

Informational Handout

Revised DPR License & Certification Regulations

Private Applicator Certificate (PAC)

Background:

The U.S. EPA has revised Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations Part 171 (40 CFR Part 171), setting stronger standards for some pesticide use regulations. As a result, California must update some of its pesticide license and certification requirements, to align with these revised federal regulations.

This handout provides a brief summary of the certification changes affecting persons applying for, or renewing, their Private Applicator Certificate (PAC).

Summary:

The revised 40 CFR Part 171 has expanded the competency standards for California's PAC examinations. All PAC holders will need to meet these new standards to be in compliance, as outlined below. The revised examinations that meet these requirements are available through your local County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. New applicants for a PAC can begin taking these revised exams at this time.

In order to renew their certificates and stay in compliance, all existing PAC holders must take and pass the revised exams prior to their card's expiration date. Renewing through continuing education will not be an option until the card holder has taken and passed the new exams that include the revised competency standards.

Taking and passing the new exam will be required at or before a PAC's expiration date and will occur over a three-year period as follows:

- By January 1, 2024 – PAC w/ last names "R-Z"
- By January 1, 2025 – PAC w/ last names "A-H"
- By January 1, 2026 – PAC w/ last names "I-Q"

In addition, any existing PAC holders using their card to purchase or use fumigant products labeled for the control of burrowing vertebrate pests, must take and pass a new PAC exam, with a new "Burrowing Vertebrate Pest Fumigation Certificate" option, by January 1, 2024, to remain in compliance after that date, regardless of their card's current expiration date. The use of any other fumigant pesticide products will require a commercial applicator certificate in the appropriate fumigant use category.

More Information:

Detailed information about these regulatory changes can be found at the Calif Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) website:

<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/rulepkgs/22-003/22-003.htm>

or <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/> (Search for **DPR 22-003**)

CDPR has also produced a helpful video about these changes. It is available for viewing at the following YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DO4WjgZne6Q>