

Qualifications to Take the Licensing Exams

To become a licensed applicator, you must first become certified as a Commercial Applicator by passing a commercial certification exam. The certification exam(s) must be taken prior to the licensing exam(s). Individuals who wish to become **licensed** may **pick up an application** at any time from the UT Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology Extension PSEP Office located at 2505 EJ Chapman Drive, 370 Plant Biotechnology Building or phone (865) 974 1286. Or, one may write to UT Pesticide Safety Education Program, 2505 E.J. Chapman Drive, Knoxville TN 37996 and request an application and other licensing materials. Applications are also available online at <http://psep.utk.edu> or you may also write to the Certification and Licensing Section at the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) for an application. The application should be completed in full, including the \$150 fee made out to TDA, and mailed to: TDA, Certification & Licensing Section, PO Box 40627, Melrose Station, Nashville TN 37204.

Licensing exams are accessible online. Therefore, **applications for exams** must be sent to the TDA's Regulatory Services Division office. Applications must be received with correct fees, plus a college transcript or certificate or proof of experience. You may contact TDA for additional information concerning application at 615-837-5148.

Qualifications to take the licensing exam are as follows:

1. **Certified** in respective category **AND**
2. **18 years of age** and **US Citizen** or possess a current U.S. government issued visa prior to taking the exam **AND**
3. **Education** – except for WDO, applications are qualified to take the license exams based on education are as follows:
 - a. BS / BA degree with major or minor in Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry, Forestry, Horticulture, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Plant Sciences, or similar degree. Satisfaction of these qualifications must be demonstrated by evidence of and official transcript from the institution of higher education.
 - b. Pest Control Consultant – BS in field of pest control consultation offered. (*a Pest Control Consultant license does not qualify the licensee to conduct pest control operations.*)
4. **Education and Experience Combination:**
 - a. **WDO:**
 - i. *Education:* BS / BA degree in a field in 3a. **AND**
 - ii. *Experience:* 1-year full time work experience in WDO, **OR**
 - iii. *Education:* MS or PhD in Entomology **AND** Graduate of the Tennessee Apprentice Termite Technician School
 - b. **HLT, HRI, WEC, or AGE Licensee – Can take exam in another one of these four categories provided:**
 - i. *Certified:* Certified in that category of license desired **AND**
 - ii. *Experience:* 2 or more years in that category (must be documented) **AND**
 - iii. *Education:* 12 college semester hours **OR** 24 CEUs.
 - c. **AGE & HLT:**
 - i. *Certified:* Certified in the category of license desired **AND**
 - ii. *Experience:* 2 years of work experience (must be documented) **AND**
 - iii. *Education:* BA degree **AND** 12 college semester hours related to AGE or HLT **OR** 24 CEUs related to AGE or HLT
5. **Experience:** Registered as a pest control technician or sales person for 24 months of full-time work experience
 - a. **AGE & HLT:** CCA certificate **AND** 1 year full-time work experience related to the licensing category **AND** certified in the same category
 - b. **PHMC:** Hold a category 7 (Industrial, Institutional, Structural & Health Related Pest Control) certification **or** Category 8 (Public Health) certification.