

GAP/GHP Certification Cost-Share Program

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) audits are voluntary independent audits of produce suppliers throughout the production and supply chain. GAP/GHP audits focus on best agricultural practices to verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled, and stored in the safest manner possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards. The audits verify adherence to the recommendations made in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's ([Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables](#)) and industry recognized food safety practices.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce is now offering a cost-share program for Mississippi farmers to provide financial assist to cover the cost of certification. Funds for this program are provided through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. This program will reimburse farmers that have successfully passed a GAP/GHP certification for 75% of the cost up to a maximum of \$500 per year. Reimbursement is for the initial audit only. Audits must be completed by an approved USDA certifier. Funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis until the funds are depleted. Applicants must complete the application, W9, attach a copy of the audit bill, score sheet and documentation of the payment made (In the form of a cancelled check). You must be a Mississippi producer. No wholesale distribution center may apply. Only audits for specialty crops are eligible. *Definition of specialty crop: They are defined as fruit, vegetable, tree nuts, and horticulture and floriculture items.

If you have questions regarding the cost-share program, please contact Michael Lasseter at 601-359-1120 or michaell@mdac.ms.gov

**Please complete all forms and mail to the following:
Mississippi Department of Agriculture
Marketing – GAP/GHP
P.O. BOX 1609
JACKSON, MS 39215**

MDAC GAP/GHP Cost-Share Program
05/15/2016



**Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
Cost-Share Program**

LEGAL BUSINESS NAME		DATE
FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	
CROPS APPROVED		
NAME OF AUDITOR AND COMPANY		
DATE OF AUDIT		DATE FEES PAID
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	PERCENTAGE CALCULATION	REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT (MAX OF \$500)
	TOTALX75% (0.75) = \$	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOTE: YOU MUST ATTACH A COPY OF THE AUDIT BILL, SCORE SHEET, AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE PAYMENT MADE. (IN THE FORM OF A CANCELLED CHECK). 		
SIGNATURE: I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE, AND RECEIVED THE GAP/GHP CERTIFICATION.		
SIGN: _____		DATE: ____/____/____
MAIL APPLICATION AND DOCUMENTS TO: MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MARKETING – GAP/GHP PO BOX 1609 JACKSON, MS 39215		

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.**

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt payee	
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
City, state, and ZIP code		
List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Social security number									

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Employer identification number									

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below).

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Purpose of Form

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

Note. If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.