

## Commerical 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 working for pest control companies. The application of pesticides for a fee requires licensing and a pest control charter.

### Commerical 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, P.O. 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 <http://tn.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://psep.utk.edu>

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 <http://tn.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@tn.gov](mailto:mary.borthick@tn.gov)**

**Educational Institutions: Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) , University of Tennessee, 2431 Joe Johnson Dr, 205 PSB, Knoxville, TN 37996-4560, phone number (865) 974-7958 email: [dhensley@utk.edu](mailto:dhensley@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 <http://agriculture.state.tn.us>

## **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 <http://tn.gov/agriculture> and <http://psep.utk.edu> 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.**