
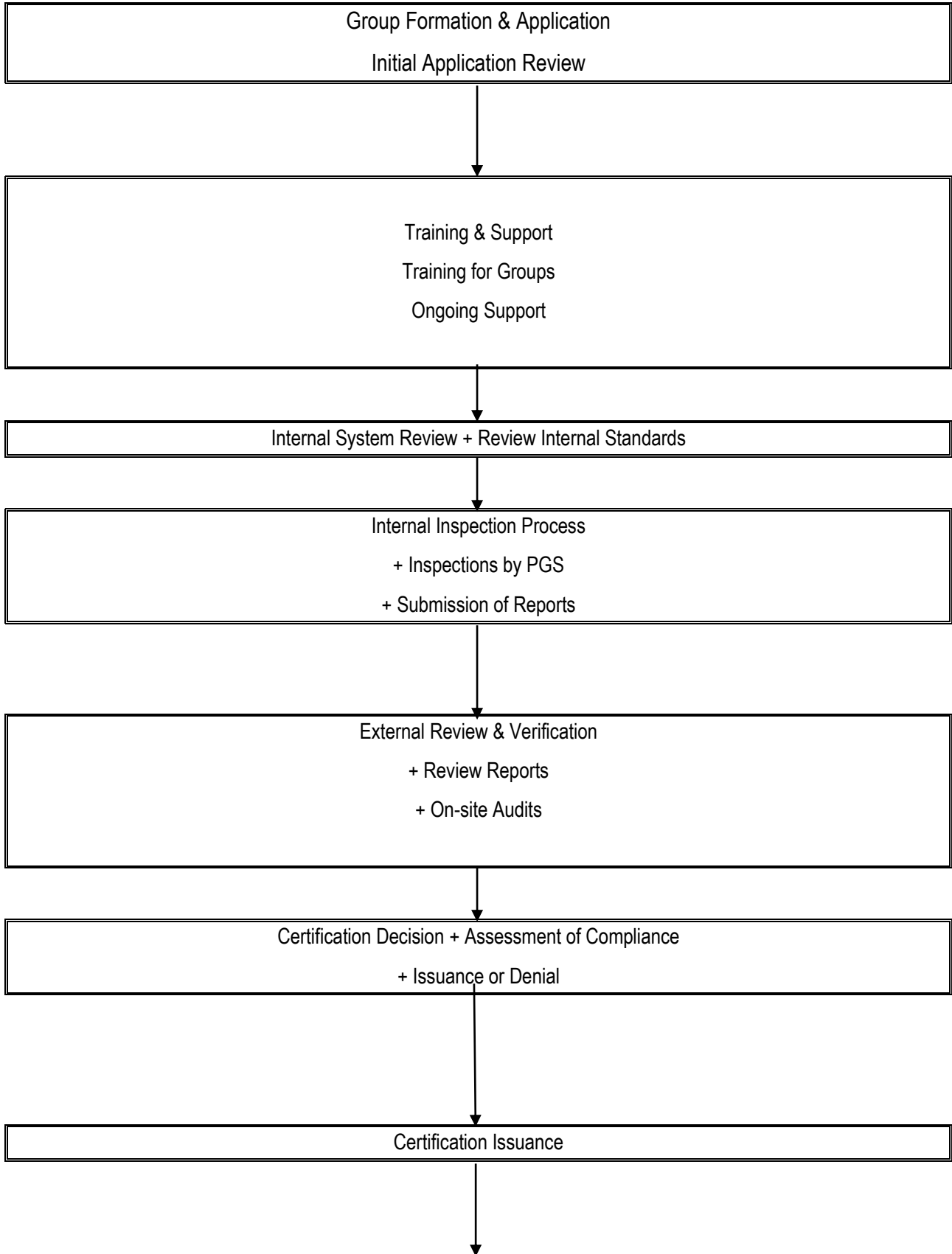
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## PGS Organic Certification Process by SSPL

1. **Group Formation & Application**
  - **PGS Group Formation:** Community or farmer group forms and applies for certification.
  - **Initial Application Review:** SSPL reviews the group's application to ensure it meets preliminary requirements.
2. **Training & Support**
  - **Training for Groups:** SSPL provides training and guidance to the PGS group on organic standards and certification procedures.
  - **Ongoing Support:** Support is offered throughout the process to ensure understanding and compliance.
3. **Internal System Review**
  - **Review Internal Standards:** SSPL reviews the PGS group's internal standards and procedures to ensure alignment with organic certification requirements.
4. **Internal Inspection Process**
  - **Internal Inspections by PGS Group:** The PGS group conducts internal inspections as per their developed procedures.
  - **Submission of Inspection Reports:** Internal inspection reports are submitted to the SSPL for review.
5. **External Review & Verification**
  - **Review Internal Inspection Reports:** SSPL reviews the internal inspection reports and verifies compliance.
  - **On-site Audits:** The SSPL may conduct on-site audits to verify the internal inspection process and organic practices.
6. **Certification Decision**
  - **Assessment of Compliance:** SSPL assesses the overall compliance based on internal reports and on-site audits.
  - **Certification Issuance or Denial:** Decision is made to issue or deny certification based on the assessment.
7. **Certification Issuance**
  - **Issuance of Certificate:** Certified PGS group members receive their organic certification from the SSPL.
8. **Ongoing Monitoring**
  - **Routine Inspections:** SSPL schedules and conducts routine inspections or audits to ensure ongoing compliance.
  - **Review of Ongoing Reports:** SSPL reviews ongoing reports and documentation submitted by the PGS group.
9. **Periodic Review**
  - **Review Meetings with PGS Group:** Periodic meetings to review the performance of the PGS group, address issues, and update procedures if necessary.
10. **Renewal of Certification**
  - **Renewal Process:** SSPL conducts a renewal process to reassess and renew certification based on continued compliance.

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