

Qualification requirements for Forest Management (FM) Auditor Candidate: Extract from FSC-STD-20-001 V4-0 (Annex 2)

Table 2: Qualification requirements for Forest Management (FM) auditor candidates and auditors (normative)	
1.1 Initial qualification requirements for auditor candidates	
Education and professional experience:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tertiary education (college or university qualification) in a relevant discipline (e.g. ecology, forestry, sociology, economics, anthropology); and 2. Five (5) years of professional experience (e.g. forest management, consultancy, research) in a relevant discipline (e.g. ecology, forestry, sociology, economics, anthropology); <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secondary education (high school certificate); and 2. Ten (10) years professional experience (e.g. forest management, consultancy, research) in a relevant discipline (e.g. ecology, forestry, sociology, economics, anthropology).
Auditor and FSC training:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Successful completion (with certificate) of an IRCA¹ registered "ISO management standard auditor course" or an ISO 19011 course on auditing techniques as described in FSC-PRO-20-004; 4. Successful completion (certificate) of a FM auditor training as specified in FSC-PRO-20-004; 5. Attendance as an auditor in training in at least four (4) complete third-party FM audits in a three (3) year period, whereas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least one (1) shall be a main or re-evaluation; • at least one (1) shall be a surveillance audit; • at least two (2) shall be as an active member of the audit team with one of these two as audit team leader – if the auditor candidate is expected to perform such a role in the future; • two (2) may be as an observer. During all four (4) audits a supervising qualified auditor shall attend and an overall supervision report including a recommendation written by the supervising auditor shall be available.
1.2 Continuous qualification requirements for auditors	
FSC training:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Successful completion of annual ongoing training dependent on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in the FSC system relevant to the respective scope due to new or revised normative documents, or other relevant amendments such as interpretations;

¹ IRCA - the International Register of Certificated Auditors (www.irca.org) – is an auditor registration scheme.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • results of the individual monitoring, client feedback and/or evaluation process;
(Continuous) professional experience:	2. At least three (3) on site audit days every year;
Auditor performance evaluation:	3. Witness audit: one (1) witness audit every three (3) years, with a supervision report including a recommendation written by the supervising auditor.
NOTE: For maintaining their qualification, auditors involved in certification decision making may replace the above listed requirements for (continuous) professional experience and for the auditor performance evaluation by the attendance of at least one (1) on-site audit as an observer every year.	