



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

October 6, 2010

ORG-10-004

TO: COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS
ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION AGENTS
ORGANIC REGISTRANTS

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be providing funds to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to be distributed to operations that have been certified organic by a USDA accredited certifier.

Eligible entities will be reimbursed up to 75 percent of their organic certification costs, not to exceed \$750. Any organic operation in California that have received or renewed organic certification on or between **October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011** may apply for reimbursement.

The applicant must submit the application form with a copy of their certification, copies of the associated expense invoices required to obtain and/or maintain certification, and the completed Payee Data Record form STD 204. The information on the application and the Payee Data Record should be the same.

Cost Share applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis. Only complete, accurate applications with an original signature will be processed. Any incomplete or incorrect application will be returned and must be resubmitted. It is very important that all information is included and the application is filled out accurately and signed with an **original signature**. Copies of the application will not be accepted. When the funds provided by USDA to California have been expended, no more applications will be processed.

Copies of this letter and the application are provided to all County Agricultural Commissioners Offices, all Accredited Certification Agents operating in California, and is available to be downloaded at the CDFA website at: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i_&c/organic.html

For additional information please contact Sharon Parsons at (916) 445-2180, ext. 3472 or through e-mail at parsons@cdfa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

David Carlson, Senior Special Investigator
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services

Enclosures

