

## This Week: What's Next?

Your application has been approved. Now what?

- 1. Contact an approved audit firm ASAP to set up your Monitoring Activity. It is the grower's responsibility to call and make the initial contact to be placed on the audit firm's schedule. Grower's have 4 audit firms to choose from that can be viewed here. Audit firms will call 2-3 weeks before your visit to set up a time and date. Please note, growers in Year 3 who will be uploading documents electronically, still need to select an audit firm.
- 2. Make sure all individuals listed on the Certification Application (Primary and Associates) have attended training. All Grower ID's listed on an application must attend 2020 annual GAP training by June 30th for the farm to be GAPC Certified. If you have not attended training and need to do so, you have 2 options. 1) contact your local Extension agent about the possibility of video training (please note this is not available in all locations). 2) Log into your grower profile and complete online video training. More information about online video training can be found here. If your monitoring activity is after June 30th and everyone has not attended training, Certification will be denied. It is not remediable after June 30th.
- 3. Complete your self-assessment prior to your Monitoring Activity. Growers are encouraged to check with their contracting first about Self-Assessment requirements.
  - Growers pursuing US Certification do not have to complete the Self-Assessment. US Certification aligns with US labor laws and requirements
  - Growers pursing International Certification are required to complete the Self-Assessment before the monitoring visit. International Certification aligns with international labor laws (International Labor Organization and Agricultural Labor Program) and requirements (Sustainable Tobacco Program).

Questions for 2020 are now available. Log into your Grower Profile at www.gapconnections.com to access the Self-Assessment. Your goal is to achieve 100% on all topics (crop, environment and labor). The percentages will update at the top of the page each time you submit your answers. The Self-Assessment is one per operation.

4. Prepare for your Monitoring Activity. Review the materials in the approval packet that was emailed or mailed to you. This packet includes the GAPC Certification Checklist and the GAPC Certification Compliance Guide. The Certification Compliance Guide document lists the questions that will be asked and the method of verification. Didn't receive an approval packet? Contact GAPC at 865.622.4606 or info@gapconnections.com.

## In future emails...

- Worker Interviews: How many and who?
- I-9's: Who needs them and what will we be looking for?
- Wage Statements: What is required?
- Certification Scoring: How do I know whether I have achieved Certification?

## **COVID-19 Resources**

GAPC has compiled resources in English and Spanish to help inform, educate, and train growers, workers, and family members on topics related to COVID-19. The



resource page provides information for planning, educating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 as well as H2-A Visa concerns and the Families First Coronavirus Reponse Act (FFCRA). Includes: posters, fact sheets, FAQ's, webinars and links to other resources.

Visit COVID-19 Resource Page

Visit COVID-19 Resource Page by State



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