

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## AGRICULTURE PESTICIDE PROGRAM



### Convenience Testing for Private Pesticide Applicators

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has contracted with PSI Services (PSI) to administer exams for agricultural pesticide applicator licensing. This is the same vendor that administers exams for structural pest control licensing. PSI has been providing credentialing and testing services to state and federal agencies, private sector businesses and professional associations for over 65 years.

PSI will provide both excellent quality exam opportunities and a convenient schedule for pesticide applicators to test in 22 locations across the state. The schedule will provide more testing opportunities than previously offered. By outsourcing testing to a third-party vendor, the Department's resources may be used in a more consistent and efficient manner.

#### STEPS TO BECOMING A PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR

- **Step 1:** Attend a Private Pesticide Applicator training session **FIRST**. Contact your county [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension](#) office for training opportunities.
  - You may purchase training materials at [www-aes.tamu.edu](http://www-aes.tamu.edu) or call (979) 845-1099.
- **Step 2:** Upon completion of the training, a Training Verification form (D-1411) will be provided to the applicant.
  - Applicants should keep the yellow copy for their records.
  - The white copy (original) should be mailed to TDA with the Private Pesticide Applicator license application form (PA-400P).
- **Step 3:** The applicant needs to obtain a hard copy of the [Private Pesticide Applicator license application form](#) (PA-400P) from TDA. (Website: [www.TexasAgriculture.gov](http://www.TexasAgriculture.gov) or Phone: 1-800-835-5832 or 512-463-7622).
- **Step 4:** Submit the completed Private Pesticide Applicator application form, license fee of \$60, and the white (original) copy of the Training Verification form to TDA for processing.
- **Step 5:** When the license application is accepted, TDA will send the applicant a letter in the mail with their Account Number. This **Account Number** is the number the applicator will use to register and schedule the Private applicator exam with PSI
- **Step 6:** Applicants can go to [PSIexams.com](http://PSIexams.com) or call 1-800-733-9267 to schedule an exam at one of 22 locations around the state.
  - A [Pesticide Licensing Examination Candidate Information Bulletin](#) is provided at the PSI website to assist the applicant with the exam scheduling process.
  - A private applicator exam is free for the first attempt.
  - If the applicant fails the first attempt, the second (or subsequent) attempts will require a payment of \$52.00 each time to PSI. There is a 24 hour waiting period to take a repeat exam.
  - PSI will provide a confirmation number and testing location information.
- **Step 7:** Upon completion of the exam, the testing center will provide test results immediately. A passing grade is 70% or higher.
- **Step 8:** PSI will send exam scores to TDA daily. If all licensing criteria are met, TDA will issue the license.

**Important:** If an applicant has any questions about licensing or categories, please contact TDA at 1-800-835-5832 or 512-463-7622. PSI staff cannot provide licensing advice or information.