

Recertification

Licensed private applicators are required to recertify every **five** years by obtaining **15** continuing education credits including two (2) credits in laws and regulations and two (2) credits in integrated pest management (IPM) by December 31 of the year preceding license expiration. Contact TDA or your county Texas Agricultural Extension Service office for a list of approved courses. A list of approved courses offering five or more hours is available on TDA's web site:

<http://www.agr.state.tx.us/pesticide/ceuhome.htm>.

Recertification Exam Alternative

Private applicators may earn the required credits by passing the recertification exam that includes questions on information covered in continuing education courses. If an applicator passes the exam, a certificate of completion for 15 CEUs will be issued. The exam costs \$50 per attempt. This exam can be used in place of attending CEU courses only once.

Review of Recertification Steps - For private applicators

Step 1. Obtain at least 15 continuing education units (CEUs) every five years, including a minimum of two CEUs in laws and regulations and two in integrated pest management (IPM). Up to 10 CEUs may be obtained through TDA-approved home study programs. At least 5 CEUs **MUST** be obtained in a meeting, class or other monitored situation. Retain certificates of completion from course sponsors. (see Self Certification of CEU's)

Step 2. Upon receipt of a TDA license renewal form, provide requested information and return to TDA, along with \$50 license fee by February 28. Keep certificates of completion for one year after the license is renewed. (see Self Certification of CEU's)

Step 3. Alternative option: Take and pass a 200-question recertification exam administered by TDA. (Exam fee: \$50 per attempt, in addition to the license fee; no study material is available.).

Private License Renewal

The \$50.00 renewal fee is due on or before Feb. 28. If the fee and renewal information is returned to TDA late, on or before May 31, there is a \$25.00 late fee plus the \$50.00 renewal. If the renewal is return to TDA after May 31, there is a \$50.00 late fee and the \$50.00 renewal. Private Applicators have 12 months from February 28 to renew the license or the license is lost. Pending completion of deficient CEUs and submission of fees, the applicator may **not** buy or apply restricted pesticides. The applicator may go through the certification steps again (training and testing) and apply for a new license, but TDA will **not** issue a new license until one late year elapses. After 12 months the person has to retrain with TCE or other approved provider and retest with TDA (and then reapply paying the \$50.00 application fee).

Self-certification of CEUs

All licensed pesticide applicators must recertify by self-certification, which allows license holders to manage their continuing education requirements. Applicators should keep certificates of completion distributed at TDA accredited courses. These certificates of completion will be used to document applicator attendance at TDA accredited courses. Each certificate of completion must show the date, county, course number, and number and type of CEUs earned.

Applicators will fill out the form on their renewal applications indicating courses taken. An example of this form is shown below. TDA will conduct random audits of self-certification.

Example of Self-Certification of CEUs for Private Applicators

CEU Requirements by Self Certification						
Date	County	Course #	General	L&R	IPM	Drift
5/10/00	Bell	4567	4	1	1	
12/20/01	Brazos	8725	1		1	1
8/6/02	Bexar	2920	5	1		
		Totals	10	2	2	1
Total all CEUs						15

- L&R** - - Laws and Regulation
- IPM** - - Integrated Pest Management
- Drift** - - Drift Management
- General** - - General topics

For additional information on Applicator Certification and Recertification

TDA information: For additional information, contact your nearest TDA office or write:

Worker Protection and Applicator Certification and Training
 Texas Department of Agriculture
 P.O. Box 12847
 Austin, Texas 78711
 Phone 512-463-7622

< <http://www.agr.state.tx.us/pesticide/> >

Please send e-mail to: rrivera@agr.state.tx.us.

Agricultural & Environmental Safety information

115 Agronomy Field Lab
 2488 - TAMU
 College Station, Texas 77843-2488
 phone 979-845-6531
 FAX 979-845-6251

< <http://agensafety.tamu.edu/pat/patinfo.htm> >

Please send e-mail to: m-ketchersid@tamu.edu