

Provision for JFS-C Auditor Initial Registration	Issue date: 2023-11-30	Document number: PR_301_11_R00_en
	Revision date: 2024-10-04	Revision number: R01

Provision for JFS-C Auditor Initial Registration¹

I. Objective

This provision defines rules for registration of auditors of JFS-C standards and auditors who audit GFSI recognized scheme of JFS-C in order to increase JFS-C auditors in markets where private international standards are not widely used and in certification bodies with a smaller number of auditing GFSI recognized schemes. In order to register a JFS-C auditor, a contracted certification body shall apply to the Japan Food Safety Management Association (hereinafter referred to as JFSM).

II. Scope

Certification bodies that have a contract with JFSM (hereinafter referred to as certification bodies), their auditors, and accreditation bodies that have contracts with JFSM (hereinafter referred to as accreditation bodies)

III. Categories of JFS-C auditors

JFS-C auditor is a generic term for those who can conduct JFS-C certification audit activities.

JFSM defines JFS-C_R0 auditors (hereinafter referred to as "R0 auditors") as auditors who have been approved to audit to JFS-C standard by initial registration. In addition, the auditor who is approved to conduct audit as GFSI-recognized JFS-C standard shall be designated as JFS-C_R1 Auditor (hereinafter referred to as "R1 Auditor").

Note: In the following descriptions, JFS-C auditor refers to both R0 and R1 auditors.

1. R0 Auditor

R0 auditors may conduct JFS-C audit activities within the scope of sectors contracted between the certification body and JFSM, but such activities shall meet the following four prerequisites.

- 1) Audit within registered sectors/sub-sectors with JFSM.
- 2) If the certification body holds JFS-C accreditation, only that accredited sector may have the accreditation logo on the certificate.
- 3) GFSI recognized JFS-C audit may be conducted as part of a team, but not as an audit leader or by a single auditor. The audit shall be limited to the sector/sub-sector registered by R0 auditor.

Provision for JFS-C Auditor Initial Registration	Issue date: 2023-11-30	Document number: PR_301_11_R00_en
	Revision date: 2024-10-04	Revision number: R01

- 4) If the GFSI recognized JFS-C audit scope does not include a sector/sub-sector in which R0 auditor is registered, the auditor may only participate in the audit as an observer.

2. R1 Auditor

R1 auditor is approved under the requirements of the GFSI recognized JFS-C certification program and may conduct the GFSI recognized JFS-C audit activities independently in the sector/sub-sector scope under contract between the certification body and JFSM.

If the affiliated certification body does not meet the requirements for accreditation by an accreditation body that satisfies "Mutual Recognition Regulation for Accreditation Activities" in JFS-C Certification Program Document, and "Requirements for Certification Bodies", the organization subject to audit cannot be certified as "GFSI recognized JFS-C certified organization".

IV. Prerequisites and competence requirements for approval and registration of JFS-C auditors

The certification body shall confirm that the requirements of Auditor practical experience and training in JFS-C Certification Program Document are met for auditors applying to become JFS-C auditors.

JFSM specifies below the auditing experience for the requirements for initial registration requirements for auditors in "JFS-C Certification Program Document" by auditor categories.

1. R0 Auditor

The certification body shall evaluate the applying auditor by standards that meet the "Standards subject to audit experience required for initial R0 auditor registration" as described below. The evaluation requires at least three evaluations, at least one of which must be a witnessed audit by a person who meets the requirements of "Witness-assessors competence"

Standards subject to audit experience required for initial R0 auditor registration

In the case that the certification body to which the applying auditor belongs is conducting certification activities for food safety management standards (same scope as the sectors covered by the JFS-C standard) based on

Provision for JFS-C Auditor Initial Registration	Issue date: 2023-11-30	Document number: PR_301_11_R00_en
	Revision date: 2024-10-04	Revision number: R01

ISO/IEC17021-1:2015 and ISO22003-1:2022 and is accredited by an accreditation body, JFSM recognizes standards that include any of the following conditions as "Standards subject to audit experience required for initial R0 auditor registration".

- ① Food Safety Management System Standards
i.e., GFSI recognized scheme, ISO 22000:2018
- ② Food Safety Management System Standard containing requirements equivalent to GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF FOOD HYGIENE (CXC 1-1969) (Codex, 2020)

2. R1 Auditor

The certification body shall evaluate the audit of the applied auditor against the JFS-C standards " The applied auditor requires three or more JFS-C audit evaluations before being evaluated as competent. The evaluation requires at least three or more JFS-C audit evaluations before being evaluated as competent, and at least one of which must be a witnessed audit by a witness-assessor who meets the requirements of JFS-C Program Document "Witness-assessors competence".

V. JFS-C Auditor Recognition and Registration Process

1. JFS-C Auditor

JFSM will review and approve documents submitted by the certification body that can confirm that the prerequisites and registration requirements have been met for the applicant auditor.

2. Exceptional measures for R1 Auditor Approvals

Regarding R1 auditor witness evaluation, in cases where the certification body does not have R1 auditor, JFSM may approve the following two points as exceptions and approve the R0 auditor as an R1 auditor.

Exceptional measure ①

The witnessed evaluation of the certification auditor in the certification audit conducted by the accreditation body for the certification body shall be considered as the witnessed evaluation of the R1 auditor application.

Exceptional measure ②

The witnessed evaluation conducted by JFSM shall be the witnessed evaluation of R1 auditor application.

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Version	Issue Date	Revision History
R00	2023-11-30	First Edition
R01	2024-10-04	Eliminating the version number from JFS-C Program Document/Version Alignment of ISO 22003:2022