

# **AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL ADVISER LICENSE PACKET**

Contains the following documents:

- Licensing Requirements
- Application and Instructions
- Core Course and/or Work Experience Requirements Form
- Minimum Education Requirement
- Study Material Source List
- Licensing Visa/Mastercard Transaction Form

## AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL ADVISER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

**Do you need this license?** An Agricultural Pest Control Adviser (PCA) is any person who offers a recommendation on any agricultural use, holds himself/herself as an authority on any agricultural use, or solicits services or sales for any agricultural use (Food and Agricultural Code [FAC] sections 11410, 11411).

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**Licensing exemption** You are exempt from this licensing requirement if you make any recommendation of a specific application on a specific parcel in writing (FAC section 12001) **and** are a(n):

- Official of a federal, state, or county Department of Agriculture;
- University of California personnel engaged in official duties relating to agricultural use; or
- “Operator of the property” (i.e. growers, farms, or corporations) and their employees when making decisions in regards to pesticides used for agricultural use on property under their control. (California Code of Regulations [CCR] section 6622)

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**Minimum qualifications** You must meet the minimum educational requirement to take the *Agricultural Pest Control Adviser* examinations. See the Minimum Education Qualifications for Agricultural Pest Control Advisers (rev. 06/08) in this packet to determine minimum qualifications for this license.

A sample of college courses that meet the core requirements are listed on our web site at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/adviser.htm>.

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**Basic licensing requirements** You may obtain a PCA license by submitting the following:

- Application;
- Application fees;
- Official transcripts;
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Core Course and/or Work Experience Requirements for New License Applicants worksheet (DPR-PML-085); and
- Pass the required examinations.

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**Examinations** You must pass the Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination (including Integrated Pest Management) and at least one pest control category examination with a score of 70 percent or higher (FAC section 12022). The pest control categories for this license are as follows:

A	Insects, Mites, and Other Invertebrates	E	Weed Control
B	Plant Pathogens	F	Defoliation
C	Nematodes	G	Plant Growth Regulators
D	Vertebrate Pests		

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**Exam  
schedule/  
processing  
time**

The DPR Exam Schedule is posted on our web site at [www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/liccert.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/liccert.htm). Your application must be postmarked by the final filing date listed in the examination schedule in order for your requested month, location, and type of examination(s) to be processed.

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**Preparing for  
examinations**

To prepare for the examination, you should read the appropriate study materials listed on the Suggested Study Material Source List included in this packet. Many of the study materials have practice test questions at the end of each chapter that can help you evaluate whether you know the material well enough to pass the exam. For some categories, DPR has Knowledge Expectations on our web site that outline the type of information you will be expected to know when you take the examination.

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**Application fee**

The application fee is \$180 for this license (FAC section 12021 and 3 CCR section 6502). This fee allows an applicant a 12 month period to become licensed.

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**Examination  
fees**

The examination fee is \$115 (3 CCR section 6505) for each examination requested, including:

- adding categories
  - rescheduling due to failure to appear or obtain a passing score.
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**Second-year fee  
notice**

If you pass the required examinations you might receive a Second-Year Fee Notice. If you receive this notice, it means that in order to issue your 2-year certificate an additional \$160 is required for the second-year fee. The 2-year cycles are illustrated in the table below.

<b>If your last name begins with...</b>	<b>Then your license will...</b>
<b>A through L</b>	Expire on December 31 of even-numbered years (e.g. 2024, 2026, 2028, etc.)
<b>M through Z</b>	Expire on December 31 of odd numbered years (e.g. 2023, 2025, 2027, etc.)

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**Valid  
certificates**

List of valid certificates may be viewed at [www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/currlic.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/currlic.htm).

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**Certificate  
duration**

Refer to the table above for expiration date.

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**General requirements**

Once you obtain your license, you must do all of the following:

- Register with the County Agricultural Commissioner in the county listed on your Adviser license and register in each county where you make recommendations (FAC section 12031).
- Retain one copy of each written recommendation for one year (FAC section 12004).
- Provide the operator of the property with a copy of the written recommendation prior to the application (FAC section 12003).
- Provide the pesticide dealer and the applicator with a copy of the written recommendation prior to application where a pesticide use is recommended (FAC section 12003).

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**Continuing education**

Once you pass the examination(s) and receive your license, you must accumulate a determined amount of approved continuing education (CE) hours. DPR will inform you of the number of approved CE hours you are required to complete. After your first renewal, you are required to accumulate at least 40 hours of approved CE every two years before license renewal<sup>1</sup>. Four of the 40 hours must cover the topic of pesticide laws and regulations (3 CCR section 6511).

DPR will send you a renewal notice, which will remind you of the number of hours required in each CE category. For more information, you can find the following on our web site:

- CE requirements: [www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/conted.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/conted.htm)
- DPR-approved CE courses: [www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/classes.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/classes.htm)

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**Renewal fee**

The renewal fee is \$320 for the 2-year cycle (3 CCR section 6502).

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**Late renewal fee**

A late fee of 50 percent of the total renewal fee will be charged for each license or certificate postmarked after December 31 of your expiration year.

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<sup>1</sup> Some new license holders may require fewer CE hours for their first renewal depending on when the license was issued. The number of required CE hours will be specified on your transmittal card when you receive your new license.

**Miscellaneous fees**

The following chart lists possible miscellaneous fees.

Type	Amount	Details
Name change	\$20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You must immediately notify the Licensing and Certification Program <b>in writing</b> (3 CCR section 6508).</li><li>• You must submit legal documents certifying the name change.</li><li>• A new license will be automatically issued for all name changes.</li><li>• The <i>Address Change/Name Change/Replacement Card Form</i> is available on our web site at: <a href="http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm">www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm</a></li></ul>
Address change	\$20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You must immediately notify the Licensing and Certification Program <b>in writing</b> (3 CCR section 6508).</li><li>• This fee is only required if you request a new license.</li><li>• The <i>Address Change/Name Change/Replacement Card Form</i> is available on our web site at: <a href="http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm">www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm</a>.</li></ul>
Duplicate	\$20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This fee applies to requests for a duplicate or replacement license.</li><li>• The <i>Address Change/Name Change/Replacement Card Form</i> is available on our web site at: <a href="http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm">www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/lcforms.htm</a></li></ul>

Name and/or address change fees are waived when adding a pest control category or at renewal.

**Common mistakes**

The most common application errors are:

- incorrect fees;
- missing the final filing date; and
- not specifying your preferred month, location, and type of examination(s).

You can avoid these errors by reading the application instructions carefully and by mailing your application **before** the final filing date.

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**Our mailing  
address**

Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Licensing and Certification Program  
P.O. Box 4015  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

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**For more  
information**

Please email us at [LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov).  
Note: Your application and materials must be mailed to DPR. We cannot  
accept electronic submittals.

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The mailing address you indicate on this application is your address of record for your license; therefore, it is public information. You may wish to use a post office box in lieu of a physical address.

**A. Application Type.** Check the appropriate box(es). For Complete Instructions, See Page 2.

- New Application (New application fee of \$180 is required and a copy of valid government-issued documentation – See Instructions)     
  Reexamination – Fail or No Show on Previous Exam     
  Adding Pest Control Category(ies)

**B. Applicant Information.**

Name (Last)	(First)	(Middle Initial)	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Adviser License Number (If Applicable)
Mailing Address (Number and Street or PO Box)				Work Phone Number
(City)	(County)	(State)	(ZIP Code)	Cell or Home Phone
Employer Name and Mailing Address (If applicable) (Number and Street or PO Box, City, State, ZIP Code)				E-Mail Address

**C. Examination - Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles (includes integrated pest management principles).**

- Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles Examination **\$115**     
 \*Exemption: No fee or exam is required if you have passed this exam within the last 12 months.  
**This examination must be passed in addition to one or more categories in Section D to obtain a PCA.**

**D. Examination - Categories.** Indicate the examination(s) you want to take by checking the appropriate box(es). One or more of the following exams must be passed in addition to the exam in Section C above. If you are requesting the Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination, you may only select a maximum of two category examinations per application.

- (A) Insects, Mites, and Other Invertebrates **\$115**     
  (D) Vertebrate Pests **\$115**     
  (G) Plant Growth Regulators **\$115**  
 (B) Plant Pathogens **\$115**     
  (E) Weed Control **\$115**  
 (C) Nematodes **\$115**     
  (F) Defoliation **\$115**

**E. Examination Schedule.** To complete this section, see DPR’s Web site for the examination schedule for available months and locations. DPR will assign the exam date. Your exam date and location choices are not guaranteed.

First Choice – Examination Month & Location	Second Choice – Examination Month & Location
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**F. Reasonable Accommodation.**

- Check if you need reasonable accommodation to take an exam.

**G. Fees. All fees are non-transferable and non-refundable.**

	Amount				Total Amount
- New Application Fee (Fee is valid for 12 months) (If required per Section A)	\$180				\$ _____
- Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles Examination Fee (If required per Section C)	\$115				\$ _____
- Category Examination Fee(s) (if required per Section D) (Enter the # of categories)	\$115	X _____	=		\$ _____
<b>Total Fees Due</b>					<b>\$ _____</b>

**H. Read Before Signing.** During the last three years have you had any administrative, civil, or criminal action taken against you for violation of any State or federal laws or regulations relating to the application or use of pesticides that resulted in disciplinary action or in which any disciplinary action is pending?

- Yes (Attach explanation on separate page)     
  No

**I. I declare under penalty of perjury, under laws of the State of California, that the information submitted is true and correct.**

Applicant Signature	Date Signed
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# Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License Application Instructions

**Failure to complete or provide the requested information may delay the processing of your application.**

DPR will only disclose personally identifiable information, such as home phone number and personal email address, to third parties as required by state or federal law or regulation and consistent with the Information Practices Act (Civ. Code, sections 1798-1798.78).

**A. Application Type:**

**New Application:** If you:

- \*Are applying for an Agricultural Pest Control Adviser (PCA) license for the first time.
- Failed to obtain your license within 12 months from the first date you scheduled your examination.
- Failed to meet the renewal requirements.

\*Applications for a new license shall include an attached copy of valid government-issued documentation verifying that the applicant will meet the required minimum age of 18 years old prior to admission to the examination. The applicant's name included on the submitted application shall match the name stated on the valid government-issued documentation submitted.

Minimum education requirements must be met. Submit your official college/university transcripts, along with the completed Core Course Requirements form.

**Reexamination:** Scheduling an examination on which you failed to obtain a passing score or failed to appear for a previously scheduled examination.

**Add Pest Control Category(ies):** Requesting to take pest control category examinations not yet taken. If passed, the category(ies) will be added to your existing license.

**B. Applicant Information:** Enter your name (name shall match the submitted valid government-issued documentation); Adviser License or Application Number (if applicable); date of birth; mailing address; E-Mail address; work and cell or home phone numbers; and current employer (if applicable).

**C. Examination - Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles (includes Integrated Pest Management Principles):** This examination is required of all new PCA applicants. The Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination for any other DPR license or certificate does not exempt you from this exam. Exemption: If you have passed this exam within the past 12 months.

**D. Examination – Categories:** Indicate the category(ies) you want to take by checking the appropriate box(es). In addition to the Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination, each new applicant must successfully pass at least one of the pest control categories (A-G) before an Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License is issued. A maximum of four examinations may be scheduled per application. If you are requesting the Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination, a maximum of three total examinations (including the Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles examination) may be scheduled per application. You may only apply once per month; exceptions to this are evaluated on a case by case basis.

**E. Examination Schedule:** Provide your first and second choice for taking your exam(s). Indicate the exam month and location for each choice in the appropriate boxes. Your exam date and location choices are not guaranteed. Go to DPR's Web site to find [current exam information](#). If you selected an exam date, your application must be postmarked by the final filing date for the earliest choice you provided. DPR will assign your exam date.

**F. Reasonable Accommodation:** Reasonable accommodation will be provided to applicants who need assistance to take an exam. If you check "Yes", you will be contacted.

**G. Fees: All fees are non-transferable and non-refundable.**

- New Application Fee: \$180..... (See Section A)
- Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles Examination Fee: \$115..... (See Section C)
- Category Examination Fee(s): \$115 per exam..... (See Section D)

**H. Read Before Signing:** Check appropriate box and provide explanation on separate page, if necessary.

**I. Declaration/Signature Block:** Sign here to indicate that the information submitted is true and correct.

**Mailing Instructions:** Enclose a check, money order, or credit card information payable to "Cashier, DPR" with your application and mail to:

Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Attn: Cashier MS-4A  
PO Box 4015  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015



**AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL ADVISER  
CORE COURSE AND/OR WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR NEW LICENSE APPLICANTS**

PR-PML-085 (REV. 11/07)

This form must be completed and submitted with your application and official transcripts. To assist in determining which courses fit in the proper core areas, refer to DPR's web site at <<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/pcacoursreq.htm>>. For any course that does not clearly fit in a core area designated below, please submit an official college/university catalog class description, a signed official document from the college/university explaining what you accomplished in the class, or a copy of the paper that was submitted. Nontraditional course titles (e.g., Senior Project, Internship, Cooperative Work Experience, Independent Study, Dissertation, Thesis, Enterprise Project) and work experience require documentation (see Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations, Code section 6550). Without these official documents, DPR cannot evaluate whether you meet the core course and/or work experience requirements.

**PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES** (minimum of 12 semester or 18 quarter units) includes courses such as introduction to inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, plant biology or botany, general ecology, biology, genetics, plant physiology, and zoology.

Course Code / No.	Course Title	Course Grade	Quarter Units	Semester Units
Total Units				

**CROP HEALTH** (minimum of 9 semester or 13.5 quarter units) includes introductory courses such as vegetative management or weeds, plant pathology, agricultural/economic entomology, plant nutrition or fertility, nematology, and vertebrate management; and courses in soils and irrigation. The director may grant 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units credit for a current crop adviser certificate accredited by the American Society of Agronomy. Additional credit may also be given for nontraditional courses.\*

Course Code / No.	Course Title	Course Grade	Quarter Units	Semester Units
Total Units				

**PEST MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND METHODS** (minimum of 6 semester or 9 quarter units) includes at least one course emphasizing Integrated Pest Management principles; applied courses in entomology, plant pathology, vegetation management or weed science, and other pest management disciplines; and courses related to biological control, pesticides, pest control equipment systems, the use of pesticides, alternative cropping systems, and sustainable or organic agricultural systems. The director may grant 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units credit for one year of full-time related work experience. Please refer to the TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE table. Additional credit may also be given for nontraditional courses\*.

Course Code / No.	Course Title	Course Grade	Quarter Units	Semester Units
Total Units				

**PRODUCTION SYSTEMS** (minimum of 6 semester or 9 quarter units) includes courses such as horticulture; viticulture; forestry; agronomy; crop, vegetable, fruit, or animal sciences; or other production systems. The director may grant 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units credit for one year of full-time related work experience. Please refer to the TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE table. Additional credit may also be given for nontraditional courses.\*

Course Code / No.	Course Title	Course Grade	Quarter Units	Semester Units
Total Units				

**ELECTIVES** (minimum of 9 semester or 13.5 quarter units) include courses listed in Crop Health, Pest Management Systems and Methods, and Production Systems.

Course Code / No.	Course Title	Course Grade	Quarter Units	Semester Units
Total Units				

**TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE** (24 months) is required if you do not meet the bachelor's degree or doctoral degree requirement in agricultural sciences, biological sciences, natural sciences, or pest management. Work experience may also be used to fulfill part of the core course requirements for Pest Management Systems and Methods, and Production Systems. Documentation verifying work experience is required (e.g., letter from employer, pay stub).

Description of Technical Experience	Length of Time (Number of Months and/or Years)

\*The director may grant 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units for nontraditional courses such as Senior Project, Internship, Cooperative Work Experience, Independent Study, Dissertation, Thesis, and Enterprise Project in each core area of Crop Health, Pest Management Systems and Methods, and Production Systems. Documentation verifying these courses is required (i.e., course description and justification for the course category).

College/Universities Attended (submit official transcripts):

\_\_\_\_\_

College Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Granted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Granted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Granted \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum Core Course and/or Work Experience Requirements Exemption**

If you previously possessed a valid California Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License, you are exempt from meeting the minimum core course and/or work experience requirements. However, you must still pass the required examinations. Please submit the application, appropriate fee, and a copy of your expired license. If an expired license is unavailable, provide the following information:

Adviser License No: \_\_\_\_\_ License Issuance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINIMUM EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS FOR  
AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL  
ADVISERS** (REV. 01/17)

You must meet the minimum qualifications listed below before you can take the agricultural pest control adviser (PCA) licensing examinations. Please submit the *Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Core Course Requirements for New License Applicants* form (PR-PML-085) to ensure you meet these requirements.

**Options to  
fulfill minimum  
qualifications**

You must meet **one** of the following options in order to qualify for this license.

Option	College degree	Core courses	Work experience	Grade point average
Option 1	Bachelor's degree (i.e., B.A. or B.S.) in one of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural sciences</li> <li>• Biological sciences</li> <li>• Natural sciences</li> <li>• Pest management</li> </ul>	42 semester or 63 quarter units in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical and biological sciences</li> <li>• Crop health</li> <li>• Pest management systems and methods</li> <li>• Production systems</li> </ul>	None required	2.0 grade point average in all core courses

**Option 1 Required Documents:**

- Official college/university transcript(s) verifying Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Natural Sciences, or Pest Management.
- Letter(s) from your employer(s) verifying your technical experience and time employed if applicable for college course credit.
- Valid Certified Crop Adviser License copy, if applicable.
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Core Course Requirements for New License Applicants, form (PR-PML-085), completion to show applicant meets minimum qualifications for the license.
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License Application form (PR-PML-084).
- Payment for the application and examination fees.

Option	College degree	Core courses	Work experience	Grade point average
Option 2	Doctoral degree (i.e., Ph.D.) in one of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural sciences</li> <li>• Biological sciences</li> <li>• Natural sciences</li> <li>• Pest management</li> </ul>	None required	None required	None required

**Option 2 Required Documents:**

- Official college/university transcript(s) verifying PhD. in the Agricultural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Natural Sciences or Pest Management.
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License Application form (PR-PML-084).
- Payment for the application and examination fess.

Option	College degree	Core courses	Work experience	Grade point average
Option 3	None required	42 semester or 63 quarter units in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical and biological sciences</li> <li>• Crop health</li> <li>• Pest management systems and methods</li> <li>• Production systems</li> </ul>	24 months combined, verified by letter from employer	2.0 grade point average in all core courses

**Option 3 Required Documents:**

- Official college/university transcript(s) to verify the core courses completed meets the 42 semester or 63 quarter units requirement.
- Letter(s) from your employer verifying your technical experience and time employed as meeting the 24 months requirement.
- Letter(s) from your employer(s) verifying your technical experience and time employed if applicable for college course credit. The technical experience used to fulfill the 24 months requirement, can not be used to meet the college credit requirement.
- Valid Certified Crop Adviser License copy for college credit if applicable.
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License form (PR-PML-084).
- Agricultural Pest Control Adviser Core Course Requirements for new License Applicants form (PR-PML-085) – completion to show applicant meets the minimum qualifications for the license.
- Payment of the application and examination fees.

**Work experience**

The following table lists the 24 months of work experience required by Option 3.

Required time	Working as a(n) ...
24 months combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant to a licensed agricultural pest control adviser</li> <li>• Assistant to a pest management specialist (e.g., farm advisor, certified commercial applicator, certified private applicator, or licensed pest control dealer)</li> <li>• Field sweeper, field checker, or scout</li> <li>• Participant in field or laboratory research activities relating to pest control</li> <li>• Participant in agricultural pest control/management activities for a federal, state, or county entity</li> <li>• Qualified applicator licensee in category A, C-J, or L-Q for a licensed pest control business</li> <li>• Farm operator involved in agricultural pest control/management activities</li> <li>• Assistant to or as a certified crop adviser accredited by the American Society of Agronomy</li> </ul>
12 months only (the other 12 months must come from above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualified applicator licensee in category B or K for a licensed pest control business</li> <li>• Structural pest control operator or field representative for a registered structural pest control company</li> </ul>

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## Core courses

The following table lists the core courses required by Options 1 and 3.

Core area	Examples of acceptable courses	Required units	
		Sem	Qtr
Physical, biological sciences and natural sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inorganic chemistry</li> <li>Organic chemistry</li> <li>Biochemistry</li> <li>Plant biology or botany</li> <li>General ecology</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Genetics</li> <li>Plant physiology</li> <li>Zoology</li> </ul>	12	18
Crop health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soils and irrigation</li> <li>Vegetative management or weed science</li> <li>Plant pathology</li> <li>Entomology</li> <li>Plant nutrition or fertility</li> <li>Nematology</li> <li>Vertebrate management</li> <li>Senior project, internship, cooperative work experience, independent study, dissertation, or thesis (for a total of only 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> A current crop adviser certificate may count towards 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units of this requirement.</p>	9	13.5
Pest management systems and methods (with at least one course emphasizing integrated pest management principles)	<p><b>Applied courses in ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entomology</li> <li>Plant pathology</li> <li>Vegetation management or weed science</li> <li>Other pest management disciplines</li> </ul> <p><b>Courses related to ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pesticides or use of pesticides</li> <li>Pest control equipment systems</li> <li>Alternative cropping systems</li> <li>Sustainable or organic agricultural systems</li> </ul> <p><b>Or ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological control</li> <li>Senior project, internship, cooperative work experience, independent study, dissertation, or thesis (for a total of only 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Related work experience may count towards 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units of this requirement.</p>	6	9
Production systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Horticulture</li> <li>Viticulture</li> <li>Forestry</li> <li>Agronomy</li> <li>Crop, vegetable, fruit, or animal sciences</li> <li>Other production systems (e.g., wildlife production, cattle production)</li> <li>Senior project, internship, cooperative work experience, independent study, dissertation, thesis, or enterprise project (for a total of only 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Related work experience may count towards 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units of this requirement.</p>	6	9
Electives	May be any course listed in the crop health, pest management systems and methods, and production systems core areas	9	13.5
<b>Total units required</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>63</b>

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## Suggested Study Material Source List

### Agricultural Pest Control Adviser License (PCA)

Studying the suggested study material can make the difference between passing and failing Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) PCA examinations. The examinations are based on the study materials listed below. Options for obtaining study materials include purchasing, viewing, or downloading from the web and borrowing from public or college libraries.

#### Laws, Regulations, and Basic Principles of Safe and Effective Pesticide Use (Core Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Integrated Pest Management.](#)
- [Laws and Regulations Study Guide, Third Edition.](#) DPR, 2020.
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition.](#) M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources \(UC ANR\) online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849

#### Insects, Mites and Other Invertebrate Pest Control (Category A Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Insects, Mites and Other Invertebrates \(Category A\).](#)
- [Entomology and Pest Management, Sixth Edition](#) (or later edition). L.P. Pedigo.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition.](#) M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849
- [Pest identification: Insects, mites, & other invertebrates.](#) University of California Integrated Pest Management Program (UC IPM).
- [How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides.](#) H. Riedl, E. Johansen, L. Brewer, and J. Barbour, 2006. Pacific Northwest Extension publication by Oregon State University, 2006.
- [Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees.](#) B. Moisset and S. Buchmann, 2011. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) publication.

## Plant Pathogens (Category B Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Plant Pathology \(Category B\)](#).
- [Plant Pathology, Fifth Edition](#) (or later edition). G.N. Agrios.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition](#). M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849
- [Pest identification: Plant pathogens](#). UC IPM Program.
- [How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides](#). H. Riedl, E. Johansen, L. Brewer, and J. Barbour, 2006. Pacific Northwest Extension publication by Oregon State University.
- [Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees](#). B. Moisset and S. Buchmann, 2011. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) publication.

## Nematode Pest Control (Category C Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Nematodes \(Category C\)](#).
- [Pest Control Adviser Study Guide: Nematodes](#). UC IPM Program.
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition](#). M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849

## Vertebrate Pest Control (Category D Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Vertebrate Pest Management \(Category D\)](#).
- [Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage](#). S.E. Hygnstrom, R.M. Timm, and G.E. Larson, 1994.
  - Available online from the [Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management](#), University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension.
- [Pest identification: Vertebrate pests](#). UC IPM Program.
- [The Vertebrate Pest Control Handbook](#). Vertebrate Pest Control Research Advisory Committee.
- [Wildlife Pest Control Around Gardens and Homes, Second Edition](#). T.P. Salmon, D.A. Whisson, and R.E. Marsh, 2006.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition](#). M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849



## Weed Pest Control (Category E Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Weed Control \(Category E\)](#).
- [Principles of Weed Control, Fourth Edition](#). California Weed Science Society, 2014.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.
- [Applied Weed Science, Third Edition](#). M.A. Ross and C.A. Lembi, 2008.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.
- [Pest identification: Weeds](#). UC IPM Program.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.
- [Weeds of California and Other Western States](#). J.M. DiTomaso and E.A. Healy, 2007.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849
- [IPM in Practice, Principles and Methods of Integrated Pest Management, Second Edition](#). M.L. Flint, 2012.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849

## Defoliation (Category F Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Defoliation and Other Harvest Aid Practices \(Category F\)](#).
- [Harvest Aid Materials and Practices for California Cotton](#). R.B. Hutmacher, R.N. Vargas, S.D. Wright, and B.A. Roberts, 2003.

## Plant Growth Regulators (Category G Exam)

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- [Knowledge Expectations for Pest Control Advisers: Plant Growth Regulators \(Category G\)](#).
- [Plant Growth Regulators, Revised Edition](#). L. Rappaport, 2003.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849.

## Supplemental PCA Exams Study Materials

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The PCA examinations are based on the primary suggested study material. It is highly recommended that the primary materials be studied to prepare for the examinations. The supplemental study material listed below *may* offer some additional help.

- [The Safe and Effective Use of Pesticides, Third Edition](#). UC IPM Program, 2016.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849.
- [Natural Enemies Handbook: The Illustrated Guide to Biological Control](#). M.L. Flint and S.H. Dreistadt, 1998.
  - Order through the [UC ANR online catalog](#) or by phone: (800) 994-8849.
- [Weeds of the West, New Revised Edition](#). Western Society of Weed Science, 2012.
  - Order or request from booksellers and libraries.

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