

CAEQ FEE SCHEDULE

Effective as of January 1st, 2026

(Appendix C of the Internal Regulations Pertaining to Accreditation for Certifiers)

A) Service Fee Schedule for Accreditation

The CAEQ provides conformity verification services and accredits or recommends the accreditation of certification bodies depending on the requested scope.

Type of service	Fees	Fees cover	Audit fees
Initial Registration in accreditation program	CAD \$6,000 when the body does not have any accreditation that meets international standards (ISO)	Documentary review	For time related to preparation, assessment work, and audit report: Per diem of CAD \$750 per auditor Per diem of CAD \$545 per junior auditor member of an audit team
	CAD \$4,000 when the body has ISO 17065 accreditation, issued by a recognized accreditation body (MRA / MLA), for a scope different from the scope requested to the CAEQ		
	CAD \$2,000 when the body transfers an ISO 17065 accreditation for the same scope as requested to the CAEQ from a recognized accreditation body (MRA / MLA)	Administrative and operational expenses	
Continuation and monitoring of accreditation	a) <u>Certification activities in the province of Québec</u> : CAD \$1,500 billed annually. In addition, an accreditation fee equivalent to 15,3% of the amounts billed by the certification body during the previous calendar year to operators holding a certification for products bearing a reserved designation or added-value claim in Québec*.	Secretariat and Accreditation Committee Meetings	Hourly rate of CAD \$57 for travel time of each auditor Accommodation and travel costs according to policies in effect ^[1]
	b) <u>Certification activities carried out outside of Québec or for private specification manuals</u> : annual accreditation fees set according to the number of registered operators for certification activities of products against a standard included in the accreditation scope, at a cost of CAD \$65 per operator, from a minimum of CAD \$325 and up to a maximum of CAD \$7,150 per certification scope or standard included in the accreditation scope.	Review of corrective action plan	
Renewal of accreditation	CAD \$ 2,000 for ISO 17065 and CAD \$ 1,000 per organic scheme / authority CAD \$ 250 per reserved designation (Quebec, not organic) CAD \$ 500 for any other scheme	Issue of attestation	

* **All amounts billed by certification bodies to operators**: Include among others all the fees charged for evaluation or inspection (including subcontractors) in order to certify products, maintain certification and issue certificates of conformity or other attestations to all companies licensed by the certification body, if they manage at least one operation site in Québec, and if their products are subject to a Board-approved specification manual and included in the certification body's accreditation scope. Revenue from companies whose operation sites are all pre-certified are excluded. The amounts must be declared by the certification body in accordance with the latest directive issued by CAEQ about the payment of this fee.

Type of service	Fees	Documentary review fee	Audit fees
Major extension to accreditation scope **	CAD \$ 180	Hourly rate of CAD \$90.	For time related to preparation, assessment work, and audit report: Per diem of CAD \$750 per auditor Per diem of CAD \$545 per junior auditor member of an audit team
Minor extension to accreditation scope ***	CAD \$ 90	No fee if the assessment plan doesn't remain the sole property of the applicant	Hourly rate of CAD \$57 for travel time of each auditor Accommodation and travel costs according to policies in effect ^[1]

[1] Real costs for lodging (hotel) and transport (plane, train, bus, taxi, rental car, parking, road toll, gas) due to the audit will be invoiced to the certification body. The use of a car is billed per kilometer at the current rate or according to the rental real cost. Meals are billed CAD \$67 per day and per auditor. The per diem can be separated per meal: CAD \$15 per breakfast, CAD \$21 per lunch, CAD \$31 per diner. If special expenses are incurred, particularly for legal reasons (visa), they will be added and detailed on the invoice.

** **Major extension:** addition of new accreditation scope:

- To certify products which meet Specification Manual (or standard) different from those the certification body is already accredited.

For example, a certification based on a Geographical Protected Indication different from the certification based on a Geographical Protected Indication for which the certification body is accredited or another type of reserved designation (i.e.: Organic)

*** **Minor extension:** addition of new accreditation scope:

- To certify different products but included in the same Specification Manual (or standard) and which require a particular expertise (sectorial scope)
- To certify products from a different geographical area but in the same Specification Manual (geographical scope)

For example, a certification based on the Organic Specification Manual for a new production sector (i.e: dairy, crops, aquaculture) or a new activity (i.e.: production, processing, packaging) or the addition of a new country (geographical extension)

B) Applicable fees for other services

Type of service	Applicable fees for each service	Document evaluation fees
Appeal made by a certification body regarding an adverse decision made by the Accreditation Committee	CAD \$900 (not refundable)	Hourly rate of CAD \$90 (refundable if decision is overturned)

C) Payment

A deposit equivalent to 70% of the estimated costs is charged before the audit and the final invoice based on real costs is emitted after the audit.

Payments are made in Canadian dollars (CAD).

In order to pay the amount due, certification bodies must take into consideration the currency exchange rates and the banks costs in relation with a wire transfer. The CAEQ reserves the right to claim any difference with the amount due.

The date your payment is due depends on the date of the invoice. Invoices are sent by email and must be paid within 30 days. As states on the contract, interest is added to any past due amounts. The interest rate on past due accounts is indicated on the invoice.

Interest rates will be subject of an additional invoice.

D) Penalties

some events like the submission of document without the respect of the deadline or the submission of uncomplete document, lead to additional delays, new planning (audit calendar, moved meeting ...) and other administrative costs for CAEQ.

Consequently, CAEQ put in place a penalty to cover those additional costs.

Event	Fee applicable for each event
Requested document sends after the deadline and without any justification	CAD \$ 90 per hour of overtime and up to CAD \$ 630 per event
Reminder after the reception of uncomplete document despite a detailed request (except for initial application)	
Postpone of an audit due to the certification body (including document not transmitted meaning that the CAEQ cannot perform the documentary review before the audit)	CAD \$ 90 per hour of overtime and up to CAD \$ 630 In addition, are charged all costs following the postpone (cancellation of airfare ...)
Postpone of an Accreditation Committee meeting in relation with an accreditation decision, knowing that the certification body was informed of the deadlines to meet	CAD \$ 90 per hour of overtime and up to CAD \$ 630 per event

CAEQ is part of a non-profit organization, this penalty is only to encourage the certification bodies to meet the deadlines and cover the additional costs due to delays.

E) Fees indexation per country

Due to activities in several countries, the CAEQ has decided to introduce an indexation of some costs depending of the location of the main office of the certification body. In order to remain impartial with all the certification bodies, the classification is based on the scale of assessments (SA) of the United-Nations for this country.

Prices	Regular (SA > 2%)	Medium (0,25% < SA < 2%)	Low (SA < 0,25%)
Auditor's work:	CAD \$ 750 / day	CAD \$ 655 / day	CAD \$ 595 / day
Travel Time:	CAD \$ 57 / hour	CAD \$ 55 / hour	CAD \$ 52 / hour
Examples:	Canada, USA, UK	Brazil, Mexico, India, Argentina, Chili	Ecuador, Costa Rica, Ivory Coast, Vietnam

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