



Certificate of Origin FAQs:

What is a Certificate of Origin?

A Certificate of Origin (CO) is an important international trade document that certifies that goods in a particular export shipment are wholly obtained, produced, manufactured or processed in a particular country. They also serve as a declaration by the exporter.

Virtually every country in the world considers the origin of imported goods when determining the duty that will be applied or, in some cases, whether the goods may be legally imported at all.

Learn more at: <https://icwbo.org/resources-for-business/certificates-of-origin/>

Who might request a Certificate of Origin?

Any company that exports manufactured equipment or goods.

Why do you need a Certificate of Origin?

The Customs in the importing country may require a proof of origin in order to determine whether or not to apply certain trade measures at the border. If there are any trade measures applicable for export, then the Customs in the exporting country would need it as well.

Secondly, the exporter may need a proof of origin. In relation with Customs in the importing country, the importer bears the responsibility to provide what the Customs requires for the appropriate processing of imports. Thus, if proof of origin is required by the Customs authority of the importing country for a claim of preferential tariff treatment or for a non-preferential origin purpose, the importer needs a proof of origin.

Finally, the exporter may need a proof of origin to provide it to the importer who will submit it to the Customs authority of the importing country, when requested by that authority. The exporter may also need a proof of origin if the Customs authority in the exporting country requires it.

Do you have to be a member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce in order to get a Certificate of Origin processed?

No, you do not need to be a member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce to have a Certificate of Origin processed. Additional processing fees will apply for non-members.

Is there a fee to have the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce process my application?

Yes, there is a fee to have the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce process your Certificate of Origin application.

- Members: \$25 per application
- Non-members: \$100 per application

What is the process to submit my Certificate of Origin application?

Businesses requiring a Certificate of Origin will need to register their company in the digital Certificate of Origin platform by visiting www.mnchamber.com/certificateoforigin and filling out the registration form. Once you are registered, you will receive a welcome email with instructions for setting up your account through essCert. Once you've received your credentials, you will log in at www.esscert.com.

All applications ***must be submitted*** through essCert. Applications not submitted through essCert will be subject to additional fees. Applications will be processed within one business day.

About essCert

essCert is a global, electronic Certificate of Origin solution and now available to all Minnesota businesses. essCert replaces the manual process of submitting a Certificate of Origin by digitalizing the process via a secure, web-based platform. Support is available 24/7/365 by emailing support@esscert.com or calling 972-885-3700.

KEY FEATURES:

- Exporters can pre-load text into a data library -- making details of goods readily available for repeat shipping
- Minnesota Chamber members receive exclusive reduced pricing
- Potentially cut the amount of time you spend on COOs in half
- essCert support available 24/7/365