





QUALIFICATION FILE - Micro Credentials

Essentials of Internal Control Inspections (Organic Standards)

⊠ Public □ Private
$oxtimes$ Upskilling $oxtimes$ Dual/Flexi Qualification $oxtimes$ For ToT \oxtimes For ToA
□General □ Multi-skill (MS) □ Cross Sectoral (CS) ⊠ Future Skills □ OEM NCrF/NSQF Level: 4

Submitted By:

Agriculture Skill Council of India

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Table of Contents

on 1: Basic Details	3
on 2: Training Related	5
on 3: Assessment Related	6
on 4: Evidence of Need of the Micro Credential	7
on 5: Annexure Check List	7
nexure 1: Evidence of Level	8
nexure 2: Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria	
nexure 3: Assessment Strategy	
nexure 4: Tools and Equipment	15
nexure 5: Industry Validations Summary	16
nexure 6: Training Details	17
nexure 7: Acronym and Glossary	17

Section 1: Basic Details

1.	Micro Credential-Qualification Name	Ess	Essentials of Internal Control Inspections (Organic Standards)			
2.	Sector/s	Agr	Agriculture			
3.	National Qualification Register (NQR) Code & Version (Will be issued after NSQC approval.)	NM	-04-AG-03	3277-2024-V1-ASCI	QF Level: 4	
5.	Brief Description of the Micro Credential				•	ons conducted for ensuring the integrity up certification for NPOP Standard.
6.	Eligibility Criteria for Entry for Students/Trainee/Learner/Employee	a	. Entry	Qualification & Relevant	Experience	
			S. No.	Academic/Skill Qualifi Specialization - if ap	· ·	Relevant Experience (with Specialization - if applicable)
		1 12th or equivalent		1 year of relevant experience in Organic Farm Production - Quality Assurance Inspectors OR in Agriculture and allied sectors		
			2	10th Grade Pass		3-year of relevant experience in Organic Farm Production - Quality Assurance Inspectors OR in Agriculture and allied sectors
			3 Previous relevant Qualification of 1. NSQF Level 3.5		1.5-year of relevant experience in Organic Farm Production - Quality Assurance Inspectors OR in Agriculture and allied sectors	
			4	Previous relevant Qualifi NSQF Level 3	ication of	3-year of relevant experience in Organic Farm Production - Quality Assurance Inspectors OR in Agriculture and allied sectors
		b	. Age 18	8		

7.	Credits Assigned to this Qualification, Subject to Assessment (as per National Credit Framework (NCrF))	1				on Cost No	rm Category (I, e): I	/11/111)
9.	Any Licensing Requirements/ Pre-requisites for Undertaking Training (wherever applicable)	NA						
10.	Expected Outcomes of the Micro Credential	Conduct ensuringPrepare organic sAssess th	quality assura report of the i tandards se adherence t	es are: ons as outlined in ance of the organic internal inspections to organic standard anic quality of the p	farm s including is ls throughou	ssues of any	non-complian	ice with
11.	Training Duration by Modes of Training Delivery (Specify Total Duration as per selected training delivery modes and as per requirement of the qualification)	Training De Classroom (Online	livery Mode	Only ☐ Blended Theory (Hours) 16 exure for Details)	Practical (-	Total (Hours) 30	
12.	Assessment Criteria	Theory (Marks)	Practical (Marks)	Project (Marks)	Viva (Marks) 25	Total (Marks)	Passing %age 70	
	Is the Qualification Amenable to Persons with Disability			cify applicable type	e of Disabili	ty: LD, SHI		
14. 15.	How participation of women will be encouraged? Other Indian Languages in which the Micro Credential will be implemented.	Hindi) include wom	en in the batches				

16.	Is similar Micro Credential Qualification(s) available on NQR-if yes,	☐ Yes ☑ No URLs of similar Qualifications:			
	justification for this qualification				
17.	Name and Contact Details Submitting / Awarding Body SPOC	Name: Mr Srikanth Pampana			
		Email: standards@asci-india.com	Contact No.: 0124-4670029		
		Website: www.asci-india.com			
18.	NSQC Approval Date: 22/10/2024	19. Validity Duration: 3 Years post	20. Next Review Date: 22/10/2027		
		NSQC Approval			

Section 2: Training Related

		with 0.5 years of relevant industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience
		5 years of training experience with Graduation in Agriculture / Horticulture / Forestry or allied sectors
	NCVET guidelines)	crop production and related experience
	relevant sector (in years) (as per requirement and	Forestry with 2 years of relevant industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture
2.	Master Trainer's Qualification and experience in	5 years of training experience with Graduation in any stream except Agriculture / Horticulture /
		experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience
		Graduation in Agriculture / Horticulture / Forestry with 0.5 years of relevant industry or training
c		OR
		Graduation in any stream except Agriculture / Horticulture / Forestry with 2 years of relevant industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience
		OR
		Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience
		Diploma in Agriculture or allied with 3 years of relevant industry or training experience in
		OR
		crop production and related experience
	guidelines)	12th Class with 5 years of relevant industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture
	sector (in years) (as per requirement and NCVET	OR
1.	Trainer's Qualification and experience in relevant	10th Class with 7 years of relevant industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience

Section 3: Assessment Related

1.	Assessor's Qualification and experience in	Graduation in Agriculture/ Botany/ Forestry/ Horticulture and related streams with 5 years of relevant
	relevant sector (in years) (as per requirement and	industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related
	NCVET guidelines)	experience
		OR
		Post-Graduation in Agronomy/Horticulture/Forestry and related streams with 2 years of relevant
		industry or training experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related
		experience
		OR DhD (A grant area / Lastia delta del grant a grant
		PhD (Agronomy/Horticulture/Forestry and related streams) with 1 year of relevant experience in
2.	Proctor's Qualification and experience in relevant	Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop production and related experience Diploma/Graduate (It is mandatory for a proctor to have technical knowledge/IT knowledge Once a
۷.	<u> </u>	proctor has been on-boarded by any AA, they are oriented about skill ecosystem along with do's and
	sector (in years) (as per requirement and NCVET	don'ts .)
	guidelines)	don'ts.)
3.	Lead Assessor's/Proctor's Qualification and	Post Graduate with 10 years of relevant experience in Agriculture/Forestry/ Horticulture crop
	experience in relevant sector (in years) (as per	production and related experience
	requirement and NCVET guidelines)	
4.	Assessment Mode (Specify the assessment mode)	Mode: ☐ Online Only ☐ Offline Only ☐ Blended
5.	Tools and Equipment Required for Assessment	☑ Same as for training ☐ Yes ☐ No (details to be provided in Annexure-if it is different for Assessment)

Section 4: Evidence of Need of the Micro Credential

As per the NCVET Guidelines for evidence of need, provide the required Annexure/Supporting documents.

1.	Government /Industry initiatives/ requirement (Yes/No): Yes
2.	Number of Industry validation provided: 11
3.	Estimated number of people to be trained: 5000

Section 5: Annexure Check List

Specify Annexure Number and Name.

1.	Annexure: NCrF/NSQF level justification based on NCrF	Annexure 1
	Level/NSQF descriptors (Mandatory)	
2.	Annexure: Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria	Annexure 2
	(Mandatory)	
3.	Annexure: Assessment Strategy (Mandatory)	Annexure 3
4.	Annexure: List of tools and equipment relevant for	Annexure 4
	qualification (Mandatory – Except in case of online course)	
5.	Annexure: Blended Learning (Mandatory in case selected	NA NA
	mode of delivery is "Blended Learning")	
6.	Annexure: Acronym and Glossary (Optional)	Annexure 7

Annexure 1: Evidence of Level

NCrF/NSQF Level Descriptors	Key requirements of the job role/ outcome of the qualification	How the job role/ outcomes relate to the NCrF/NSQF level descriptor	NCrF/NSQF Level
Professional Theoretical Knowledge/Process	The individual has knowledge of internal control inspections conducted for ensuring the integrity of organic farming practices under the Grower Group certification for NPOP Standard.	Possesses specialized operational knowledge and understanding of the work.	4
Professional and Technical Skills/ Expertise/ Professional Knowledge	Conduct on-site inspections of farms, inputs including fields, storage areas, farm structures, animal feed and animal strictures and farm level processing facilities belonging to each member of the Grower group Review farm records, verification of maps meticulously and Traceability and Mass Balance at farm level	Can apply the required knowledge for successfully implementing or applying techniques/processes in a specific field/job role.	4
Employment Readiness & Entrepreneurship Skills & Mind-set/Professional Skill	The individual is able to inspect organic farms based on the NPOP, review and Submit Internal inspection report to the Internal Control System (ICS) manager/approval committee for review	Has good skills for self-employment and entrepreneurship skills/entrepreneurial Mind-set which may potentially create job for more persons	4
Broad Learning Outcomes/Core Skill	Conduct farm inspections as outlined in the Internal Control System (ICS) manual for ensuring quality assurance of the organic farm Prepare report of the internal inspections including issues of any non-compliance with organic standards	Able to identify the problems and a wider possible range of solutions with pros and cons in production.	4

Responsibility	The individual is able to conduct on-site inspections of	Can perform all non-standard procedures	4	1
	farms, inputs including fields, storage areas, farm	and non-routine tasks with confidence.		l
	structures, animal feed and animal strictures and farm			
	level processing facilities belonging to each member of			l
	the Grower group			l
				i

Annexure 2: Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria

Detailed learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the qualification are as follows:

S.	Learning Outcomes	Theory	Practical	Project	Viva
No.		Marks	Marks	Marks	Marks
Farm	Inspections	15	20		10
PC1	Conduct on-site inspections of farms, inputs including fields, storage areas, farm structures, animal feed and animal strictures and farm level processing facilities belonging to each member of the Grower group				
PC2	Review farm records, verification of maps meticulously and Traceability and Mass Balance at farm level				
PC3	Interview farmers and workers about their organic farming methods and adherence to regulation				
PC4	Identify the possible source of contaminations and systematic verification of border of organic fields				
PC5	Diagnose the use of unauthorized products/substances in the field				
PC6	Estimate the yield of the standing crop				
PC7	Ensure that samples are handled and transported according to protocols to maintain integrity				
Verify	ing Compliance to Organic Standard	10	15		5
PC8	Prepare comprehensive reports detailing each farm inspection including, any observed instances of non-compliance with organic standards				
PC9	Submit Internal inspection report to the Internal Control System (ICS) manager/approval committee for review				

PC10	Report to ICS manager in case of any critical non-conformity observed or during natural calamities/ crop failure/ crop damage			
Docun	Documentation and Reporting			10
PC11	Stay updated on the latest National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) standards and			
PCII	NPOP organic certification guidelines			
PC12	Verify that farms are adhering to the organic standards throughout the production process, from			
	field preparation until dispatch of organic produce			
PC13	Ensure internal compliance to pave the way for a successful external certification audit by the			
	accredited certification body			
PC14	Evaluate the farmers whether they have the knowledge on standards			
PC15	Conduct follow-up inspections as needed to verify ongoing compliance. Procurement, Organic			
PC15	integrity, labelling and tracking of the certified products			
	Total Marks	35	40	25

Annexure 3: Assessment Strategy

This section includes the processes involved in identifying, gathering, and interpreting information to evaluate the Candidate on the required competencies of the program.

1. Assessment System Overview

In Agriculture Sector it is of ultimate importance that individuals dealing with crop production or livestock have the requisite knowledge and competencies to undertake the task. Based on the Assessment Criteria, SSC in association with empanelled AAs, define the test structure for the given job roles to cover the required skills and competencies. Assessment strategy consists of the following:

- 1. Multiple Choice Questions: To assess basic knowledge (Objective/Subjective)
- 2. Viva: To assess awareness on processes (Oral and/or written questioning)
- 3. Practical: To evaluate skills and identify competencies.(Observation)

Assessments for knowledge and awareness on processes may be conducted through 'real time' internet based evaluation or by conducting the same 'offline' through TABs. Skills and competencies are to be assessed by conducting 'practical' on ground through qualified and ToA certified assessors.

While it is important that an individual has adequate knowledge and skills to perform a specific task, weight age for different aspects for assessment are given as follows:

Multiple Choice Questions: 20%-30%, depending on the specific QP

Viva: 20%

Practical: 50% - 60% (Involves demonstrations of applications and presentations of procedures/tasks and other components)

Assessment will be carried out by certified assessors through empanelled assessment partners. Based on the results of assessment; ASCI will certify the learners/candidates

2. Testing Environment

Assessments are conducted on laptops, Mobiles and android tablets via both offline and online mode depending on the internet connectivity at assessment location.

In remote locations/villages, assessments get delivered through tablets without the requirement of Internet.

- Multilingual assessments (ASCI is conducting assessments in 13 + languages pan India)
- Rubric driven assessments in Practical/Viva sections and responses recorded accordingly
- All responses, data, records and feedback stored digitally on cloud
- Advanced auto-proctoring features photographs, time-stamp, geographic-tagging, toggle-screen/copy-paste disabled, etc.
- Android based monitoring system
- End to end process from allocation of a batch to final result upload, there is no manual intervention
- Assessment will normally be fixed for a day after the end date of training / within 7 days of completion of training.
- Assessment will be conducted at the training venue
- Room where assessment is conducted will be set with proper seating arrangements with enough space to curb copying or other unethical activities
- Question bank of theory and practical will be prepared by ASCI /assessment agency and approved ASCI. Only from approved Question Bank assessment

- agency will prepare the question paper. Theory testing will include multiple choice questions, pictorial question, etc. which will test the trainee on his theoretical knowledge of the subject.
- The theory, practical and viva assessments will be carried out on same day. In case of more number of candidates, number of assessors and venue facilitation be increased and facilitated

	Assessment				
Assessment Type	Formative or Summative	Strategies	Examples		
Theory	Summative	MCQ/Written exam	Knowledge of facts related to the job role and functions. Understanding of principles and concepts related to the job role and functions		
Practical	Summative	Structured tasks/Demonstration	Practical application /Demonstration /Application tasks		
Viva	Summative	Questioning and Probing	Mock interviews on usability of job roles/advantages /importance of adherence to procedures. Viva will be used to gauge trainee's confidence and correct knowledge in handling job situation		

The question paper pre-loaded in the computer /Tablet and it will be in the language as requested by the training partner.

3. Assessment Quality Assurance framework

Assessment Framework and Design:

Based on the Assessment Criteria, SSC in association with AAs will define the test structure for the given roles to cover the required skills and competencies. ASCI offer a bouquet of tools for multi- dimensional evaluation of candidates covering language, cognitive skills, behavioral traits and domain knowledge.

Theoretical Knowledge - Item constructs and types are determined by theoretical understanding of the testing objectives and published research about the item-types and constructs that have shown statistical validity towards measuring the construct. Test item types which have been reported to be coachable are not included. Based on these, items are developed by domain experts. They are provided with comprehensive guidelines of testing objectives of each question and other quality measures.

Type – Questions based on Knowledge Required, Case-based practical scenario questions and automated simulation based questions.

Practical Skills - The practical assessments are developed taking into consideration two aspects: what practical tasks is the candidate expected to perform on the job and what aspects of the job cannot be judged through theoretical assessments. The candidates shall be asked to perform either an entire task or a set of subtasks depending on the nature of the job role

Type – Standardized rubrics for evaluation against set of tasks in a demo/practical task

Viva Voce - Those practical tasks which cannot be performed due to time or resource constraints are evaluated through the viva mode. Practical tasks are backed up with Viva for thorough assessment and complete evaluation

Type – Procedural questions, do's and don'ts, subjective questions to check understanding of practical tasks.

Assessor has to go through orientation program organized by Assessment Agency. The training would give an overview to the assessors on the overall framework of QP evaluation. Assessor shall be given a NOS and PC level overview of each QP as applicable. Overall structure of assessment and objectivity of the marking scheme will be explained to them. The giving of marks will be driven by an objective framework which will maintain standardization of marking scheme.

4. Type of Evidence and Evidence Gathering Protocol:

During the assessment the evidences collected by AAs and ASCI are:

- Geo Tagging to track ongoing assessment
- AA's coordinator emails the list of documents and evidences (photos and videos) to the assessor one day prior to the assessment. List is mentioned below:
 - Signed Attendance sheet
 - Assessor feedback sheet
 - Candidate feedback sheet
 - o Assessment checklist for assessor
 - Candidate Aadhar/ID card verification
 - o Pictures of classroom, labs to check the availability of adequate equipment's and tool to conduct the training and assessment
 - o Pictures and videos of Assessment, training feedback and infrastructure.
- Apart from the Assessor, Technical assistant popularly known as Proctor also ensures the proper documentation and they verify each other's tasks.
- To validate their work on the day of assessment, regular calls and video calls are done.
- On-boarding and training of assessor and proctor is done on timely basis to ensure that quality of the assessment should be maintained.

Training covers the understanding of QP, NSQF level, NOS and assessment structure

5. Methods of Validation

- Morning Check (Pre-Assessment): Backend team of AA calls and confirms assessor/technical spoc event status. Assessor/Technical spoc are instructed to reach the centre on time by 9:30 AM / as decided with TC and delay should be highlighted to the Training Partner in advance.
- <u>Video Calls</u>: Random video calls are made to the technical spoc/assessor so as to keep check on assessment quality and ensure assessment is carried out in fair and transparent manner
- Aadhar verification of candidates
- Evening Check (Post Assessment): Calls are made to the ground team to ensure event is over by what time and the documentation is done in proper manner or not.
- TP Calling: To keep check on malpractice activity, independent audit team calls to TP on recorded line to take confirmation if there was any malpractice activity observed in assessment on part of AA/SSC team. If calls are not connected, email is send to TP Spoc for taking their confirmation
- <u>Video and Picture Evidence:</u> Backend team collects video and pictures for assessment on real time basis and highlights any issue like, Students sitting idle/trainer allowed for helping out candidates during assessment.
- Surprise Visit: Time to time SSC/AA Audit team can visit the assessment location and do surprise audit for assessment process carried out by ground team.
- <u>Geo Tagging:</u> On day of assessment, each technical spoc is required to login in our internal app which is Geo tagged. Any deviation with centre address needs to be highlighted to assessment team on real-time basis.

Method for assessment documentation, archiving, and Access:

- ASCI has fully automated result generation process in association with multiple AAs
- Theory, Practical and Viva marks forms the basis of the results and encrypted files generated to avoid data manipulation. All responses captured and stored in System with Time-Stamps at the end of AAs and SSC. NOS-wise and PC-wise scores can be generated.
- Maker Checker concept: 1 person prepares results and other audit result which is internally approved by AA at first and then gets vetted at the end of SSC
- All soft copy of documents is received from the on-ground tech team over mail. The same are downloaded by our internal backend team and saved in Repository. The repository consists of scheme wise folders. These scheme wise folders have job role specific folders. These specific folders have Year wise and Month wise folders where all documents are saved in Batch specific folders. All Hard copies are filed and stored in storeroom.
- Result Review & Recheck Mechanism -
- Time stamped assessment logs
- Answer/Endorsement sheets for each candidate
- Attendance Sheet
- Feedback Forms: Assessor feedback form, Candidate feedback form, TP feedback form

• The results for each of the candidate shall be stored and available for review (retained for 5 years/till conclusion of project or scheme)

Annexure 4: Tools and Equipment

List of Tools and Equipment

Batch Size: 30

S. No.	Tool / Equipment Name	Specification	Quantity for specified Batch size
1	Internal Inspection Form	Nos	20-30
2	Farm Inspection checklist	Nos	5
3	Farm Map	Nos	5
4	Farm Registration Form/contract	Nos	5
5	Farm Entrance Form	Nos	5
6	Purchasing Form	Nos	1
7	Purchase receipt	Nos	1
8	Inventory of Produce Sold Form	Nos	1
9	NPOP Guidelines	Nos	1
10	ICS Guidelines/Manual	Nos	1
11	Internal Organic Standard doc	Nos	1

Classroom Aids:

The aids required to conduct sessions in the classroom are:

- 1. White board
- 2. Marker
- 3. Overhead projector
- 4. Laptop
- 5. Internet access

Annexure 5: Industry Validations Summary

S.	Organization Name	Representative Name	Designation	Contact Address	s Contact E-mail ID		LinkedIn
No		•	J		Phone No		Profile (if
							available)
1						info@devbhomiagro	
	Devbhomi Agro Organic Foods Private					organicfoodspvtltd	
	Limited	Mr Munesh Kumar	Quality Manager	Roorkee	8449000909	@gmail.com	
2			OPERATION			certification@alwaro	
	ALWAR ORGANIC COMPANY	Mr SEVUGAN	MANAGER	SALEM	8925902311	rganic.com	
3			Sr. Manager- Agri			shailendra.singh@na	
	Nature Bio Foods Limited	Shailendra SK	Certification	Gurugram	7082206673	turebiofoods.organic	
4	The Suminter organic and fairtrade Ginning					Pankaj.gupta@sumi	
	Mills Pvt Ltd.	Mr. Pankaj Gupta	AGM - Certification	Mumbai	7728881136	nter.com	
5						anil.jadhav@ecocert	
	Ecocert India Pvt. Ltd.	Anil Jadhav	Regional Director	Bangalore	9711164850	.com	
6						chandeldevashish67	
	Shree Balaji Cotton Mill	Devashish Chandel	Partner	Sriganganagar	9461082002	@gmail.com	
7						shriharicompany@g	
	Shri Hari and Company	Ravi Kumar Kakani	Director	Chittorgarh	9575795353	mail.com	
8						govind.kumar@sumi	
	Suminter India Organic Pvt Ltd.	Mr. Govind Kumar	Certification Manager	Mumbai		nter.com	
9			Certification Manage			nocaagro@gmail.co	
	NOCA Pvt Ltd.	Dr. Jay Sakle	r	Pune	9511858669	m	
10						ghanendra.sharma@	
	SGS India Pvt Ltd	Ghanendra Sharma	Head Organic	Gurgaon	9910368602	sgs.com	

Annexure 6: Training Details

Training Projections:

Year	Estimated Training # of Total Candidates	Estimated training # of Women	Estimated training # of People with Disability
2024-25	1500		
2025-26	1500		
2026-27	2000		

Data to be provided year-wise for next 3 years.

Annexure 7: Acronym and Glossary

Acronym

Acronym	Description	
AA	Assessment Agency	
AB	Awarding Body	
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupations	
NCO	National Classification of Occupations	
NCrF	National Credit Framework	
NQR	National Qualification Register	
NSQF	National Skills Qualifications Framework	
OJT	On the Job Training	

Glossary

Term	Description	
Qualification	A formal outcome of an assessment and validation process which is obtained when a	
	competent body determines that an individual has achieved learning outcomes to given standards	
Qualification File	A Qualification File is a template designed to capture necessary information of a Qualification from the perspective of NSQF compliance. The Qualification File will be normally submitted by the awarding body for the qualification.	
Sector	A grouping of professional activities based on their main economic function, product, service or technology.	