



CRS

center for
resource
solutions

Center for Resource Solutions

Maintenance of Standards and the Standard Setting Procedure

Maintenance of Existing Standards

Review of Standards

All certification programs' standards will be reviewed every five years, or more frequently if necessary. CRS will hold two 60-day public comment periods for the full review of existing standards. The second comment period can be reduced upon recommendation of the Governance Board to no fewer than 30 days.

For revisions of an existing standard or program details between five year reviews, CRS will hold one 60-day public comment period, followed by additional 30-day comment periods as necessary. If a public comment period is ever shortened for any reason, the reason will be included in the public summary of the consultation process. No public comment period will be shorter than 30 days.

Commenting between Comment Periods

Any stakeholder or interested party can submit a comment on any standard or to request a clarification or change to the program at any time. These comments can be registered via the comment form on the website, or by emailing, mailing, calling or contacting the Secretariat or the Governance Board.

Once a comment is received, the Secretariat will decide whether it will be addressed upon receipt, or whether to wait until the next review of the appropriate standard to address the comment. In general, recommendations of substantive changes to a standard will be reviewed upon receipt, whereas non-substantive recommendations will be addressed in subsequent revisions.

Those comments addressed upon receipt will be taken to the Governance Board for initial consideration. If the Governance Board finds that the comment warrants a change to the standard or program rules, and if the comment would cause a significant change to the standard or program rules, the proposed revision will be included in the next stakeholder consultation.

Maintenance of Standard Setting Procedures

The Standard Setting Procedures will be reviewed every five years, or more frequently as necessary. All stakeholders and interested parties are able to submit comments on the Standard Setting Procedures at any time. Commenters will be notified within 30 days that their comment was received, and all comments will be reviewed within one month of receipt.

All comments received will be reviewed by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will evaluate the comment and determine if a change to the Standard Setting Procedure is warranted. If so, the recommended change will be implemented within three months, or as soon as feasible if the recommendation cannot be implemented in a three-month time

frame. For other comments, the commenter will be contacted and notified as to why their recommended change was not implemented.