Cannabis Safety & Quality
Introduction to CSQ

CSQ
Cannabis Safety and Quality

INTRODUCTION

CSQ SUMMARY

Cannabis Safety & Quality (CSQ) is an accredited global certification program launched in January 2021 to promote industry best practices and improve the overall safety and quality of cannabis and cannabis-infused products on the market. Our global standards provide the framework for organizations to easily fulfill their legal obligations to product safety and quality and provide protection for the end consumer. The CSQ Standards were developed by industry experts to meet both ISO and the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) requirements.

VISION

Our vision is to become the cannabis industry's most trusted source for safety and quality certification.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide the cannabis industry with reliable and trusted industry standards that help certified sites minimize risks and protect their brand, as well as the health and well-being of consumers around the world.
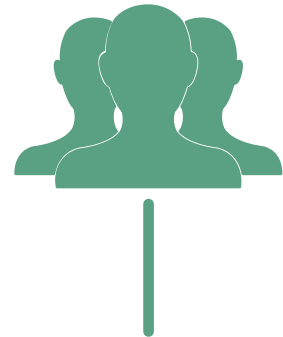
OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Promote Best Practices

Global Standardization

Promote Fair Trade

Protect Consumers
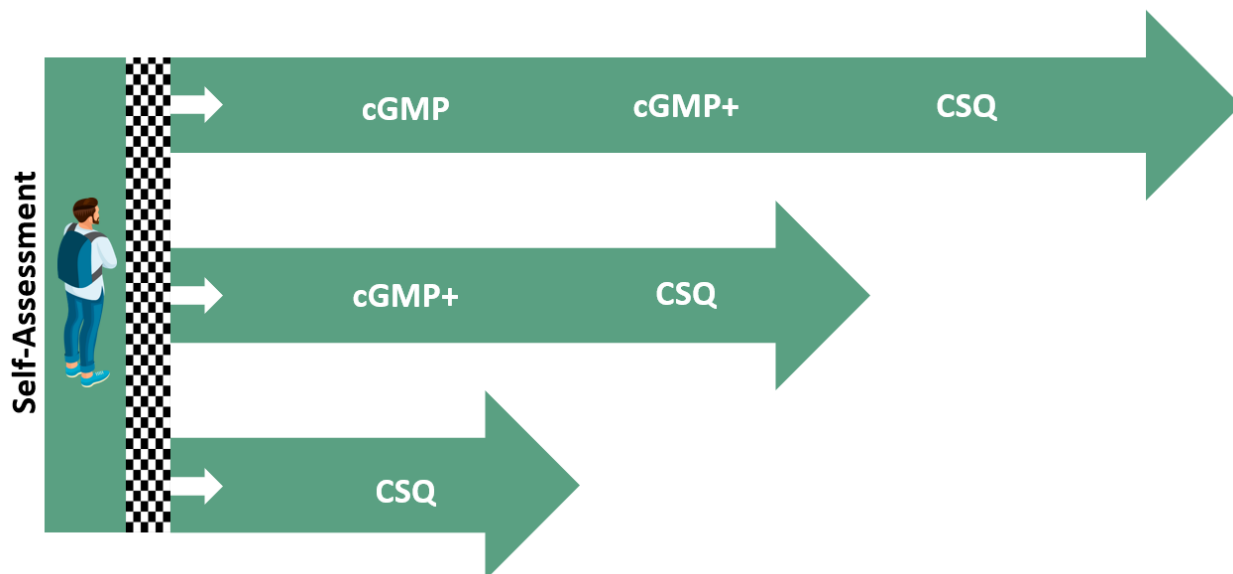
OUR STANDARDS

ACCREDITED CSQ STANDARDS
- Growing and Cultivation of Cannabis Plants
- Manufacturing and Extraction of Cannabis
- Manufacturing and Infusion of Cannabis into Food & Beverages
- Manufacturing of Cannabis Dietary Supplements

UNACCREDITED CSQ STANDARDS
- CSQ cGMP
- CSQ cGMP+
- CSQ cGAP
- CSQ cGAP+

DETERMINE YOUR PATH TO CSQ CERTIFICATION
Does your organization already have a robust cannabis safety and quality program? Does your organization have a HACCP Plan? Reach out to one of our licensed Certification Bodies to help you complete a self-assessment to determine your best path to CSQ Certification.

Self-Assessment

cGMP cGMP+ CSQ

cGMP+ CSQ

CSQ

STANDARD DEVELOPMENT

GFSI
Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Benchmarking Requirements, based on ISO and Codex Alimentarius.
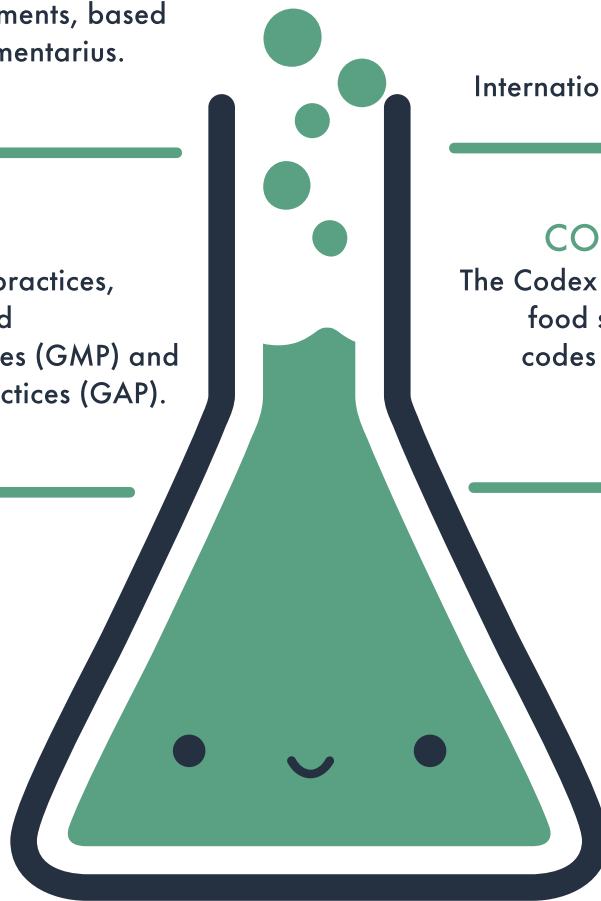
ISO
International Organization for Standardization.

BEST PRACTICES
Current industry best practices, including current Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
The Codex Alimentarius international food standards, guidelines, and codes of practices (FAO/WHO).

DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE STANDARD DEVELOPMENT PROCESS?

JOIN THE CSQ TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
info@CSQCertification.com
www.CSQCertification.com

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1 AUDIT PREPARATION
Download the most current and applicable CSQ standard and take the CSQ 101 Online Training. Confirm the site is capable of meeting the CSQ requirements by completing an internal audit and correcting any non-conformances.

2 AUDIT PLANNING
Select a Certification Body and schedule the offsite documentation evaluation and the onsite facility evaluation.

3 DOCUMENTATION EVALUATION
Submit all applicable documentation to your Certification Body and correct any non-conformances found during the documentation evaluation.

4 FACILITY EVALUATION
Provide your Certification Body with access to the facility and applicable records for review and conduct an onsite mock recall.

5 POST AUDIT
Work with Certification Body to close out any non-conformances found during the facility evaluation. Once all non-conformances are approved by the Certification Body then a certificate will be issued.

6 MAINTENANCE
Ongoing communication with Certification Body if there are any major changes to products or processes. Continuous improvement of the site's cannabis safety & quality program.

Audit Preparation

Audit Planning

1

2

Maintenance

6

Offsite Documentation Evaluation

3

5

4

Post Audit

Onsite Facility Evaluation

PREPARING FOR YOUR AUDIT

SELECT ONE OF OUR LICENSED CERTIFICATION BODIES (CB)

St. Louis, MO
info@asifood.com
1-800-477-0778

Charlotte, NC
info.wqs@wqscert.com
980-218-9151

USE A REGISTERED CONSULTANT

Sites may choose to develop and implement their Cannabis Safety & Quality Program using their own qualified resources or they may utilize the services of a CSQ registered consultant. All CSQ registered consultants are required to obtain CSQ Lead Auditor Training and demonstrate through qualifications and work experience that they are able to effectively develop and implement a Cannabis Safety & Quality Program. Go to www.CSQCertification.com to find a registered CSQ Consultant.

CSQ 101 TRAINING

A site's CSQ Program Manager and any other employees who are responsible for creating, implementing, and maintaining the requirements of the CSQ Certification must participate in the "CSQ 101" training course or have equivalent training or work experience. The "CSQ 101" training course is not a mandatory requirement for CSQ Program Managers but it is strongly recommended.

CSQ LEAD AUDITOR TRAINING

The CSQ Lead Auditor Training is an advanced version of the CSQ 101 training which includes two additional modules, ISO 19011 (Lead Auditor Training) and Cannabis 101.

BENEFITS

BENEFITS TO CSQ CERTIFICATION

- Improvements to product safety
- Improvements to product quality and consistency
- Help meet regulatory requirements
- Reduce recalls and improve traceability
- Protection of your brand and bottom-line
- Enhanced marketability and listing on the CSQ database
- Improvement to consumer confidence and increase in brand loyalty
- Possibility of reducing insurance costs
- Recognized by several regulators and retailers across the globe

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