

## Part 5: Requirements for Registered Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants

### 1.0 General Requirements (Applicable to All Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants)

#### 1.1 Education

All registered CSQ Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants are required to have a university degree in a bioscience discipline or, at minimum, completed a bioscience higher education course or equivalent in addition to work experience. Examples of acceptable degree programs include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Microbiology
- Food Science
- Toxicology
- Organic Chemistry
- Epidemiology
- Agriculture

#### 1.2 Training

All registered CSQ Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants are required to have completed the following training:

- “CSQ Lead Auditor Training” (minimum 40 hours) and exam
- HACCP course (minimum 16 hours) recognized by the International HACCP Alliance

#### 1.3 Work Experience

All registered Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants are required to have:

- Minimum two (2) years of full-time work experience in quality assurance in either the cannabis, food & beverage, dietary supplement, or pharmaceutical industries.
- Minimum twenty (20) audits in either the cannabis, food & beverage, dietary supplement, or pharmaceutical industries.

#### 1.4 Application & Approval Process

All registered Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants shall submit the applicable application on the CSQ Website. All applicants shall attach the following applicable documents to their application:

- CSQ Lead Auditor Training Certificate
- HACCP Certificate
- Audit & Work Experience Log
- Current Resume
- Training & Education Records

A non-refundable registration fee is due upon submitting the applications. Each application will be reviewed by the CSQ Compliance Team for accuracy and verification of qualifications. CSQ may request additional information from the applicant as required. Upon successful review of the application, the applicant will receive a CSQ certificate.

#### 1.5 Maintaining Registration

All registered Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants certificates expire one-year and forty-five (45) days after registration. Applicants are responsible for re-registering each year. A complete register of approved and “blacklisted” Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants is available on the CSQ Website.

Auditors, Technical Reviewers, and Consultants can become “blacklisted” if:

- They receive multiple complaints that have been validated by the CSQ Compliance Team
- They falsify any record, corrective action, or audit report
- They perform an audit when a known conflict of interest exists
- They do not uphold the integrity of the CSQ Certification Program in any way determined by the CSQ Compliance Team

## 2.0 Additional Requirements for Auditors

### 2.1 Work Experience

All Auditors must apply for each specific standard to audit against the CSQ Audit Requirements. The separate requirements for each standard are as follows:

- Growing and Cultivation of Cannabis Plants
  - Minimum two (2) years' work experience in agriculture (Cannabis or Food Crops)
  - Or a minimum of twenty (20) audits of agriculture products (Cannabis or Food Crops)
  - Or a combination of both
- Manufacturing and Infusion of Cannabis into Food & Beverage Products
  - Minimum two (2) years' work experience in processing ambient stable food and beverage products (i.e. Baking, Confectionary, Beverages, Preserved Foods, Pet Food)
  - Or a minimum of twenty (20) audits of ambient stable food and beverage products
  - Or a combination of both
- Manufacturing of Cannabis Dietary Supplements
  - Minimum two (2) years' work experience in either the Dietary Supplement or Pharmaceutical industries
  - Or a minimum of twenty (20) audits of either Dietary Supplements or Pharmaceuticals
  - Or a combination of both
- Manufacturing and Extraction of Cannabis
  - Minimum two (2) years' work experience in biochemistry or related field
  - Or a minimum of twenty (20) audits of biochemistry or related facilities
  - Or a combination of both

Note that only second and third-party audits count towards this requirement. Internal audits will not be considered.

### 2.2 Maintaining Registration

All Auditors must re-register annually and submit the following evidence:

- At minimum five (5) CSQ certification or surveillance audits
- At minimum sixteen (16) hours of professional development related to cannabis safety & quality. Examples of this include, but is not limited to:
  - Training Courses
  - Conferences and Seminars
  - Publications or Presentations
  - Relevant Committees and Working Groups

### 2.3 Expanding Scope

Auditors that wish to expand their scopes to audit against additional CSQ standards will need to submit the "Audit & Work Experience Log" on the CSQ Website to demonstrate their relevant experience in for that standard.

Auditors may apply for additional standards at any time.