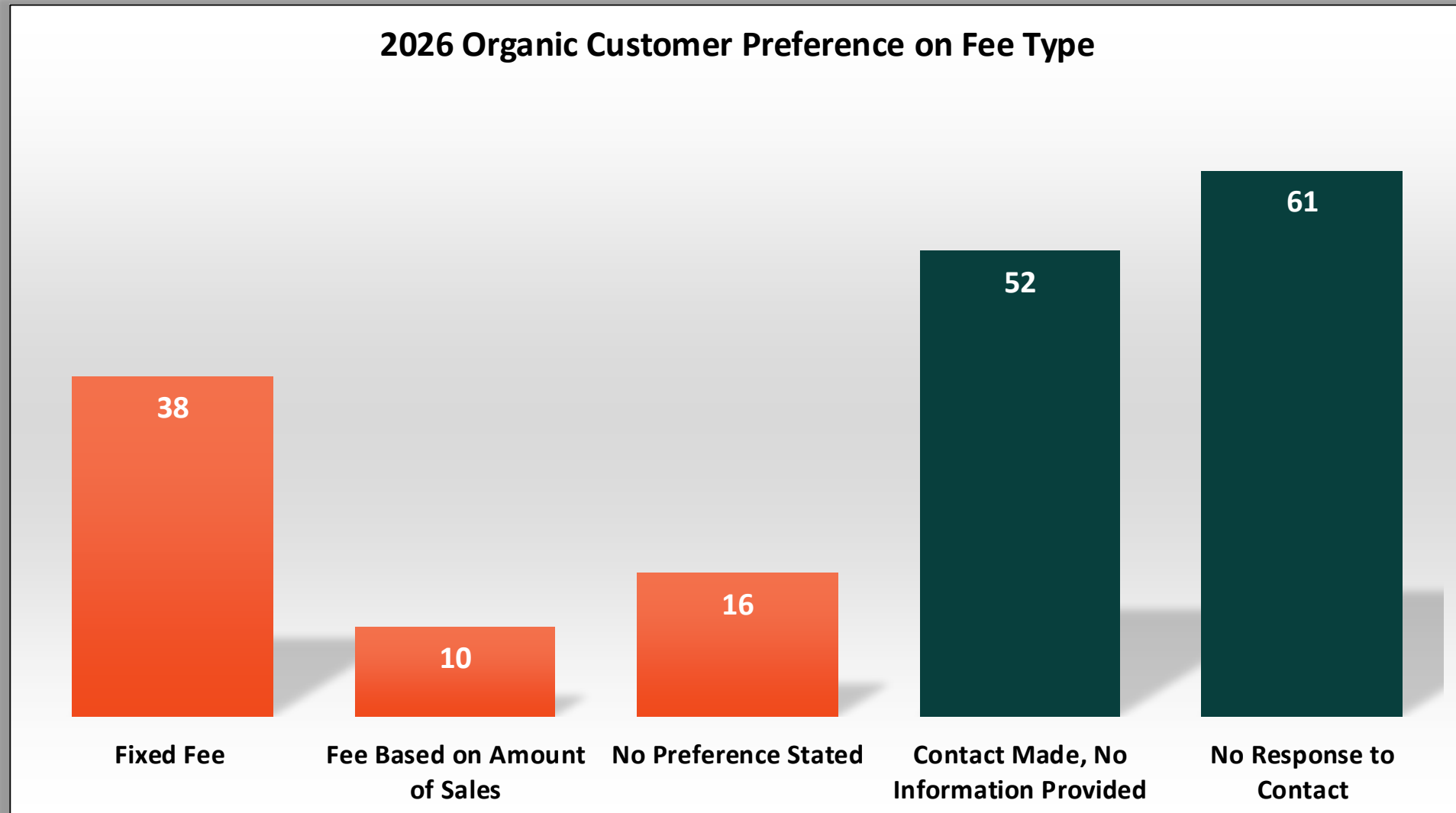
2025 Income

Invoicing	\$225,442.39
New Customers (19)	\$19,000
Renewals	\$129,750
TOTAL	\$374,192.39



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Customer Survey to Assess New Fee Approach



Proposed New Fees

The Organic Certification Program is proposing the following fee increase to ensure the program covers operating costs and stays sustainable.

	Current Fees	New Fees
New Operation	\$1,000	\$3,000
Annual Renewal Fee	\$750	\$2,500
Hourly Rate	\$108 / hour	\$150
Drive Time Rate	\$108 / hour	\$150



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Extra Slides



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Other Organic Certifiers in Oregon

18 certifying bodies that work in Oregon

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic

Quality Assurance International

CCOF Certification Services, LLC

QIMA

Organic Certifiers, Inc.

Ecocert SAS

OneCert

SCS Global Services, Inc.

Washington State Department of
Agriculture

Where Food Comes From Organic

Natural Food Certifiers

Primus Auditing Operations

BioAgriCert

Montana Department of Agriculture

Quality Certification Services

Pennsylvania Certified Organic

Pro-Cert Organic Systems, Ltd.

Organic Crop Improvement Association



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Other State Organic Certifier's Fees

State	Fee Type
Idaho	Fee based on organic sales + \$50 hourly rate.
Washington	Fixed inspection fee + fee based on organic sales.
Montana	Fee based on organic sales + inspection and admin fees.
Kentucky	Base fee per scope + processing fee based on organic sales.
Oklahoma	Fee based on acres or handling type + \$50 hourly rate.
Texas	Fee based on acres.
Utah	\$750 renewal fee + fee based on organic sales.

