

USDA'S NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS EXTENDED



(Extended Deadline: June 17, 2015)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is accepting nominees to serve on the **National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)**. The NOSB was established under the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA), and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), to assist in developing standards for substances used in organic production and to advise the Secretary on aspects of the National Organic Program (NOP).

The NOSB is composed of 15 members and seven specified categories:

- Four farmers/growers
- Three environmentalists/resource conservationists
- Three consumer/public interest advocates
- Two handlers/processors
- One retailer
- One scientist (toxicology, ecology, or biochemistry)
- One USDA accredited certifying agent

USDA is seeking nominations for the following five (5) positions on the NOSB:

- Two (2) organic farmers/producers
- Two (2) public or consumer interest group representatives
- One (1) USDA accredited certifying agent

For the above five referenced positions, the Secretary of Agriculture will appoint persons to serve a five year term that will commence on January 2016 and end January 2021.

Committee member duties include:

- Attending committee meetings (travel paid by USDA)*
- Participating in bi-monthly subcommittee conference calls
- Reviewing materials and/or recommend changes to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances
- Advising the Secretary on other aspects of the USDA organic regulations

Criteria used to consider nominees include:

- A general understanding of organic principles, and practical experience in the organic community, particularly in the sector for which the person is applying
- Demonstrated experience in the development of public policy such as participation on public or private advisory boards, boards of directors or other comparable organizations
- Participation in standards development and/or involvement in educational outreach activities
- A commitment to the integrity and growth of the organic food and fiber industry
- The ability to evaluate technical information and to fully participate in Board deliberation and recommendations
- The willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to assume Board duties
- Not be currently serving (or have been elected to serve) on another USDA advisory committee or research and promotions council/board during your term
- Not registered as a lobbyist** with the federal or state government

Written nominations, with cover letter, resume, and a required form (available on the USDA website), must be postmarked on or before June 17, 2015. For more information, visit:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOSBNominationProcess>

**Members of the Committee are reimbursed by the USDA for approved travel and associated lodging expenses as determined by official federal government guidelines and regulations.*

***Executive Order No. 13490, 18 June 2010, prohibits an individual who is registered with the federal government or with a state government as a lobbyist from serving on a federal advisory committee.*