

COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION INFORMATION SHEET

The Tennessee law requires certification for anyone applying, buying or selling a restricted-use pesticide or must work directly under the supervision of a certified applicator. It also requires commercial certification for all solicitors and technicians. The application of pesticides for a fee requires licensing and a pest control charter.

COMMERCIAL CERTIFICATION:

Certification testing varies by location and time. One must prepay 10 days prior to taking the certification exam. Then the applicant will receive confirmation of date, time, and location of the exam. Make your payment with a check or money order payable to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, at the following address, Porter Building, PO Box 40627 Melrose Station, Nashville, TN 37204. We will also accept payments by Mastercard, Visa, Discover and Am Express. **The cost for each exam is \$15.00.**

Check for available locations and times in the Nashville office by calling (615) 837-5148, (615) 837-5232 or internet at www.tennessee.gov/agriculture click on Downloadable forms.

To become commercially certified an individual must successfully complete a Certification exam in the area of work. Study materials are available from the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service for a fee. It is strongly recommended that you study this material thoroughly prior to taking the exam. More information is available on the UT, Dept. of Entomology & Plant Pathology web page located at <http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/psep/psep.htm>.

TDA will reciprocate certification with other states, when possible. Obtain a reciprocity form from one of our offices or the internet and complete according to the instructions. Applicants will not receive reciprocal certification unless a current home address and social security number are provided. This form can be downloaded at www.tennessee.gov/agriculture click on **Downloadable forms.**

It is your responsibility to maintain your Tennessee certification by accumulating recertification points. Recertification points are assigned per category. The points are pre-assigned by the following agencies:

Industry training: Certification & Licensing Section, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Porter Building, PO Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204, phone number (615) 837-5310, e-mail: mary.borthick@state.tn.us

Educational Institutions: Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) , University of Tennessee, 2431 Center Dr, 205 PSB, Knoxville, TN 37996-4560, phone number (865) 974-7138, email: gburgess1@utk.edu

The primary purpose of the point system is to further enhance the skills of applicators and routinely update your knowledge as new information and technologies become available.

Individuals may check their point status on the TDA website. You may login with your social security number, ID number, or last name. The address is www.tennessee.gov/agriculture click on **Pesticide Information.**

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL RECERTIFICATION:

1. Individuals may accrue all of their points by attending external meetings in their category of certification. You may earn **no more than 75%** of your point total by attending any one external meeting. All points **cannot** be accrued in one year.
2. In-house points will be limited to **50%** of your total point requirement during the recertification period. All training must be submitted to the office no later than **30 days** prior to the date of the training session. Those approving certification training reserve the right not to grant points for training submitted late. An announcement of the training date, time, place and points assigned per category will be placed on the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's and the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, Dept. of Entomology & Plant Pathology web sites located at www.tennessee.gov/agriculture and <http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/psep/psep.htm>. Rosters must be submitted into TDA **30 days** after training.

The following qualifies as in-house training: Internet training (including, but not limited to) computer-based training and training that is covered by employees of the company applying for the points.

3. The sponsor must agree to permit representatives from the Department of Agriculture and/or UT employees to attend training sessions without registration fees or costs.
4. After attending a training session The Tennessee Department of Agriculture or the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, upon consultation between these two agencies, training and point assignment may be re-evaluated. Point assignment may be withdrawn or revised as deemed necessary.
5. Points are **not** carried over from one recertification period to the next.

ASSIGNMENT OF POINTS:

Recertification points will be allowed only for approved topics in your category related to pests, pest control, WPS, pesticides, pesticide safety, IPM, environmental issues (water quality, endangered species, etc.) pesticide laws and regulations. Safety, environmental issues, and laws, IPM and regulations apply to all categories for assignment of points. **Points will not be assigned to individual videos.**

Programs submitted should include the following information. A list of topics, speakers (with their titles) and length of each topic to be presented. Sponsors shall provide biographical information on instructors or other program participants upon request. An application form, E&PP info #82, should be used, when the meeting sponsor applies for points. A list of dates and locations for the year must be included on the application for repeated meetings.

If the required number of points are not accrued , a recertification exam will be required the third year.

It is your responsibility to contact the Nashville office if you have a name or address change.

POINTS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION

All certifications will expire on **October 21, 2008** if the required number of points are not accrued. **All points cannot be accrued in one year.**

Categories	Certified prior to Oct. 21, 2005 & before Oct. 21, 2006	Certified on or after Oct. 21, 2006 & before Oct. 21, 2007	Certified on or after Oct. 21, 2007 & before April 21, 2008	Certified on or after Apr. 21, 2008
C 1	18 pts	12 pts	6pts	0
C 2	12 pts	8 pts	4 pts	0
C 3	18 pts	12pts	6pts	0
C 4	12pts	8pts	4 pts	0
C 5	12 pts	8pts	4pts	0
C 6	18pts	12pts	6pts	0
C 7	30pts	20pts	10pts	0
C 8	18pts	12pts	6pts	0
C10	18pts	12pts	6pts	0
C11	9pts	6pts	3pts	0
C12	30pts	20pts	10pts	0
C13	9pts	6pts	3pts	0
C14	9pts	6pts	3pts	0
C16	9pts	6pts	3pts	0

Example: If you were certified on October 31, 2005 in category 7 and category 8, you will need 30 points in cat.7 and 18 points in cat. 8 by October 21, 2008. **All points cannot be accrued in one year.**

Examples: If you were certified on August 15, 2006 in category 7 you will need 30 points by October 21, 2008. If you become certified on October 25, 2006 in category 8 you will need 12 points by October 21, 2008. **All points cannot be accrued in one year.**

Examples: If you become certified on October 31, 2007 in category 6 you will need 6 points by October 21, 2008. If you become certified on January 14, 2007 in category 3 you will need 12 points by October 21, 2008.

Examples: If you become certified on April 18, 2008 in category 7 you will need 10 points by October 21, 2008. If you become certified on April 25, 2008 you are certified through October 21, 2011 and would begin accruing points on October 22, 2008.

NOTE:

Individuals who obtain certification on or after October 21, 2007 and prior to April 21, 2008 must accrue all points required as indicated above by October 21, 2008.

Individuals certified on or after April 21, 2008 will be certified through October 21, 2011 and will begin accruing points on October 22, 2008.