

## 333 Code Massachusetts Regulations (CMR): PESTICIDE BOARD

**10.08: (f) Retraining/Recertification/Revalidation Requirements.** All certified applicators and licensed applicators must, at the end of a three year (3) period be recertified/revalidated either by reexamination or by attendance, **within the three year (3) period**, at training programs approved by the Department including those sponsored by UMass Pesticide Education Office to:

1. Ensure that they continue to meet the requirements of changing technology covering uses for which they are certified/credentialed,
2. Ensure that they maintain a continuing level of competence and ability to use pesticides safely and properly; and,
3. Ensure that they are familiar with changes in federal and state statutes and regulations.

**(g) Contact Hours:** A standard number of contact hours will be required within a three year (3) period for recertification/revalidation by attendance at department approved training programs.

The number of contact hours will be broken down as follows:

Commercial Certification	12 hrs. (per category)
Private Certification	12 hrs. (per category)
Commercial Applicator License	6 six hrs.(Core)
Dealer License	3 three hrs.

**A contact hour will equal 50 consecutive minutes of training.**

**(h) Standards for Continuing Education:** The following standards will assist the licensed or certified pesticide applicator in selecting an appropriate program and the provider of education in planning and implementing continuing education programs. **The over-riding consideration in determining whether a specific program qualifies as acceptable continuing education is that it be a planned program of learning which contributes directly to the professional competence of a licensed pesticide applicator.**

### *1. Amount*

- a. 50 consecutive clock minutes is equivalent to one contact hour.
- b. One continuing education credit unit (CEU) equals ten contact hours.
- c. One semester hour equals 15 contact hours.

## *2. Continuing Education Provider Standards*

a. **Learner Objectives:** Objectives shall be written and be the basis for determining content, learning experience, teaching methodologies, and evaluation.

b. **Subject Matter** Appropriate subject matter for continuing education purposes shall include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

i. Applicable State and Federal Laws and Regulations

ii. Integrated Pest Management

iii. Non-chemical Alternatives

iv. Groundwater Protection

v. Endangered Species

vi. Pesticide Impact on Human Health

vii. Pesticide Label and Labeling Comprehension

viii. Acute and Chronic Toxicity

ix. Biological Control

x. Subject matter which improves competency and is not specified on the foregoing list

c. Employees orientation or in-service presentations concerning standard operating procedures specific to the employing agency shall not be accepted for continuing education purposes.

d. Subject matter shall be described in outline form and shall include learner objectives, content, time allotment, teaching methods, faculty and evaluation format.

e. Continuing Education Providers must notify the Department seven days in advance of offering contact hours, location(s) and contact person.

**(i) Methods of Obtaining Contact Hours.** Workshops, lectures and seminars are acceptable for obtaining continuing education contact hours. Continuing education contact hours may also be obtained from an academic institution, self-study or correspondence course and for teaching and/or publishing activities provided the following standards are adhered to:

*1. Academic Course:* The course must be within the framework of a curriculum that leads to an academic degree in entomology, botany, plant pathology, agriculture, pest control, toxicology, public health or is relevant to pesticide use, or any course within that curriculum that is necessary to an individual's professional growth and development.

*2. Self-Study or Correspondence Course:* The course should:

a. be developed by a professional group such as an educational corporation or professional association;

b. follow logical sequence;

c. involve the learner by requiring active response to module materials and providing feedback;

d. contain a test to indicate progress and verify completion of module; and

e. supply a bibliography for continued study.

3. *Teaching or Publication:* Continuing education hours may be earned by teaching a particular course, seminar series, or workshop for the first time, delivering a paper or lecture, or publishing an article or book in pesticide use. As provided above, a course, seminar, or book may be considered for up to nine continuing education hours; a published article may be considered the equivalent of up to five hours; and a lecture or paper may be considered the equivalent of up to three hours.

**(j) Education Methods.**

1. Learning experiences and teaching methods should be appropriate to achieve the objectives of the program.
2. Principles of adult education should be used in the design of the program.
3. Time allotted for each activity should be sufficient for the learner to meet the objectives of the program.

**(k) Faculty Qualifications.** Faculty should possess knowledge of the principles of adult education and should provide documentation to the provider/learner illustrating competency in the content of the planned learning experience.

**(l) Evaluation**

1. Provision must be made for evaluating the participant's attainment of the stated learner objectives/outcomes.
2. Participants must be given the opportunity to evaluate faculty, learning experiences instructional methods, facilities and educational resources used for the offerings/programs.

**(m) Specific Conditions Regarding Continuing Education Requirement.** Certificate or non-certified applicators taking courses for the purpose of obtaining a baccalaureate or higher degree in the biological sciences will be considered to have met the continuing education requirements specified in this section provided such courses equal at least the required number of hours. Other academic degree programs may qualify at the discretion of the Department. Individuals must maintain transcripts of courses and hours for a period of three years following license renewal for purposes of verification.