

GENERAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED TECHNICIANS

Prior to making application for Registered Technician certification, a prospective applicant must first receive **at least 40 hours of training in the safe and proper application of pesticides**. The training must include the following:

1. 20 hours Board-approved training consisting of at the minimum, a study and review of all the material contained in the most current edition of the Virginia Core Manual "Applying Pesticides Correctly". (These manuals may be obtained for a nominal fee from the Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs website at <https://vtp.ento.vt.edu>); and
2. 20 hours on-the-job (practical) instruction in the safe and proper handling, mixing, and application of the pesticides normally associated with the technician's job duties under the direct, on-site supervision of a certified commercial applicator.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING REGISTERED TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1. When the above training is completed, return the completed application with payment. (Government employees are fee-exempt). If you meet the above requirements, you will be sent a Notice of Authorization to take the certification exam.
2. The RT exam is now available in English or Spanish. Please ensure you have selected which exam you wish to take on the application. Remote testing is also available for an additional fee. An email must be provided on the application for remote testing.
3. Individuals must take the exam within 90 days of being hired or transferred into a position where duties and functions involve the commercial use of pesticides. *Individuals failing to take and pass the initial exam or subsequent exams within 90 days of the initial examination may not apply pesticides commercially, even under direct on-site supervision, until they reapply, following the procedures outlined in 2VAC5-685-20, and pass the examination.*
4. After receiving a Notice of Authorization, report to an approved VDACS or DMV testing location to take the 50-question multiple-choice test. Computerized exams at the DMV Customer Service Centers are scored as you are taking them, and you will be notified of your score as you complete each exam. Written exams taken at VDACS testing centers will be sent to the Office of Pesticide Services in Richmond to be scored. Exams taken remotely are graded after the exam session ends and the exam is submitted to the exam provider.
5. Registered Technicians who take and pass the exam at one of the DMV Customer Service Centers or using the online testing option will be issued a temporary certificate, which is good for forty-five days. A permanent certificate will be mailed to them by OPS after verification of their exam score and final review and approval of their application is complete. For Registered Technicians who take the written exam in person, exams are forwarded to OPS to be graded. Those passing the written exam will have certificates mailed after the exam is graded and entered into the database and final review and approval of their application is complete. This may take 15 business days or more.

If you fail the Registered Technician examination, you will need to submit a new application and the appropriate fee requesting a retest.

Upon certification, Registered Technicians may apply general-use pesticides unsupervised and restricted-use pesticides only under the direct supervision of a Certified Commercial Applicator.

If you have further questions or need additional help, you may call our office at (804) 786-3798 or email opsclrt.vdacs@vdacs.virginia.gov.