

FLORIDA LICENSES FOR PERSONS WHO APPLY PESTICIDES TO TURF AND ORNAMENTALS

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License Name ⇒	Pest Control Operator (PCO) -Lawn and Ornamental	Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance	Limited Lawn and Ornamental	Ornamental and Turf
Statutory Authority	Chapter 482-Structural Pest Control Act	Chapter 482-Structural Pest Control Act	Chapter 482-Structural Pest Control Act	Chapter 487-Florida Pesticide Law
Responsible Agency and address.	FDACS, Bureau of Entomology & Pest Control 1203 Governor's Square Blvd., Suite 300 Tallahassee, FL 32301 850/921-4177	FDACS, Bureau of Entomology & Pest Control 1203 Governor's Square Blvd., Suite 300 Tallahassee, FL 32301 850/921-4177	FDACS, Bureau of Entomology & Pest Control 1203 Governor's Square Blvd., Suite 300 Tallahassee, FL 32301 850/921-4177	FDACS, Pesticide Certification Office Bureau of Compliance 3125 Conner Blvd., MD-1 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650 850/488-3314
Who must have the license?	Businesses who perform pest control on lawns and ornamentals. Each business location must have a "certified operator-in-charge."	Commercial landscape maintenance personnel who apply certain pesticides to plant beds and ornamental plantings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government employees who apply pesticides to turf and ornamentals associated with government buildings. Owners or employees of businesses who apply pesticides to the turf and ornamental plantings on their business property. 	Persons who apply or supervise the application of restricted use pesticides on golf courses, parks and cemeteries.
What kinds of pesticides trigger the licensing requirement?	License required for business to apply any pesticide including herbicides.	License required for application of any pesticide including herbicides	License required for application of any pesticide including herbicides.	License required for application of restricted use pesticides, including herbicides.
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Must each person who applies the pesticide be licensed?	No, the certified operator in charge may supervise an unlimited number of employees performing lawn & ornamental pest control from the business location. Each employee must have an identification card issued by FDACS-Bureau of Entomology & Pest Control.	Yes, each person who applies the pesticide must be licensed. Application by unlicensed persons not permitted.	Yes, each person who applies the pesticide must be licensed. Application by unlicensed persons not permitted	No, the licensed applicator may supervise up to 15 unlicensed mixer/loaders and applicators at a time.
Qualification for license	Each licensed Pest Control business must have a certified operator-in-charge. The certified operator-in-charge must pass an examination.	Applicator must pass an examination.	Applicator must pass an examination.	Applicator must pass an examination.
What are the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years employment as a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of 8 	No qualifications	No qualifications

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qualifications to take exams?	<p>service employee of a licensed business that performs lawn and ornamental pest control, OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a degree in entomology, horticulture, agronomy or related field PLUS 1 year experience working for a licensed firm OR • a 2 year horticulture technology degree PLUS 1 year of employment as a service employee of licensed pest control business, OR • a specified number of credit hours in entomology, horticulture, etc. PLUS 1 year of employment as a service employee of a licensed pest control business. 	<p>classroom hours of plant bed and ornamental continuing education training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide proof of being in the landscaping business for a least three years. 		
License Name ⇒	Pest Control Operator (PCO) Lawn & Ornamental	Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance	Limited Lawn & Ornamental	Ornamental & Turf
License renewal	License renewed annually	License renewed annually	License renewed every 4 years	License renewed every 4 years
Recertification requirements	<p>Annual recertification required.</p> <p>Recertify by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-examination, OR • Obtain 2 core and 2 L&O classroom hours of acceptable continuing education units. 	<p>Annual recertification required</p> <p>Recertify by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-examination, OR • Obtain 4 classroom hours of acceptable continuing education units. 	<p>Recertification required every 4 years.</p> <p>Recertify by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-examination, OR • Obtain 4 classroom hours of acceptable continuing education units. 	<p>Recertification required every 4 years.</p> <p>Recertify by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-examination, OR • Obtain 12 continuing education units by attending programs approved by Department
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$225 testing fee • \$250 annual business license fee • \$150 annual certified operator-in-charge license fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150 testing fee. Includes cost of 1-year license, if exam is passed. • \$75 annual license fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150 testing fee. Includes cost of 4-year license, if exam is passed. • \$75 license renewal fee (4-years) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No testing fees. • \$60 for a 4-yr. Public license. • \$160 for a 4-yr. Commercial license
Insurance Requirements	<p>Certificate of Insurance which meets requirements for minimum financial responsibility for bodily injury and property damage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bodily injury: \$100,000 each person & \$300,000 each occurrence; • Property damage: \$50,000 each occurrence & \$100,000 in the aggregate combined or single unit coverage; \$400,000 in the aggregate. 	Same as PCO	No insurance requirements.	No insurance requirements.
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<p>What are the limitations on the license</p>	<p>Licensee cannot apply pesticides to golf courses, parks, or cemeteries</p>	<p>Licensee cannot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate a pest control business. • Apply pesticides to turf. • Apply pesticides to golf courses, parks & cemeteries. <p>Licensee is limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable handheld 3-gallon compressed air or 5-gallon backpack sprayers. • Application of herbicides in plant beds and ornamental plantings and to IPM on ornamental plants using insecticides with caution label, insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils & B.T. 	<p>Licensee cannot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate a pest control business. • Apply pesticides to golf courses, parks or cemeteries. 	<p>Licensee is limited to pesticide applications to turf and ornamentals on golf courses, parks & cemeteries.</p>
<p>Training required for persons working under direct supervision of the licensed applicator or certified operator</p>	<p>Each person under the direct supervision, direction, and control of certified operator must have at least 5 days of field training in lawn and ornamental pest control.</p>	<p>N/A. Each person making application must be licensed.</p>	<p>N/A. Each person making application must be licensed.</p>	<p>The licensed applicator must provide the following instruction and training to each unlicensed applicator working under their supervision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The safety procedures and precautions to be followed in using the product. 2. The need to properly wear and maintain any required personal protective equipment. 3. The common signs of pesticide poisoning. 4. The dangers of eating, drinking or smoking while using pesticides. 5. The need to wash clothing and bathe after working with pesticides. 6. The name and location of a nearby medical facility that can provide emergency treatment for pesticide poisoning.. 7. How and under what circumstances to immediately contact the licensed applicator under whose direct supervision the unlicensed person is working.

Revised August 15, 2002