

Pesticide Applicator Certification

What is applicator certification?

Pesticide applicator certification is a regulatory program administered by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. Certification ensures that individuals applying pesticides in certain situations are knowledgeable about the safe and legal use of pesticides.

Who needs to be certified?

Private Applicator: Any person producing an agricultural commodity on land that he/she owns or rents, and who uses, or supervises the use of, a restricted use pesticide, must be certified. (Examples: farmers, orchardists, nurserymen, Christmas tree growers.)

Commercial Applicator: Any person who uses, or supervises the use of, any class of pesticide to the lands or homes of others must be certified.

Non-commercial Applicator: Any person who uses, or supervises the use of, a Class A or B pesticide in the course of his/her employment, on the employer's property, must be certified.

Government Applicator: Any person who uses, or supervises the use of, any class of pesticide for the purpose of carrying out the mission of his/her federal, state or municipal department or agency.

Please see box to right providing pesticide class definitions. →

How do I become certified?

You need to take and pass the appropriate exams administered by the VT Agency of Agriculture.

How to Prepare for the Certification Exam

Which exams do I take?

Private applicators take the Private Core exam.

Commercial, Government and Non-commercial applicators take the Commercial core exam and all appropriate category exams.

How do I prepare to take the certification exams?

Study the appropriate manuals. Private and commercial core exams are based on the Cornell Core Manual. Category exams are based on specific category manuals, also produced by Cornell. Manuals are available from the VT Agency of Agriculture.

Read the *Vermont Regulations for the Control of Pesticides* (included in the Core manual) to understand your legal responsibilities as a pesticide applicator in Vermont.

To order manuals or to schedule exams, contact Anne Macmillan at (802) 828-3479.

How do I remain certified?

Comm./Gov./Non-comm. applicator certification is renewed at the end of each calendar year with the submission of the appropriate paperwork and fees. Private certification is renewed every five years.

Certification exams remain valid for a period of 5 years. During those five years, private applicators must earn 8 recertification credits and commercial, government and non-commercial applicators must earn 16 credits in order to renew their exams for another five years.

Certification Categories for Commercial, Government & Non-Commercial Applicators

- 1a. Agricultural - plant
- 1b. Agricultural - animal
2. Forest
- 3a. Ornamental/Shade tree
- 3b. Turf
4. Seed Treatment
5. Aquatic
6. Right-of-Way
- 7a. Structural/Rodent
- 7b. Mosquito/Biting Fly
- 7c. Food Processing
- 7d. Wood and Fiber Products
- 7e. Cooling Tower/Antimicrobial
8. Public Health
9. Regulatory
10. Demonstration, Research and Sales
11. Aerial

What are Class A, B, and C Pesticides?

In Vermont, there are 3 classes of pesticides:

Class A, or restricted-use, pesticides include all pesticides that are restricted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the State of Vermont.

Class B pesticides are general use pesticides, typically for outdoor use, that contain greater than 3% active ingredient. All turf products are Class B pesticides, with the exception of products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* and potassium fatty acids, which are classified as Class C products.

Class C pesticides are general use products, typically for use in and around the home, which contain less than 3% active ingredient. This class also includes products such as antimicrobials, insect repellants and swimming pool supplies - regardless of percent active ingredient.

Pesticide Company License

Required for Employers of Commercial Pesticide Applicators

Company licenses must be obtained by business entities which apply any class of pesticides to the land or homes of others. All companies in the business of applying pesticides must be licensed. All certified commercial applicators must work for a licensed company. Company licenses do not require an examination, but appropriate paperwork and fees must be submitted to the Agency.

The company license is renewed annually. Licensed companies are responsible for ensuring that they employ only pesticide applicators that are properly certified, and that applicators employed by them remain certified for the duration of their employment with the company.

Fees	
Study Materials	
Core and Category Manuals	Prices vary. Call 802-828-3479 for info.
Exams	
Core & Category exams	No fee (1 st time)
Exam retakes	\$25.00
Certification	
Private/Gov Applicators	\$25 per 5 years
Comm./Non-Comm.	\$30/category/year
Renewal Period	
Private Applicators	Every 5 years
Comm./Gov./Non-comm.	Jan 1 to Dec 31
Pesticide Company License	
Annual Fee	\$75.00

Pesticide Dealer Licenses

Pesticide dealer licenses are issued to individuals that sell pesticides from a retail outlet. The type of license needed depends upon the class of pesticides being sold by the dealer. A dealer license can only be issued to a full-time employee of the store or retail sales outlet. To obtain a Class A or B pesticide dealer license, you must take the dealer licensing exam administered by the Agency of Agriculture and pay the appropriate fee. A Class C license does not require an examination, but still requires a fee. All licenses are renewed annually. Dealers do not need to earn recertification credits to remain licensed.

Class A dealer license - allows a person to sell Class, A, B, and C pesticides.

Class B dealer license - allows a person to sell Class B and C pesticides.

Class C retail license - Allows a person to sell Class C pesticides only.

Exam Locations and Dates for Applicators and Dealers
Please call 802-828-3479 to schedule an exam
Montpelier Every Wednesday at 9:00 AM
Brattleboro First Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM
Rutland First Monday of each month at 9:00 AM
St. Albans First Thursday of even months at 9:00 AM
Williston First Tuesday of odd months at 9:00 AM
St. Johnsbury First Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM
Derby Second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION AND DEALER LICENSING IN VERMONT



Vermont Agency of Agriculture,
Food and Markets
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