

Key Points for SQF Certification

- ✍ SQF Levels 2 and 3 are GFSI Approved.
- ✍ The SQF Standard and all Guidelines for implementing an SQF food and quality safety system are available at no cost and are downloadable from the SQF website (www.sqfi.com).
- ✍ The Supplier seeking certification must have a trained SQF Practitioner on its staff as an employee.
- ✍ Training for the SQF Practitioner and others in your company is available either on-line through SQF or at training centers throughout the United States. Cert ID can help you set up this training. *Contact Val Hirschhorn, Cert ID, at 641-209-1899, Ext. 106.*
- ✍ Independent SQF Consultants are available to help your SQF Practitioner develop your food safety and quality program. Cert ID can connect you with an SQF Consultant.
- ✍ SQF separates the certification process into two parts: the first part is a Document Review, and the second part is the On-Site Facility Audit.
- ✍ Your document review and follow-up corrections to non-conformances (if any) take place prior to the on-site facility audit. The on-site audit cannot take place until all non-conformances from the document review are corrected.
- ✍ The document review may be done on or off-site.
- ✍ A document review is done only once every three years (or if there has been a major change to processes and/or scope).
- ✍ Non-conformances resulting from the document review are not part of the “grade” given to your final on-site audit report.
- ✍ A pre-assessment audit may be scheduled first to determine the readiness of your facility.
- ✍ SQF offers food-grade packaging and distribution certification as part of their 2000 Standard.
- ✍ SQF offers certification for a quality food system as well, with labeling subsequently allowed on your finished product packaging.