

COSMOS-standard AISBL

CERTIFIER FEES

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Introduction

The COSMOS-standard AISBL is an international non-profit organisation based in Brussels. To finance its work, COSMOS-standard AISBL levies three types of fee:

- Licence fee, which operators pay for the right to use the COSMOS-standard and the COSMOS ORGANIC/NATURAL signature;
- Certifier fees, which certification bodies pay for the right to certify to the COSMOS-standard, consisting of an application fee to apply for approval and annual fees thereafter;
- Membership fee, which members and associate members pay for the right to participate in the COSMOS-standard AISBL and to decide on its management and direction.

Application fee

The application fee for a certification body to apply for approval to certify to the COSMOS-standard is €2000, which is payable to the COSMOS-standard AISBL and must be paid before the application can be considered. Please note: this includes the €500 membership application fee for the COSMOS-standard AISBL.

After acceptance of the application, the certification body must apply to its nominated accreditation body to conduct the accreditation process, in accordance with the Control Manual. The costs of the accreditation process are a matter between the certification body and the accreditation body and are not the responsibility of the COSMOS-standard AISBL.

Annual fee

The annual fees for approved certification bodies are calculated every year, and are based on the total number of certified cosmetic products and ingredients and approved ingredients that the body has certified or approved in that year. Currently the Annual Fee is:

Type of certification body	Annual fee due
Certifiers connected with the founding members (note 1)	€2 per product/ingredient
Other certifiers	€5 per product/ingredient

Notes

1. Certifiers connected with the founding members are: Bureau Veritas, Ecocert Greenlife, ICEA, IONC, Soil Association Certification.
2. Where both a sub-contracted operator and a brand owner are certified for the same product, the annual fee is payable only on the final finished product.
3. The fees are subject to VAT (20%).

Terms of payment

Certification bodies must pay the annual fee by the end of January of each year based on the calculation for the previous year.