

Paleo Foundation

The Leader in Paleo, Keto, and Grain-Free Certification



About.

The story of the Paleo Foundation begins in 2009 after the founder—who was gravely ill with complications from Celiac Disease, Schizophrenia, and some other equally stressful illnesses was escorted out of a grocery store by security after a fight over mislabeled products.

She was so frustrated with mislabeling— and the difficulty finding convenient products— that 3 months later she moved to Los Angeles with her mother to start the Paleo Foundation with a mission to help make the restrictive diets easier for people who reluctantly needed to follow the diet like she did.

That same mission to improve the sustainability and convenience of restrictive diets is what still guides the organization, 11 years later.

ABOUT



We typically avoid talking about that.

So there it is. No, no one was hurt but hopefully we can move on and agree never to talk about that again.

FUN FACT:

Not naming names, but the altercation forced the store to change their policy, and they held an emergency re-education for employees.

What we do.

- We are a third-party certification organization
- We write standards for Paleo, Keto, and Grain Free Diets
- We audit brands to ensure that they comply with standards
- We provide licenses to use trademarked logos. Success!
- We showcase our brands online and on social media
- We certify Paleo, Keto, and Grain-Free brands worldwide

ABOUT



That's what we do in a nutshell.

We'll get into more detail soon. But for now let's go over our certification programs.

Grain-Free.



- The #1 Grain-Free Certification program, worldwide.
- Is grain-free the new Gluten-Free? According to SPINS.com, Grain-free products are the fastest growing natural products trend of 2019.
- Audited and Lab-Tested to ensure Grain-Free and Gluten-Free at less than 10ppm
- 100% money-back guarantee on licensing fees if products cannot be certified.

A few of our certified brands.

Go ahead and zoom in a bit.



You may recognize these brands too.

Prepare for an awkward flex.

Certified Brands

- General Mills
- El Pollo Loco
- Glanbia
- Hain Celestial
- Kellogg's
- Kraft-Heinz
- Primal Kitchen
- Garden of Life
- McCormick
- Crown Prince
- Nestle
- Halo Top
- Dole
- Clorox

But why should you get Grain-Free Certified?

Because nothing says "Grain-Free" Quite like it.

Straightforward Answer

- **Certified products vs grain-free positioned** products expect a 285% difference in sales increase over the course of a year according to SPINS.com data.
- **We showcase Grain Free brands** on the website to increase brand awareness and visibility for retailers and other interested parties.
- **We signal boost** to members of the Grain-Free food tribes that your products are aligned with their core values.
- **We increase brand trust** which results in more sales, and a 93% chance of more product recommendations from customers.
- **We help you communicate** with your customers that you are dedicated to transparency and have met quality standards
- **We help you differentiate** your products as a high-quality products against low-quality products.

Psychological Answer

- **According to the 2016 Nielsen's Global Health & Wellness Survey**, roughly 60 percent – more than half of the people in the United States and Canada—distrust manufacturers claims on their food labels and packaging. They also found that consumer trust in food products declines year after year.
- **Studies by Cone Communications and Globescan** (among others) found that 76 percent of consumers agree that third-party product certification is the best way to verify product claims and increase their trust in a brand.
- **Price Waterhouse Coopers** states that “certification marks have the greatest impact on consumer trust levels and confidence, period.”
- **According to the Pineapple Collective trend guide**, due to consumer and industry skepticism, the health seeking consumer prefers alternative third party certifications to validate if a product fits within their personal eating philosophy, or food tribe.
- **Third-party, impartial certification reduces decision** friction via social proof heuristics and psychological kinship heuristics leading to less point-of-purchase scrutiny and increased sales.

Grain-Free Certification meets 4 out of the 6 Scientifically-Validated Principles of Persuasion

PRINCIPLE	EXPLANATION	APPLICATION	CERTIFICATION
Authority	People defer to those who are experts.	Expose your credibility and use backup for claims.	✓
Consistency	People behave in alignment with identities and commitments.	Acknowledge individual identity and ideological “tribes”	✓
Consensus	People follow the lead of those who are similar to them.	Highlight the approval of authority and peers whenever possible.	✓
Reciprocity	People repay gestures in kind with gestures.	Be generous and give when you want to receive.	-
Scarcity	People want more of what they can have less of.	Offer unique benefits and exclusive information.	✓
Liking	People are influenced by people they like.	Look for real similarities and offer genuine praise.	-

“We’re Different” Answer

- **We are not new kids on the block** and were the first to offer Paleo, Keto, and Grain-free certification worldwide, and have been certifying brands for over 10 years.
- **We have certified nearly 4 thousand products and hundreds** of brands.
- **We have experienced** auditors with over 75 years of collective quality assurance and regulatory experience.
- **We have relationships** with retailers who are interested in carrying certified products.
- **We have had a number of retailers that mandate our certifications** for certain products to be carried in their stores.
- **We showcase brands** and build robust custom brand pages so community members and retailers can see what products are certified.
- **We are a high-touch certification organization** that has capacities to assist brands during the R&D stage.
- **We have partnerships with industry trends and analytics companies** like SPINS.com to offer enhanced industry insights.
- **We keep up with the trends and** develop new certification programs based on those trends and offer licensing to existing certified brands at no additional cost.

“We’re Different” cont.

- **We keep up with the science** and publish research reviews and consensus reports to support certified products.
- **We go to war for our brands** and have even offered detailed research reports to even provide support for our brand’s labeling claims during litigation.
- **We offer ongoing, year-long support** to brands during R&D for new products, and audit and process new products at no additional licensing cost.
- **We understand sensitive material** and have readily available non-disclosure agreements to put brands at ease.
- **We can help brands make necessary retail connections** with an email list of over 4,000 grocery buyers.
- **We send materials** like sales sheets and UPC codes to our distributor and retail connections.
- **We keep your brand page updated** and current with new images.
- **We attend trade shows** not to get new clients but to make new retail connections so we can share information about our certified brands.
- **We offer Paleo Foundation in-network discounts** for platforms like RangeMe.com, industry reports from analytics companies like SPINS.com, legal counsel from Trestle Law, and more.
- **We have dedicated teams** to help expedite certifications through the auditing processes.

“We’re Different” cont.

- **We are international** and have certified brands in over 26 different countries.
- **Certification is everything that we do** so our focus is not divided on self-promotion, only brand promotion.
- **We protect our labels** with an experienced Licensing enforcement and legal team that looks for infringements on a daily basis.
- **We meet the federally mandated requirements** of an organization holding a certification mark under [15 U.S.C. § 1064](#).
- **We have relationships with USDA and FSIS regulatory personnel** to keep us informed about changes to federal regulations, ensuring that our certified brands do not make mistakes that could potentially cost them their business.
- **We offer multiple certification programs** together a discounted rate that have shown synergistic effects on sales according to SPINS.com.
- **We cut our teeth on CPG certifications over 10 years ago** and have a team of 12 individuals who work tirelessly to bring value to your certification.
- **We have a dedicated Standards team** that evaluates standards and writes detailed reports to help educate the public about certified product ingredients.
- **We offer a money-back guarantee** on certifications so if we cannot certify your products or meet deadlines for rushes we refund in full.

Most Importantly

Nothing says “Grain Free” quite like Grain-Free Certified.

Mission

Our organizational mission is to improve the tolerability of restrictive diets and make life worth living— but our goal is to make every certification worth 10 times the cost.

In other words, if we don't meet our goal, we don't meet our mission.

MISSION POSSIBLE

**Part of our Mission is to make you a
happily certified brand.**

But we can't make you happy until you get started...

Let's Get Started!

Here's how this works.

Cost

- The cost of certification is set up on a tier-based system, so total cost depends on your company's annual revenues, the number of years you want to be certified, and the certifications programs you sign up for. We offer a 10% discount for licenses that are for 2 years, and 20% for 3 years.
- There are quarterly and monthly payment options available for licensing agreements for bi-annual and tri-annual licensing.
- The total licensing cost also covers you for the audits of additional products, updating agreements, sending new permissions letters, as well as updates to your custom brand page throughout your agreement period. You can roll out as many products as you like and have them audited without incurring additional licensing fees!

Cost Continued

- Costs are revenue-based and not SKU based because there is a positive correlation between size of the company, and the amount of new products to be audited, the level of enhanced sensitivity, the increase in expensive legal work that must be performed to complete the agreement process, and an increased amount of new products to be certified throughout the year which must be audited by the Paleo Foundation team.
- Because of the number of factors that are involved in determining the cost for licensing and certification, the best option is to choose the application that suits your needs, enter your details and choice options, and the total will be displayed at the bottom.

Licensing Options

Licensing fees are assessed by companies' gross annual revenues.

3-year Licensing Options are offered at a 20% discount, or a 2-year Licensing Option at a 10% discount. Bundling of the certifications increases the savings.

The following Licensing Fees are for the Paleo, Keto, and Grain-Free program.

20% Off with 3 Year Licensing

Fee Band	Annual Revenues	Licensing Fee
I	Up to \$100,000	\$7,200
II	Up to \$500,000	\$9,600
III	Up to \$1,000,000	\$12,000
IV	Up to \$5,000,000	\$14,400
V	Up to \$10,000,000	\$16,800
VI	More than \$10,000,000	\$19,200
VII	More than \$20,000,000	\$21,600
VIII	More than \$50,000,000	\$24,000
IX	More than \$75,000,000	\$36,000
X	More than \$100,000,000	\$48,000
XI	More than \$200,000,000	\$60,000
XII	More than \$500,000,000	\$72,000
XIII	More than \$750,000,000	\$84,000
XIV	More than \$1 Billion	\$96,000

10% Off with 2 Year Licensing

Fee Band	Annual Revenues	2- Year Licensing Fee
I	Up to \$100,000	\$5,400
II	Up to \$500,000	\$7,200
III	Up to \$1,000,000	\$9,000
IV	Up to \$5,000,000	\$10,800
V	Up to \$10,000,000	\$12,600
VI	More than \$10,000,000	\$14,400
VII	More than \$20,000,000	\$16,200
VIII	More than \$50,000,000	\$18,000
IX	More than \$75,000,000	\$27,000
X	More than \$100,000,000	\$36,000
XI	More than \$200,000,000	\$45,000
XII	More than \$500,000,000	\$54,000
XIII	More than \$750,000,000	\$63,000
XIV	More than \$1 Billion	\$72,000

1 Year Licensing Option

Fee Band	Annual Revenues	Licensing Fee
I	Up to \$100,000	\$3,000
II	Up to \$500,000	\$4,000
III	Up to \$1,000,000	\$5,000
IV	Up to \$5,000,000	\$6,000
V	Up to \$10,000,000	\$7,000
VI	More than \$10,000,000	\$8,000
VII	More than \$20,000,000	\$9,000
VIII	More than \$50,000,000	\$10,000
IX	More than \$75,000,000	\$15,000
X	More than \$100,000,000	\$20,000
XI	More than \$200,000,000	\$25,000
XII	More than \$500,000,000	\$30,000
XIII	More than \$750,000,000	\$35,000
XIV	More than \$1 Billion	\$40,000

Process

- The first step in the certification process is to complete the application, and submit payment. The application is a legal document, and must include accurate information about your suppliers and ingredients.
- The auditing team will receive your application, and reach out to your suppliers for ingredient statements as well as sub-ingredient statements to verify that each individual ingredient meets the requirements of your chosen certification programs during the first round of auditing. This process may take up to 8 weeks, but usually takes about 4 to 6 weeks.
- If the product meets the ingredient requirements of the Grain-Free certification program, products will be sent for gluten and gliadin testing for the second round of auditing.

Process continued

- If the products have passed both rounds of audits, The Paleo Foundation will draw up an agreement, and send it via SignNow.com.
- Once the agreement is signed by both parties, The Paleo Foundation may request additional information including sales sheets, UPC codes, photos of the products, and other relevant information to build out the custom brand page.
- The Paleo Foundation will update internal drives which are shared with retailers with the new sales sheets.
- UPC codes are shared with industry analysts to monitor the growth of brands in the Paleo, Keto, and Grain-Free certification programs.

FAQs

What happens if I don't pass my audit?

You get refunded. Even if you had a rush. We have a 100% refund guarantee.

Can I email my ingredients for preliminary audit?

Absolutely. We will accept them, and provide feedback.

Do I have to include all of the ingredients and supplier information?

Yes, this is needed for auditing purposes.

Will the Paleo Foundation sign an NDA?

Yes. We have signed hundreds of NDAs and have them readily available.

What if I don't want to share my supplier or ingredient information?

If we can't audit your products, we cannot certify your products. But we can sign an NDA with you or with your suppliers.

FAQs continued

What if I don't want to get certified, can I just put the label on my package?

No. That is not how this works. And if you do, our legal team will find it.

Will the cost of certification be the same every year?

Once you have completed certification, you are "grandfathered in" to your fee band. A Paleo Foundation administrator will give you your individual renewal forms based on your "grandfathered" band. However, the lab costs will vary depending on the number of products that will be lab-tested.

What if I need to submit a new product?

You will simply fill out a new product form for the new products. Each license period covers 10 different products. However, submitting new products may require an additional 6-8 weeks to audit.

FAQs continued

What if I am on a tight deadline and need certification quickly?

The Paleo Foundation offers a 14-day business rush at an additional cost. If we are unable to rush your product in that time frame, your rush fee will be refunded.

Can I make the certification process go faster?

Yes! This process is greatly impacted by the responsiveness of suppliers, and their ability to provide documentation to our auditing team in a timely manner. To increase the speed of your approval process, you can notify your suppliers that the Paleo Foundation will be contacting them for ingredient statements and other pertinent documentation.

Quick Recap:

- Certification boosts trust
- Certification boost transparency
- Certification boosts sales
- The Paleo Foundation operates in accordance with 15 U.S. Code §1064
- The Paleo Foundation has been in business for 10 years.
- The Paleo Foundation has certified hundreds of brands and thousands of products.
- The Paleo Foundation has developed key relationships to provide certified brands with additional support and services.
- The Paleo Foundation conducts independent research to support their standards.
- The Paleo Foundation stays on the cutting edge of industry trends to develop more valuable programs for certified brands.
- The Paleo Foundation offers year-round support to certified brands.
- The Paleo Foundation maintains custom brand pages.
- The Paleo Foundation is the number 1 leader in Paleo, Keto, and Grain-Free Certification.

Let's Do This.

If you're ready to maximize your brand's trust, transparency, and sales with the worlds' most-recognized Grain-Free Certification, then what are you waiting for? Click below to see what Grain-Free Certification from The Paleo Foundation can do for you.



PALEOFFOUNDATION.COM