
PEFC Chain of Custody certificate fees and PEFC logo / PEFC trademarks fees for 2023 in Finland

This document presents the 2023 fees for PEFC chain of custody (CoC) certificates and for the right to use the related PEFC logo / PEFC trademark licenses, as confirmed by PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council on 20 December 2022.

CoC audits and payments for CoC certificates in 2023

The basic fee included in the annual fee for the CoC certificate in Finland in 2023 is €220 (year 2022: €220). The basis for CoC payments in 2023 is the same as in 2022. The size of the payment does not depend on the standard version of CoC used in the company.

Transferring from a PEFC logo agreement to a PEFC trademarks agreement

With the new PEFC ST 2002:2020 standard version, all CoC certificate holders are covered by the annual fee for PEFC trademarks (formerly the PEFC mark), as the new standard requires each CoC certificate holder to have an agreement on the right to use PEFC trademarks (PEFC ST 2001:2020 standard). The agreement on the right to use the PEFC trademarks replaces the previous agreement on the use of the PEFC trademark.

The payment policy for company specific CoC certificates is the same as for contracts for the PEFC mark and PEFC trademarks.

The payment policy regarding the certification group and its members changes when switching from the PEFC brand agreement to the PEFC trademark agreement (see page 4).

Structure of the annual fee for CoC certificates

The annual fee for a chain of custody certificate (CoC), payable to PEFC Finland, consists of a basic fee and a fee based on wood consumption (Option 1) or turnover (Option 2). PEFC Finland shall define which option is used for the CoC certificate and determine the wood consumption or turnover in cooperation with the certification body and certificate holder.

The CoC fee shall apply to enterprise-specific (single-site or multi-site) certificates and other certificates covering producer groups of independent legal enterprises.

For a holder of an enterprise-specific certificate the CoC fee shall consist of a basic fee and a fee based on wood consumption/turnover.

For a holder of a certificate of a producer group the CoC fee shall consist of a basic fee. For every member of a producer group the fee shall consist of 50% of the basic fee and a fee based on wood consumption/turnover.

The certificate fee shall be non-refundable if the enterprise gives up its certificate or ceases operations during the year.

For the year of issue of the CoC certificate, the fee shall be determined according to the date of issue as follows: the share based on the wood consumption or turnover shall depend on the number of months left in the year, and the basic fee shall be charged in full regardless of the date of issue of the certificate.

Option 1 – CoC fee based on wood consumption

In branches where the scope of operations is commonly measured by the consumption of wood, the CoC fee shall be determined according to the volume of wood consumed. Examples of such branches are wood procurement, timber trade (in, e.g. logs, pulpwood and energy wood), the sawmill industry and pulp and paper manufacturing.

In 2023, the CoC fee based on wood consumption shall consist of a basic fee of EUR 220 (in 2022: EUR 220) and a fee based on wood consumption, which shall be EUR 106 (in 2022: EUR 106) for each 100,000 m³ of wood consumed. VAT at 24% shall be added.

(Example: An enterprise whose CoC-certified activity uses 1 million m³ a year shall have a CoC fee of EUR 1,280 + VAT at 24%).

Wood consumption shall refer to the quantity of wood used by the CoC-certified operations specified in the CoC certificate or in an audit report.

Consumption shall refer to the volume of wood used during the calendar year preceding the year of payment. Where the certificate is issued for the first time, an estimate of the annual wood consumption shall be used where necessary.

Consumption shall include all wood-based material, i.e., certified and non-certified wood and all recycled wood or wood-based fibre, if any.

The consumption of unprocessed round wood (e.g., pulpwood, logs and energy wood), sawdust and woodchips covered by CoC certification shall refer to the total volume of these timber grades, measured in solid cubic metres over bark.

Where part or all of the wood material shall be CoC-certified as intermediate products (e.g., pulp or sawn timber), the consumption shall refer to solid cubic metres and include intermediate product volumes converted into “round wood” volume.

The volume of intermediate products shall be converted into “round wood” by using either average or process-specific wood consumption figures or conversion factors. These shall determine the volume of “round wood” used for making the intermediate products by either the enterprise itself or by its suppliers in processes upstream of the activities covered by the relevant CoC certificate.

Where intermediate products have been measured by weight instead of volume (e.g., tons), the product quantity shall be converted into solid cubic metres using, for example, conversion factors specific to each industrial process.

Option 2 – CoC fee based on turnover

Where wood consumption does not adequately describe the nature of certified operations, the CoC fee shall be determined on the basis of the turnover of operations covered by the certificate. Such activity can include, for example, the manufacturing or marketing of furniture, consumer products containing wood, printed materials and converted paper products.

Operating turnover shall also be used to determine the fee for companies covered by Option 1 where, for one reason or another, the volume of wood consumption cannot be determined.

In 2023, CoC fee based on turnover shall consist of a basic fee of EUR 220 (in 2022: EUR 220) and a fee based on turnover, which shall be EUR 44 (in 2022: EUR 44) for each million euros of turnover. VAT at 24% shall be added.

(Example: For an enterprise with a turnover of EUR 10 million within the scope of CoC certification, the fee shall be EUR 660 + VAT at 24%.)

Turnover shall refer to turnover of the operations within the scope of the CoC certificate. The scope of the certified operations is specified in the CoC certificate or in an audit report.

Turnover shall refer to the turnover of the calendar year preceding the payment year. Where the certificate is issued for the first time, an estimate of the annual turnover shall be used where necessary.

Fee for the use the PEFC logo / PEFC trademarks (user group C)

The right to use the PEFC logo or PEFC trademarks may be granted to holders of a PEFC CoC certificate or to members of a CoC producer group upon application.

The new standard PEFC ST 2002:2020 requires that holders of CoC certificates have signed an agreement on the right to use PEFC trademarks (standard PEFC ST 2001:2020) .

Enterprise-specific CoC certificate

The fee for the use of the PEFC logo/PEFC trademarks for holders of enterprise-specific CoC certificates shall be **EUR 270** (in 2022: EUR 270). VAT at 24% shall be added.

Producer group CoC certificate

For holders of producer group CoC certificates, the fee for the use of PEFC trademarks shall be **EUR 270** (in 2020: EUR 270) plus an additional **EUR 50** for each member of the producer group that has not been granted an enterprise-specific right to use the PEFC logo. VAT at 24% shall be added.

For members of producer groups with an enterprise-specific right to use the PEFC logo, the fee shall be **EUR 100**. VAT at 24% shall be added.

In 2023, the annual fee for using the PEFC logo/PEFC trademarks for holders of a CoC certificate shall be EUR 270 (in 2022: EUR 270). For members of producer groups, the annual fee for using PEFC trademarks shall be either EUR 50 or EUR 100. VAT at 24% shall be added.

The right-to-use fee shall be non-refundable if the enterprise gives up its certificate or ceases operations during the year.

Fee for use of PEFC logo and PEFC trademarks (user groups B and D)

PEFC logo / PEFC trademarks annual fee for the forest management certificate holders (user group B) is **EUR 270** (year 2022: EUR 270). VAT at 24% shall be added. For the forest owners as members of group forest management certification the fee is **EUR 50** (year 2022: EUR 50) covering usage for three years. VAT at 24% shall be added.

PEFC logo / PEFC trademarks annual fee for the other users (user group D) is **EUR 270** (year 2022: EUR 270). For the enterprises and entrepreneurs registered to PEFC forest management certification under the group D the fee is **EUR 50** (year 2020: EUR 50) covering usage for three years. VAT at 24% shall be added.

Additional information

Additional information is available from PEFC Finland.

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