Basics of pesticide applicator licensing

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What we will discuss:

- Why pesticide applicator licensing is important?
- Who needs to be licensed?
- What type of license do you need?
- Preparing for your exam
- Maintaining your license
Why pesticide applicator licensing is important?

- Required by Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
  - An applicator must be licensed to apply a restricted-use pesticide (RUP)

- Having licensed applicators may help to promote a positive image of your program
Who needs to be licensed:

Application of restricted-use pesticide requires a license.

HOWEVER, interpretation of this varies by state:

- Some states require every applicator have a license
- Some state allow a licensed applicator to supervise unlicensed applicators
What type of license do you need?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you…</th>
<th>then you are a …</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apply pesticides for the production of an agricultural commodity on land you or your employer owns or rents</td>
<td>Private Applicator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not meet the description of a private applicator</td>
<td>Commercial Applicator</td>
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Standards for commercial applicators:

- Show practical knowledge of:
  - Pesticide label and labeling comprehension.
  - Safety, including pesticide hazards, first aid, personal protective equipment and emergency response.
  - Pesticides in the environment.
  - Pest identification and management.
  - Pesticide formulations.
  - Pesticide application equipment and application techniques.
  - Laws and regulations

- Plus at least one specific category of application

10 Federal categories of certification:

1. Agricultural
2. Forest
3. Ornamental & Turf
4. Seed Treatment
5. Aquatic
6. Right of way
7. Industrial/structural
8. Public health
9. Regulatory
10. Demonstration/research

For a list of corresponding categories by state go to: goo.gl/KxaMEv
Preparing for your exams:

- **Core exam**
- **Category exam**
  - Certified by state/territory or tribe
  - Varies by state
  - Will usually require knowledge of vectors and pests in the state.
  - May require knowledge of rate calculations
- Check with your licensing agency for exam prep resources.
Maintaining your license:

- Applicators must be recertified to maintain certification
  - Usually every 3-5 years
  - Requirements vary by state
- Make sure the CEUs apply to your license
  - Core and category
- Keep training records
  - Update for each applicator

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Additional resources:

- **National Pesticide Information Center**
  - http://www.npic.orst.edu/

- **EPA Pesticide Label Information**
  - https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-labels

- **National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual**
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Feel free to contact me with any questions at:

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