



Pesticide & Environmental Services Division

Exam Information- Pesticide Applicator Examination:

To become licensed as a Commercial Applicator with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (one who will be making pesticide/herbicide applications for a Licensed Pesticide Application Business to the lands of others for hire in the state of West Virginia) one is required to take and pass their required pesticide examinations. One is required to have one year of pesticide/herbicide application experience that can be verified or have a degree in a related field to be eligible to take their pesticide examinations. To become licensed as a Commercial Applicator who will be working for a Regulated Pesticide Application Business (one who will be making pesticide/herbicide applications to the property of their employer in the state of West Virginia only (not for hire)) one is required to take and pass their required pesticide examinations; however, the pesticide/herbicide application experience and education requirements are waived. To become licensed as a Public Applicator (government employee) working for a Regulated Pesticide Application Business – government entity, one is required to take and pass their required pesticide examinations, and the pesticide/herbicide application experience and education requirements are waived.

There are four ways in which one can confirm one year of pesticide/herbicide application experience: (1) Work under the supervision of a Commercial Applicator in West Virginia as a Registered Technician for one year; (2) Be licensed for one year as a Commercial Applicator or Registered Technician in another state that can be verified; (3) Have a college degree in a related field such as Agriculture, Forestry, Biology, etc.; (4) Complete the Pesticide Prep Course through Purdue University or Certified Training Institute.

If study materials are needed, please call the Pesticide Services office at (304) 558-2209 and request a study packet be sent to you by mail. A complete study packet from the West Virginia Department of Agriculture will contain the rules and regulation guides, 19-16A Control Act, 61-12A Certified Pesticide Applicator Rules, 61-12B Licensing of Pesticide Businesses, and 61-12 Fee Structure (in preparation for the General Standards and business (LPAB) exams), Applying Pesticide Correctly (in preparation for the General Standards Core exam), and the study book or books for the pesticide category(ies) examination(s) that are specific to the pesticide certification they are acquiring. In one's study packet there will be one of three different exam applications depending on the type of business one is employed by: (1) Notary exam application (for one who has never been licensed in West Virginia as a Commercial Applicator); (2) Public Applicator exam application (for one who works for a city, county, state, or federal facility government entity RPAB); (3) Simple exam application (for one who has been licensed as a Commercial Applicator previously in West Virginia and is retesting, or for those who will be employed with an RPAB (non-government entity)).

One may be required to take the Registered Technician examination if: (1) One did not obtain their required CCU's by their category expiration date; (2) One terminates their employment with a pesticide company and are rehired and need to recertify as a Registered Technician with the same pesticide company; (3) One does not renew their pesticide license by April 1st of the new renewal year. There is a \$20 exam fee to take the Registered Technician exam, and this must be received with the complete examination application and a copy of the applicant's current driver's license, before scheduling the exam appointment.

One must complete and pass the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's pesticide examinations to be eligible to obtain their West Virginia Pesticide Applicators license. One is required to take and pass the



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General Standards (Core) exam and the pesticide category examinations that are specific to the pesticide certification they are acquiring to apply for a Commercial or Public Applicator license. The \$20 examination fee will cover each exam that needs to be completed, and this must be received with the completed examination application and a copy of the applicant's current driver's license, before scheduling the exam appointment. The exam fees are waived for government employees. After the application has been received and approved, an admission ticket will be e-mailed to the applicant provided there is an e-mail address on the exam application. This admission ticket states the date and location of the Examinee's examination. The admission ticket and a current photo ID are required for admittance on the day of the scheduled exam. Exams are held at six locations throughout the state on certain dates of each month. The test sites are located at Charleston, Parkersburg, Beckley, Morgantown, Inwood, and Teays Valley. Each exam contains 50 multiple choice questions, and one has a one-hour time limit to complete each exam. All exams are closed book except for the business examination (LPAB) and the material for this examination will be provided at the testing facility. If one does not pass a pesticide examination during their first attempt, they must wait 28 days to retake the failed examination(s). If one does not pass the examination on the second attempt, one must wait 56 days from their last testing date to retake the failed examination(s). When one does pass their pesticide examinations, one will be provided with the needed application paperwork to apply for their pesticide license. Exam results are valid for 12 months. After 12 months one's eligibility to apply for certification expires.