

USDA's National Organic Standards Board
A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2017 APPOINTMENTS
(Deadline: June 3, 2016)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is now accepting nominations from qualified individuals to serve a five-year term on the **National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)** beginning in January 2017. The Committee consists of 15 members from across the organic community, and provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture on the implementation of the Organic Foods Production Act. The USDA seeks nominations for the following five seats:

- Individual with expertise in areas of environmental protection and resource conservation
- Organic Producer who owns or operates an organic operation
- Organic Handler or Processor who owns or operates an organic handling operation
- Representative of a public or consumer interest group
- Scientist (toxicology, ecology or biochemistry).

Additionally, the USDA is seeking nominations for a pool of candidates to fill future unexpected vacancies in any of the seven position categories, should unexpected vacancies occur. A person appointed to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the 5-year term of the vacant position.

Committee member duties include:

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

Additional criteria used to consider nominees:

- 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
- A willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to assume Board duties
- Must not be currently serving (or have been elected to serve) on another USDA advisory committee or research and promotions council/board during your term
- Must not be a registered lobbyist** with the federal or state government

Written nominations (cover letter, resume, and the Advisory Committee background information form (Form AD-755)) must be postmarked on or before June 3, 2016. For more information, visit: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/nosb/nomination-process>

**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.*