



# Steps to Food Justice Certification

Get ready: Talk with the AJP farmer support team to receive one-on-one technical assistance and templates from our farmer toolkit. Review the requirements and revise farm policies as needed

Contact the AJP Approved Certifier: the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association. Download the certification application & review fees from their website.

Note: AJP maintains a social justice fund that covers at least some of the costs of certification for qualified family & community farms, including BIPOC-led farms

Fill out application, submit fees if applicable.

Approved Certifier will conduct Initial Review of your application

If necessary, certifier will request additional information

If complete, application will be reviewed by inspection team

Inspection Team will contact you to schedule inspection

Inspection takes place, usually with 2 inspectors (one working on behalf of the certifier and one representing an approved worker advocacy organization)

Initial meeting with workers, management, owners and inspection team regarding purpose of inspection

Interviews held separately with workers, interns and management

Visit of fields, facilities and any worker or intern housing

Inspector will conduct a document review of on-site records

Inspection team conducts follow up on site or in following weeks.

A brief summary meeting will be held with owner/manager at the end of on-site inspection.

Certifier will conduct final review

Certifier will issue a certificate or letter detailing non-compliances, timeline for response and next steps or a Food Justice certificate