

Private Pesticide Applicator Certification

[ATCP 29.27](#)



Summary

- Certification is the training process for educating applicators about the safe and effective use of pesticides.
- Individuals must be certified to use restricted-use pesticides.

Who Needs Certification?

Required for individuals who use restricted-use pesticides on property that they or their employer own, control, or rent. Applications are limited to the production of agricultural commodities. Individual certification is valid for a five year period. An individual pesticide applicator license is not required.

Individuals must certify as a commercial pesticide applicator if they are paid to apply pesticides to more than 500 acres/year of land they do not control, or make applications for more than three agricultural producers, or make applications for non-agricultural purposes. Producers are not required to certify if they only apply general use pesticides (e.g. 2,4-D) to produce an agricultural commodity on property under their control.

[s. 94.67\(2\)](#) "Agricultural commodity" means any plant or part of a plant, or animal or animal product, produced by a person primarily for sale, consumption, propagation or other use by humans or animals.

Certification Process

Individuals must 1) purchase a category specific training manual from the University of Wisconsin Pesticide Applicator Training Program (PAT), and 2) pass an open book DATCP category specific pesticide applicator certification exam. Applicators may be certified in multiple categories. After the initial certification period ends, an applicator must pass an exam to recertify.

[University of Wisconsin County Extension Agents](#) sell private applicator training manuals, offer training sessions and proctor the certification exams. Applicators that attend a UW County Agent training session must score greater than 50% to pass (Categories 100.0, 104.0 & 112.0). Applicators that self-study need to score greater than 70% (Categories 101.0, 105.0 & 113.0). Applicators that want to certify in a supplemental category (Categories 107.0, 109.0 & 111.0) must certify in a regular category (e.g. Category 100.0), and score > 70% on the supplemental category exam.

Certification expires on the last day of the month in which an exam was passed, e.g. pass on 1/13/10; certification expires on 1/31/15. All categories expire on the expiration date of the first certification category, e.g. pass the Category 100.0 certification exam on 1/13/10 and pass the Category 107.0 exam on 5/8/11, both certifications expire on 1/31/15.

Private Certification Categories	
100.0 / 101.0	General Farming
104.0 / 105.0	Greenhouse & Nursery
112.0 / 113.0	Fruit Crop
107.0	Fumigation by Private Applicator
109.0	Chemigation
111.0	Aerial Application