

Commercial and Private Certification & Licensing

Certification is required for farmers (private applicators) wishing to apply restricted use pesticides to an agricultural commodity. Private applicators are certified for three (3) years and the certification fee is six (\$6.00) every three years.

Licensing is required for commercial applicators applying any type of pesticide for compensation, public operators working for a state or local government who apply pesticides in their course of work, dealers selling restricted use pesticides, or pest control consultants making recommendations for pesticide treatment of pest problems. License must be renewed annually and the fee, where applicable, is fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year. The license year is January - December.

Pesticide Applicators

Commercial Ground Applicators: The North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971

requires licensing for individuals applying any pesticide for compensation. The applicator is required to pass a certification exam appropriate to the area in which the applicator wishes to work.

Public Ground Operators: Employees of federal, state, county, or municipal

governments who apply pesticides in the course of their jobs are certified and licensed in the same manner as commercial applicators. However, no fee is charged for the public operator license and use of the license is restricted to applications made as a government employee. Public utility workers are considered public operators but must pay a fee for their license.

Private Pesticide Applicators: Farmers, or their employees, who use restricted

use pesticides in the production of an agricultural commodity, on land that they own or lease, are certified as Private Pesticide Applicators upon passing the North Carolina Private Pesticide Applicator exam and submitting in the appropriate application and fee.

Aerial Applicators: Pesticide applicators who apply pesticides with a plane or helicopter. The aerial applicator is required to pass two exams, one in aerial methods, and one in the specialty area in which he will work. The certification period for aerial applicators is two years, with an annual license renewal required.

Pesticide Dealers: Individuals who sell, distribute, hold, or make available for use restricted use pesticides to end users are required to have a Pesticide Dealer's License.

Pest Control Consultant: Anyone who, for a fee, offers or supplies technical advice, supervision, or recommends the use of pesticides is required to obtain a Pest Control Consultants License. Individuals applying for this license must hold a Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D. degree in a biological or agricultural science, with specific course work relevant to the area of consultation.

Reciprocal License:

Nonresidents of North Carolina be issued an North Carolina ground applicator's license provide they have proof that they are certified by written examination in one of the following reciprocity states: Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. (Note: North Carolina does not have reciprocity agreements for aerial applicators, pesticide dealers, or pest control consultants.)

Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division

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Explanation of Licensing Categories

A – Aquatic Pest Control

For pesticide applicators applying pesticides in and around water (ponds, lakes, and streams). A separate manual and examination are available for persons who apply paints containing tributyltin (TBT) to boats and ships.

B - Public Health Control

For applicators using pesticides outdoors to protect human health. For example, fogging for mosquitoes, spraying outside for flies, controlling rats in sewers, and similar jobs would require certification in this category. Usually applicators in this category are governmental employees.

D – Dealer

For persons selling or offering to sell restricted use pesticides to a certified end user.

G - Forest Pest Control

For pesticide applicators using pesticides in large forest areas. Ornamental tree applicators need to test for the ornamental and turf pest control category.

H - Right-of-Way Pest Control

For applicators using pesticides to control weeds and woody plants along highways, railroads, utility or other rights-of-way.

I – Regulatory Pest Control

For persons working with quarantine or eradication programs involving regulated pests such as fire ants, witchweed, and gypsy moth. Usually, applicators in this category are state or federal employees.

K – Agricultural Pest Control - Animal

For pesticide applicators applying pesticides to animals. Separate manuals and exams are available for livestock, pets and poultry.

L – Ornamental & Turf Pest Control

For pesticide applicators using pesticides to maintain ornamentals, shade trees, and turf. This category includes commercial pesticide application work on home lawns, public grounds, parks, greenhouses, shade trees, golf courses, and cemeteries.

M - Seed Treatment

For persons applying pesticides (usually insecticides, fungicides, or bactericides) to seed held for resale.

N – Demonstration & Research

For persons who apply pesticides as part of a field demonstration or research program. University and chemical company personnel fall into this category. Each person licensed in demonstration and research must be licensed in one or more specialty areas.

O – Agricultural Pest Control - Plant

For pesticide applicators, applying pesticides in farm situations, such as to fumigate plant beds or apply pesticides to vegetable, fruit or field crops.

P - Aerial Methods

For pesticide applicators applying pesticides using agricultural aircraft. An aerial applicator can be certified in any specialty area except seed treatment, wood treatment, and ag pest-animal.

T - Wood Preservation and Wood Products Treatment

For pesticide applicators using restricted use pesticides (creosote, pentachlorophenol, and inorganic arsenicals) to preserve wood and/or wood products.

V - Private Pesticide Applicator (Safety Training)

For pesticide applicators, or their employees, using restricted use pesticides for the purpose of growing an agricultural commodity on lands they either own or rent.

X - Private Pesticide Applicator (Specialty Training)

For pesticide applicators, or their employees, using restricted use pesticides for the purpose of growing an agricultural commodity on lands they either own or rent.

Recertification Credit Requirements

* All Private Applicators must earn a minimum of 2 credits each in both V and X (during 3 year certification cycle).

** Aerial applicators must earn an additional 3 credits for the first subclass and one credit for each additional subclass on their Aerial License (during 2 year certification cycle).

Additional Requirements for Commercial Ground Applicators

1. The required credits for each category must be obtained during at least two years of the five year certification period.

2. MULTIPLE CATEGORIES: Individuals who are certified in two or more categories must complete the total number of credits in the category carrying the highest requirement and then three credits in each additional category. (Note: Demonstration & Research is an exception; this category always requires 10 credit hours.)

		Hours
A	Aquatic Pest Control	6
B	Public Health Control	6
D	Dealer	5
G	Forest Pest Control	6
H	Right-of-Way Pest Control	4
I	Regulatory Pest Control	6
K	Agricultural Pest Control - Animal	6
L	Ornamental & Turf Pest Control	10
M	Seed Treatment	3
N	Demonstration & Research	10
O	Agricultural Pest Control - Plant	10
P	Aerial Methods	1
T	Wood Preservation and Wood Products Treatment	4
V	* Private Pesticide Applicator (Safety Training)	2
X	* Private Pesticide Applicator (Specialty Training)	2