Applying Pesticides on a School Campus
Pesticide Licensing Requirements
August 23, 2019

What Type of License is Required? 1,2

Public Schools:
- School employee: Public Pesticide Applicator license.
- Non-School employee: Commercial Pesticide Applicator license, and be employed by a Commercial Pesticide Operator.

Private Schools (i.e. schools not part of federal, state, or local government bodies):
- School owner or school employee: Commercial Pesticide Applicator's license,
- Private school: Commercial Pesticide Operator license.
- Others making pesticide applications must have a Commercial Pesticide Applicator license, and be employed by a Commercial Pesticide Operator.

Additionally, when properly supervised by a licensed Public or Commercial Pesticide Applicator, a licensed Pesticide Apprentice or Immediately Supervised Trainee can make applications on a school campus. Apprentices or Trainees are limited to the categories on their supervisor's license, and the conditions of supervision depend on the license they hold.

What License Category Do I Need?

Public and Commercial Applicators and Commercial Operators must have the appropriate license categories before they make a pesticide application. The category you need can depend where you apply pesticides, the pesticides used, your target pest, and sometimes other criteria.

The School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Category is the only category designed specifically for schools. It is an optional category. It broadly covers pesticide uses across all areas on a school campus, except when:
- Using power-driven application equipment;
- Controlling wood-destroying pests, bed bugs, lice, fleas, ticks, and adult mosquitoes;
- Using Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs), Total Release Foggers, or pesticides not registered in Oregon.
- Making pesticide applications to locations not covered by the school’s adopted IPM plan.

If your application is not covered by the School IPM category, or if you simply prefer to utilize another appropriate category, you may do so. Information about other license categories is available here: oda.direct/LicenseCategories.

How do I Obtain a License or Add a Category?

In brief, once you pass the necessary exams to qualify for a license or to add a category, a license application will be sent to you. After the completed application and fees are submitted, please allow 2-4 weeks for processing.

Additional information is available at oda.direct/IPMSchools.

1 “School” is defined in ORS 634.700(8).
2 Certain exclusions apply for insecticidal soaps and antimicrobials.