



## West Virginia Department of Agriculture

### *Pesticide & Environmental Services Division*

#### **Reciprocity (Commercial Applicator):**

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) reciprocates Pesticide Applicator licensing ONLY with the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Ohio\*. One is required to meet the following requirements to be eligible for reciprocity in the state of West Virginia (WV):

- 1.) One must have taken their initial pesticide applicator examinations in one of the above-mentioned states and one must be currently licensed in the state where they took their initial pesticide examinations.
- 2.) One cannot currently reside in the state of WV.
- 3.) Reciprocity is only for initial pesticide applicator certification in the state of WV. If one was licensed previously as a WV Commercial or Public Applicator, they do not qualify.

***\* Due to examination requirement differences between the states of WV and Ohio, if one is seeking reciprocity to WV from the state of Ohio, one is required to have been licensed in the state of Ohio as a Commercial Applicator for one full year that can be verified; or to be currently licensed as an Ohio, Commercial Applicator and have one year of pesticide application experience in another state that can be verified; or to have a degree in a related field such as Agriculture, Forestry, Biology, etc. For those eligible for reciprocity from Ohio to WV, there is a Reciprocity Verification – Ohio form that is required to be completed, signed in front of a Notary, and submitted to the WVDA with one's reciprocity application paperwork. (This requirement is waived for one seeking reciprocity from Ohio as a Commercial Applicator who is, or will be, working for a Regulated Pesticide Application Business (RPAB) in the state of WV. See below for more information on RPABs.)***

If one meets these requirements and is interested in applying for reciprocity with the WVDA, please contact the Pesticide Services office at 304-558-2209. It is part of our practice to contact the Department of Agriculture that one is seeking reciprocity to WV from, to verify eligibility. Our office will need the name of the person seeking reciprocity, the state they are seeking reciprocity to WV from, and their pesticide license number with that state Department of Agriculture.

If one is in the process of licensing a business as a new Licensed Pesticide Application Business (LPAB) with the WVDA, although one may be eligible for reciprocity, our office will not be able to send the reciprocal application for completion until the Business (LPAB) examination is passed by someone working for the business. Once the LPAB examination is passed, the reciprocal application will be sent with this individual's LPAB exam scores and the LPAB license application.

If one works for a business that is not already registered with the WVDA as a Regulated Pesticide Application Business (RPAB) – which is a business whose employees will only be performing pesticide/herbicide applications for the business and its property as part of their job duties in the state of WV (not for hire), and one is eligible for reciprocity, they will need to contact the Pesticide Services office to request an RPAB application. Our office will send the reciprocal application with this application. Both applications will need to be completed and mailed to our office together with the required reciprocity licensing paperwork, and the \$20 Commercial Applicator licensing fee (check or money order made payable to the West Virginia Department of Agriculture). There is no fee required for an RPAB license.

If working for an LPAB/RPAB that is currently licensed with the WVDA, if the reciprocal state confirms eligibility of the one seeking reciprocity to WV, our office is permitted to email the reciprocity application to this individual. In all instances, the following items need to be returned to our office, along with the reciprocal application:

- 1.) A valid government issued photo identification copy for the applicant.
- 2.) A copy of the applicant's current pesticide license from the state they are seeking reciprocity from.
- 3.) The notarized Reciprocity Verification – Ohio form. Only required for those reciprocating from Ohio (not required for RPAB employees).
- 4.) The \$20 licensing fee, (check or money order made payable to the West Virginia Department of Agriculture).