

APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR LICENSE

License Period: October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026

PART A - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicator's First Name (use legal name)

M

Last

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

County (use 'Out of State' if outside Ohio)

Phone

Last 4 SSN

Email Address

FELONY STATEMENT (required):

Have you been convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or of a felony?

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NO

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YES

If yes, we will send you a disclosure form by certified mail for you to complete.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PART B - EMPLOYER INFORMATION (if employed)

Employer Business Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Does this employer conduct pesticide business activities?

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YES

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NO

If yes, provide the Business License ID#

See page 3 for instructions

PART C - SPECIAL CATEGORIES

Are you applying for a Cat. 1/Aerial Applicator license?

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NO

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YES

If yes, please see the aerial instructions on page 3 and include a legible copy of your pilot's license and/or remote pilot certificate.

Manned aircraft?

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UAV?

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Are you applying for a Cat. 12/WDI Diagnostic Inspection license?

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NO

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YES

If yes, please see the WDI instructions on page 3

PART D - RECIPROCITY

Ohio has reciprocal agreements based on residency with several states. Out of state applicants requesting an Ohio license based on a license from your state of residency should check the appropriate box below and include a legible copy of your out of state driver's license and pesticide license with this application.

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Alabama

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Florida

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Georgia

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Illinois

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Indiana

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Louisiana

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Michigan

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Minnesota

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Mississippi

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New York

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Pennsylvania

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Virginia

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Texas

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West Virginia

License/Certification # from that State: _____

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National Railroad Contractors Association (NRCA)

PART E - PAYMENT METHOD

LICENSE FEE: \$35.00

- Mail payment by check or money order payable to the Ohio Department of Agriculture; **no purchase orders**. American Express cards are not accepted.
- State Agencies paying by ISTV must submit a letter including your agency origin code and a valid e-mail address.
- This application and fee are only valid for the licensing period listed above.** The application is **void if requirements are not met within this period**. License payments are **non-refundable**.
- Payment may be made with one check when submitting multiple applications. This application can be duplicated.

Check or Money Order _____

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Discover

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Visa

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MasterCard

Cardholder Name: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

CVV _____

Expiration Date: _____

(MM)

(YYYY)

Cardholder Signature _____

ELIGIBLE PESTICIDE USE CATEGORIES

1	AERIAL PESTS	The application of pesticides by aircraft. (a copy of pilot license is required)
2a	AGRONOMIC PESTS	The application of pesticides to agronomic crops for the control of pests other than weeds.
2b	HORTICULTURAL PESTS	The application of pesticides to fruit and vegetable crops for the control of pests other than weeds.
2c	AGRICULTURAL WEED	The application of pesticides for the control of weeds in agronomic crops or horticultural crops.
2d	SEED TREATMENT	The application of pesticides to seed for the control of insects and disease organisms.
2e	TOBACCO SUCKERING	The application of growth regulators to tobacco plants for the control of sucker growth.
2f	SOIL FUMIGATION	The application of fumigants to soil for the control of soil-inhabiting pests.
3a	GENERAL AQUATIC	The application of pesticides to standing or running water, other than swimming pools, for the control of aquatic pests.
3b	BOAT ANTI-FOULANT	The application of restricted-use anti-foulants to boats for the control of undesirable organisms.
3c	SEWER ROOT	The application of restricted-use pesticides to sewer pipes for the control of tree roots.
4a	FOREST PESTS	The application of pesticides to forested areas for the control of tree pests and weeds, and for the selective elimination of unwanted wood species as a forest management practice.
4b	WOOD PRESERVATION	The application of pesticides to wood products such as crossties, poles, shingles, posts or other wood products that are not part of a structure when treated and are or will be exposed to insects, fungi, marine pests, or weather.
5	INDUSTRIAL VEGETATION	The application of pesticides to non-agricultural lands, such as roadways, public water courses, utility rights-of-way, or in close proximity to industrial sites, power stations, parking lots or similar areas for the control or eradication of unwanted vegetation. NOTE: this category is permitted to make 6c applications.
6a	ORNAMENTAL PESTS	The application of pesticides to control insects and diseases of exterior ornamental plants and trees, and weeds of exterior ornamental areas such as landscape beds, tree and shrub plantings, sidewalks, driveways, or similar areas. NOTE: this category is permitted to make 6c applications.
6b	INTERIOR PLANTSCAPES	The application of pesticides to control insects, diseases, and weeds of indoor ornamental plants in locations such as homes, offices, shopping malls, stores, or similar sites.
6c	ORNAMENTAL WEED	The application of pesticides to exterior ornamental areas such as landscape beds, tree and shrub plantings, sidewalks, driveways, or similar areas for the control or eradication of unwanted vegetation.
6d	GREENHOUSE PESTS	The application of pesticides to control insects, diseases, and weeds of plants grown under glass or plastic cover.
7	VERTEBRATE ANIMAL	The application of pesticides other than fumigants for the control of pest birds whether within or outside structures, and for the control of rodents, and any other vertebrates, in situations other than covered under commercial pesticide-use category 10a. NOTE: Moles and Canadian Geese included.
8	TURF PESTS	The application of pesticides to lawns, turf, sod, or to soil areas being prepared for the production of turf for the control of pests except vertebrates. NOTE: this category is permitted to make 6c applications.
9	LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL PESTS	The application of pesticides to domestic animals which are held as agricultural commodities, or to structures in which they are confined, for the control of pests of such animals.
10a	GENERAL PEST	The application of pesticides in or around human dwellings, industrial plants and business offices, food-handling establishments, schools, hospitals or other institutions, warehouses, grain elevators, or similar buildings to control pests, including rodents, of such structures or of the occupants, furnishings, or provisions of those structures, except for the control of pest birds and termites or fungi. NOTE: 10a category is permitted to make applications to turf to control pests of the structure, but they must provide customer information, post the lawn, and keep non-structural application records. Additionally, mosquito applications are permitted to customer properties.
10b	TERMITE	The application of pesticides in or around various structures, or to the ground prior to construction of a structure, for the control of termites and other invertebrate wood-destroying insects
10c	FUMIGATION	The application of fumigants to structures, or commodities or equipment which is enclosed within structures or other specially confined areas (including areas temporarily confined expressly for the purpose of fumigation) such as bins, rooms, cargo spaces, and boxcars, for the control of any pests contained within these structures or confined areas.
10d	MOSQUITO, HOUSE FLY	The application of pesticides outdoors to control invertebrate pests which are a threat to public health or a nuisance to humans, such as mosquitoes, house flies, chiggers, and ticks, but does not include uses covered by commercial pesticide-use category (7).
12	WOOD DESTROYING INSECT DIAGNOSTIC INSPECTION (WDI) (WDI Training is required for licensure)	The examination of a structure at the request of any party involved in a contemplated real estate transaction to determine if wood destroying insects are present in the structure, if there is evidence they either are or have been present in the structure, or the presence of any visible damage to the structure caused by wood-destroying insects and the generation of a written report of the findings of the examination. Other requirements with this category: completion of a WDI Training Program.
	FERTILIZER CERTIFICATION	The application of fertilizer to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown primarily for sale.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- To qualify for a Commercial Applicator License, you must do the following:
 - o Pass the Core exam,
 - o Pass at least one Category exam (other than the fertilizer exam, which is for the Agricultural Fertilizer Applicator certificate),
 - o Submit the application, and pay the license fee
- The category examinations are specific to what area or for what purpose you are applying the pesticide. See page 2 for details of each license category.
- Passed exams are valid for one calendar year from the date you took the exam.
- Applications are valid through September 30th of the licensing year in which it was submitted. License fees are non-refundable.

Study Materials

- Exam study materials are available from the OSU Extension Publications store: <https://extension.osu.edu/extension-publishing/ohio-commercial-pesticide-applicator-license-study-guides>
- Several Commercial New Applicator Training sessions are offered by Ohio State University; contact them at <https://pested.osu.edu> or 614-292-4070.

Exams

- All exams are currently free to take and consist of multiple-choice questions. They are NOT open book exams. Photo ID is required at the examination sites. If you fail the exams, you must wait a minimum of five business days before attempting to retest.
- Reservations must be scheduled to take the exams. People who have pre-registered will be given exams first. Walk-ins, who did not register, will have to wait or may not be able to take the exam at that time. You can register online for exams at <https://agri.ohio.gov/pesticidesonline> or by calling our office. Attendees who have to cancel a reservation should contact ODA via phone or email.

Aerial Instructions

In addition to passing the Commercial Core and Aerial Category 1 exams, aerial applicators must also have a valid pilot's license through the FAA. For UAV applicators, the FAA requires that the operator (person at the controls) hold a remote pilot certificate obtained by passing the "Part 107 exam" and registering your drone with them. The FAA also requires that the business hold a Part 137 Aircraft Operations Certificate.

- [FAA Part 107 guidelines](#)
- [FAA Part 137 guidelines](#)

WDI Instructions

- In addition to passing the category 12 exam, WDI inspectors must also complete a 5-hour WDI Inspection Training Program before the license will be issued. Several training opportunities are offered by Ohio State University; contact them at <https://pested.osu.edu/WDI> or 614-292-4070.

Applying Pesticides for Hire

- A pesticide business license is required for firms that conduct pesticide business activities, such as applying pesticides to the property of another for hire, or soliciting and taking orders to apply pesticides, or conducting diagnostic inspections for WDI in a contemplated real estate transaction.
- If you own or work for a pesticide business, it must have a valid pesticide business license and insurance.
- Pesticide business license applications are available online at <https://agri.ohio.gov/pesticidesonline>.

Recertification

- Once you are licensed, you are certified for three years as long as you renew the license annually. Before the end of your three-year recertification period, you must have either:
 - o retaken the license exams during the third year, or
 - o earned at least the minimum number of recertification credits
- Recertification credits can be earned throughout the three-year period by attending ODA-approved recertification class sessions. The minimum recertification credits for the pesticide license are:
 - o 1 hour of Core classes
 - o ½ hour of classes in each category on your license (other than the fertilizer category)
 - o A minimum of 5 hours of classes is required. If additional credits are needed to meet the 5-hour minimum, you may take classes in any category (other than fertilizer) until the requirement is met.
- If you also have a fertilizer certificate, you will need 1 hour of fertilizer training. This fertilizer credit does NOT count towards your pesticide recertification requirements.
- Available training sessions can be viewed at <https://agri.ohio.gov/pesticidesonline> or <https://pested.osu.edu/commercialapplicator>.