

Specialty Crops Program

Domestic Origin Verification (DOV) Audit Program

The DOV Audit Program is a voluntary, audit-based service offered by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) that allows suppliers of fruits, vegetables, and nuts to demonstrate compliance with USDA's requirement that all commodities purchased for food assistance programs are 100% U.S. origin. Participants forgo the requirement to submit trace-back documentation for every contract and instead establish a process that ensures domestic origin compliance *before* production and delivery, with verification audits performed annually.

Benefits of Participating

- Streamlines compliance by replacing repetitive trace-backs with an audit-verified system.
- Reduces administrative burden and paperwork across multiple contracts.
- Enhances verification procedures through annual audits and continual improvement.
- Supports risk management by identifying non-conformances early and ensuring corrective actions.
- Boosts supplier credibility—approved participants are listed on the USDA website.
- Improves supplier confidence—contractors can select USDA-approved DOV participants.

Eligibility & How to Apply

Any financially interested party—contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, or processors—may apply. Visit the DOV Program Website to:

- Submit the Application for Service
- Provide a DOV Program Manual detailing your verification procedures
- Contact the DOV Program Coordinator for guidance

Contact Information

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Website: ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/dov