Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Form **990-EZ**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 All other organizations with gross receipts less than $1,000,000 and total assets less than $2,500,000 at the end of the year may use this form

▶ *The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements*

OMB No 1545-1150

2008

Open to Public Inspection

EMPLOYEE - MAY 17 2010 DISPOSAL DATE

A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning , 2008, and ending , 20

B Check if applicable
- ☐ Address change
- ☐ Name change
- ☑ Initial return
- ☐ Termination
- ☑ Amended return
- ☐ Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.

C Name of organization
Accredited Certifiers Association, Inc.

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO Box 472

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4
Port Crane, NY 13833-1129

D Employer identification number
20 1327556

E Telephone number
(607) 648.3259

F Group Exemption Number ▶

- ***Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).***

G Accounting method ☑ Cash ☐ Accrual
Other (specify) ▶

I Website: ▶ www.accreditedcertifiers.org

J Organization type (check only one)— ☑ 501(c) (3) ◀(insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

H Check ▶ ☑ if the organization is **not** required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

K Check ▶ ☐ if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization **and** its gross receipts are normally **not** more than $25,000 A return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts; if $1,000,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ $

SCANNED JUL 20 2010

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received		1	3,531.00
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts		2	3,240.00
	3	Membership dues and assessments		3	24,534.00
	4	Investment income		4	
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a 0		
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b 0		
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) (attach schedule)		5c	0
	6	Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G) If any amount is from **gaming**, check here ▶ ☐			
	a	Gross revenue (not including $ 0 of contributions reported on line 1)	6a 0		
	b	Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses	6b 0		
	c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a)		6c	0
	7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a 0		
	b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b		
	c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)		7c	0
	8	Other revenue (describe ▶ savings account interest)		8	119.00
	9	**Total revenue.** Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8 ▶		9	31,424.00
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule)		10	0
	11	Benefits paid to or for members		11	0
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits		12	0
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors		13	15,530.00
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance		14	679.00
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping		15	299.00
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ meeting exp;travel; organizational memberships; website; fe)		16	8,666.00
	17	**Total expenses.** Add lines 10 through 16 ▶		17	25,174.00
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)		18	6,250.00
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)		19	13,740.00
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)		20	0
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20 ▶		21	19,990.00

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Part II Balance Sheets. If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are $2,500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22	Cash, savings, and investments	20,918.00	22	19,990.00
23	Land and buildings	0	23	0
24	Other assets (describe ▶)	0	24	0
25	**Total assets**	20,918.00	25	19,990.00
26	**Total liabilities** (describe ▶ Expenses associated with training program)	7,178.00	26	0
27	**Net assets or fund balances** (line 27 of column (B) **must** agree with line 21)	13,740.00	27	19,990.00

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (See the instructions for Part III.)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? **Educational**

Describe what was achieved in carrying out the organization's exempt purposes. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, or other relevant information for each program title.

Expenses (Required for 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations and 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others)

28 **Member services - quarterly newsletter; management of on-line discussion group to provide clarificat of the National Organic Program; management of Working Groups which develop guidance & info for members; report on industry meetings; website. 41 agency members representing 400+ staff.**

(Grants $) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ▶ ☐ 28a **18,274.00**

29 **Professional Development Training Program - organize (handle logistics; obtain presenters; registration) annual two day training program for organic certification agency staff. Attendees: 66**

(Grants $) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ▶ ☐ 29a **6,900.00**

30

(Grants $) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ▶ ☐ 30a

31 Other program services (attach schedule)

(Grants $) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ▶ ☐ 31a

32 **Total program service expenses** (add lines 28a through 31a) ▶ 32

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated. (See the instructions for Part IV)

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
Leslie Zuck, Pennsylvania Certified Organic 106 School Street, Spring Mills, PA 16875	Chair 3	0	0	0
Brett Bakker, NM Organic Commodity Commission 4001 Indian School, NE, Ste. 310, Alburqueruqe, NM	Vice-Chair 2	0	0	0
Donald Franczyk, Baystate Organic Certifiers 1220 Cedarwood Circle, N. Dighton, MA 02764	Secretary/Treasurer 3	0	0	0
Kristy Korb, Oregon Tilth Certified Organic 470 Lancaster Dr. NE, Salem, OR 97301	Director 2	0	0	0
Jake Lewin, CCOF Certification Services 2155 Delaware Ave, Suite 150, Santa Cruz, CA 9506(	Director 2	0	0	0
Marty Mesh, Quality Certification Services PO Box 12311, Gainesville, FL 32604	Director 2	0	0	0
Bonnie Wideman, Midwest Organic Services Assoc. PO Box 821, Viroqua, WI 54655	Director 2	0	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part VI.)

			Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity	33		✓
34	Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents but not reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes	34		✓
35	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but **not** reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining your reason for not reporting the income on Form 990-T.			
a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more or section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?	35a		✓
b	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on **Form 990-T** for this year?	35b		
36	Was there a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or substantial contraction during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36		✓
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ▶ 37a 0			
b	Did the organization file **Form 1120-POL** for this year?	37b		✓
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee **or** were any such loans made in a prior year and still unpaid at the start of the period covered by this return?	38a		✓
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 38b 0			
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:			
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39a			
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b			
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ 0 ; section 4912 ▶ 0 ; section 4955 ▶ 0			
b	Section 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or did it become aware of an excess benefit transaction from a prior year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b		✓
c	Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ 0			
d	Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ 0			
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T.	40e		✓

41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ▶ none

42a The books are in care of ▶ Patricia Kane Telephone no. ▶ (607) 648.3259

Located at ▶ 472 Monkey Run Road, Port Crane, NY ZIP + 4 ▶ 13833-1129

			Yes	No
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for **Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.**	42b		✓
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶	42c		✓

43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of **Form 1041**—Check here ▶ ☐ and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 43

			Yes	No
44	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44		✓
45	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	45		✓

Part VI **Section 501(c)(3) organizations only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 46-49 and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		✓
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		✓
48	Is the organization operating a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		✓
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		✓
b	If "Yes," was the related organization(s) a section 527 organization?		

50 Complete this table for the five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than $100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
None				
Total number of other employees paid over $100,000 ▶				

51 Complete this table for the five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than $100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		
Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over $100,000 ▶		

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer — Date: 5-13-10

Leslie Zuck
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature	Date	Check if self-employed ▶ ☐	Preparer's identifying Number (See instructions)
Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4		EIN ▶	
		Phone no. ▶ ( )	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ▶ ☐ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

To be completed by all section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts.

▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.** ▶ **See separate instructions.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
Accredited Certifiers Association, Inc.	20 : 1327556

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) (see instructions)

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (Please check only **one** organization.)

1 ☐ A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**

2 ☐ A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E.)

3 ☐ A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** (Attach Schedule H.)

4 ☐ A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: ----------

5 ☐ An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II.)

6 ☐ A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**

7 ☐ An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)

8 ☐ A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)

9 ☑ An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33⅓ % of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33⅓ % of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III.)

10 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4).** (see instructions)

11 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h

a ☐ Type I b ☐ Type II c ☐ Type III–Functionally integrated d ☐ Type III–Other

e ☐ By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).

f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box . . . . . ☐

g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

	Yes	No
(i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization? 11g(i)		
(ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above? 11g(ii)		
(iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above? 11g(iii)		

h Provide the following information about the organizations the organization supports.

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II **Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . .						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . .						
4 **Total.** Add lines 1-3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 **Public support.** Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
11 **Total support.** Add lines 7 through 10 .						

12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions) 12

13 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** . . . . . ▶ ☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2008 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . 14 %

15 Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 26f . . . . . 15 %

16a **33⅓ % support test—2008.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33⅓ % or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ ☐

b **33⅓ % support test—2007.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33⅓ % or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ ☐

17a **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2008.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . ▶ ☐

b **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2007.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ ☐

18 **Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	0	18,778.00	14,125.00	20,546.00	28,065.00	81,514.00
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose	0	0	880.00	11,005.00	3,240.00	15,125.00
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 **Total.** Add lines 1-5	0	18,778.00	15,005.00	31,551.00	31,305.00	96,639.00
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons	0	4,844.00	5,464.00	6,308.00	6,568.00	23,184
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of 1% of the total of lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12 for the year or $5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 7a and 7b	0	4,844.00	5,464.00	6,308.00	6,568.00	23,184.00
8 **Public support** (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						73,455.00

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	0	18,778.00	15,005.00	31,551.00	31,305.00	96,639.00
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	0	59.00	106.00	90.00	119.00	374.00
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 10a and 10b	0	59.00	106.00	90.00	119.00	374.00
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 **Total support.** (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						97,013.00

14 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ▶ ☑

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15	Public support percentage for 2008 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16	Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27g	16	%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17	Investment income percentage for **2008** (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18	Investment income percentage from **2007** Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27h	18	%

19a **33⅓ % support tests—2008.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33⅓ %, and line 17 is not more than 33⅓ %, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

b **33⅓ % support tests—2007.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33⅓ %, and line 18 is not more than 33⅓ %, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

20 **Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanation required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; or Part III, line 12. Provide any other additional information. (see instructions)