

Fact Sheet: Registration

The Canadian Quality Milk (CQM) program has developed a Registration System that outlines how the program provides fair and consistent registration services to every dairy producer.

What does registration mean?

Registration means that you have effectively implemented the CQM program on your farm, demonstrated through a validation that you comply with the requirements, and have made a commitment to maintain the program on your farm. Registered producers receive a farm-specific registration number and a CQM certificate, and must continue to demonstrate compliance with the program through annual activities (see validation cycle below).

Why should I get registered?

CQM registration is your proof to consumers and customers that you have implemented the CQM program on your farm and are committed to maintaining it.

How do I get registered?

1. Implement the CQM program on your farm. You can attend a workshop in your province or simply read the CQM Workbook and train your staff.
2. Start keeping records. Once you have at least 3 months of complete records, you can apply for registration.
3. Request a Registration Application Form from your provincial producer association, fill it in and submit it to your provincial producer association. Soon after, a validator will contact you to schedule a validation on your farm.

What does a validator do?

The validator uses a checklist similar to the questionnaire in the CQM Workbook to evaluate how well you meet the requirements of the program. The validator makes observations, asks you and your staff questions and writes a report. The validator sends the report to the provincial producer association who reviews it and makes a final decision on your registration.

What do I have to do to maintain my registration?

You must maintain the program requirements on your farm and undergo an annual activity to demonstrate continued compliance with the program.

The validation cycle is a four-year repeating cycle:

Year:	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Activity:	Full validation	Self-declaration	Partial validation*	Self-declaration**

* The Provincial Delivery Agent can move the partial validation to occur in year 2, 3 or 4.

** To ensure credibility, the Provincial Delivery Agent randomly selects a percentage of producers who submitted self-declarations to undergo a partial validation as well. The random partial validations are essential to demonstrate compliance with and credibility of the self-declarations.

After Year 4, the cycle repeats, so you undergo a full validation again and are sent a new certificate. All validations, including the random partial validations, are scheduled to ensure that you are available.

Does registration mean my product is safer?

Registration with the CQM program does not indicate or imply the registration of product from such facilities or guarantee the safety of any products.

Who pays for a validation and how much does it cost?

Ask your provincial producer association. Payment and cost vary by province.

Who can I contact for more information?

1. Your provincial producer association, or
2. Visit: www.dairyfarmers.org/cqm