

Pesticide Application

Pesticide: A substance that is used to kill, harm, or repel a pest; includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides and others.

General-use pesticide: May be bought over-the-counter without a license; includes household pesticides.

Restricted-use pesticide: May only be purchased and applied by a certified, licensed pesticide applicator or a licensed pesticide apprentice or immediately supervised trainee under the licensed applicator's supervision.

When you need a pesticide applicator's license

- To buy or apply a restricted-use pesticide;
- When applying a pesticide to property other than your employer's;
- Applying pesticides as a public employee using power pesticide application equipment; and
- When giving technical advice on the use or selection of a restricted-use pesticide.



Safe practices when using pesticides:

- Ensure that employees using pesticides have been properly trained on the safe handling, use and storage of pesticides, and first aid measures in the event of an exposure.
- Ensure that employees are provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) and know how to properly wear the PPE as outlined on the pesticide's label.
- It is a violation of federal law to use pesticides in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.
- If someone needs to wear a respirator, they first need a medical evaluation and to be fit tested to ensure proper fit.
- Ensure access to an eyewash station with 15 minutes of continuous flow in the area the pesticide is being used.



Remember, the label is the law. If you have questions about a label, please contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture or your local extension office. For further licensing requirements or how to become licensed, contact Oregon Department of Agriculture's Pesticides Division at 503-986-4635 or pestx@oda.state.or.us.

SDAO Risk Management staff is also available to assist with questions at 800-285-5461 or riskmanagement@sdao.com.