



The application period for the 2023 GAPC Certification program is open! All growers participating in the GAPC Certification program must apply every year in order to maintain Certification.

How to apply

- 1. Visit www.gapconnections.com
- 2. In the upper right hand corner, find "Log In" then "Log In to View Member Tools"
- 3. Enter your 6 digit Grower ID and password.

- 4. From the Grower Dashboard find, "Apply for Tobacco (or Hemp) Certification", "Start Tobacco (or Hemp) 2023".
- 5. Complete the application. You have come to end when payment is submitted. Payment will be processed upon approval.
- Growers may also call GAPC to request a paper copy by mail. Paper applications are an additional \$50.

More information about the Tobacco and Hemp GAPC Certification program can be found on our <u>website</u>.

Deadline to apply is April 15. Any application submitted after April 15 is subject to a \$100 late fee and will only be approved if the Monitoring Firm has capacity to add a Monitoring Visit to their schedule.



The future of hemp starts with you. Establishing a higher standard across the industry requires accountability and collaboration at every step of the way. The GAPC Hemp Certification Program was developed to increase transparency and foster an environment which promotes sustainability, safety, compliance, profitability, and competition.

Not a current GAPC Grower member? Get started today by visiting www.gapconnections.com. Upon the completion of the grower registration form you will be issued a Grower ID number and mailed a Grower ID card. GAPC Grower Membership is required for participation in any of GAPC's Certification programs.

Growers who successfully achieve GAPC Hemp Certification have the option to apply to the U.S. Hemp Authority to gain official status as U.S. Hemp Authority Certified.

Learn more.



GAP Connections (GAPC) coordinates GAP Training annually to provide growers the opportunity to learn from content experts about the latest crop, environmental, and labor best management practices. GAPC appreciates and recognizes the partnerships we have with the tobacco Extension Educators and Specialists and other content experts to best serve the growers.

In 2023, Annual GAP Training is available online and at a select few in-person training locations and events.

Online Training is now open! Log in with your Grower ID and Password at www.gapconnections.com to get started.

Growers will have a variety of content videos in crop & environment, labor, and GAPC that they may select from to view. Once a grower completes watching the video, a short quiz will evaluate knowledge gained. Growers must score a 100% on the quiz for training credit to count.

One video is not enough!

To complete Annual GAP Training online and earn training credit, growers will be required to complete:

- 3 crop & environment videos and guizzes
- 3 labor videos and guizzes
- 3 GAPC videos and quizzes

Not sure about online training?

GAPC will be partnering with the County Extension offices, company members, and other partners to offer in-person training. In-person locations and dates are being scheduled now. Watch the <u>GAPC Training Events Page</u> for an in-person meeting near you.

For questions about Annual GAP Training, please contact Amy Rochkes, Training and Resource Coordinator, at (865) 622-4606, extension 107 or arochkes@gapconnections.com.

Self-Assessment Now Available

The 2023 Self-Assessment is open and is a requirement for all growers going through the GAPC Certification Program in 2023. Information from a grower's 2023 Certification Application is used to pre-populate the self-assessment but only after the application is approved. If growers wish to take advantage of the pre-populated

data and answer fewer questions, it is best to wait to complete the self-assessment until you receive notice that your application is approved.

The self-assessment can be found by logging into the Grower Dashboard and clicking "Tobacco Grower Self-Assessment".

The self-assessment is one per operation and must be completed prior to the 2023 monitoring visit.



You're Invited

GAP Connections Grower Members and interested parties are invited to attend our virtual 2022 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 8 at 9:15am EST. GAPC will present an overview of 2022 activities and share our future plans. There will also be a presentation by Terri Lemire, Senior Risk Management Specialist, Risk Management Agency about crop insurance and recent changes to the program including time for questions and answers.

If you are interested in joining the Virtual Annual Meeting, please call GAPC at 865.622.4606 or email info@gapconnections.com to request a link for the meeting.

Please note this is NOT the same as Annual GAP Training - growers will not receive training credit for attending.

Email to RSVP









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