



Frequently Asked Questions: School IPM License Category

What is the purpose of the proposed School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) license category?

As requested by school representatives and other stakeholders, ODA is proposing a school IPM license category (with associated training) that is better calibrated to the laws and pesticide uses that are relevant to schools. The goals are to enhance compliance with the school IPM law and be more protective of children, while creating a more streamlined regulatory process that does not create additional costs for license holders who are already satisfied with their current license categories (Note: the proposed license category is optional, see question #2 below).

Will the proposed School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) license category be required?

The school IPM license category is optional. So, if you are already properly licensed to make pesticide applications on school campuses, you will not be required by ODA to add the proposed school IPM license category to do work you are already doing. Similarly, if so desired, new license applicants can choose an appropriate license category other than the proposed school IPM license category (IHS General Pest, Ornamental & Turf Herbicide, etc).

What are the benefits of the proposed school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) license category?

The school IPM license category is designed to broadly cover the most common pesticide uses across all areas on school campuses. As proposed, it offers the following potential benefits:

- Better training: Proposed license category signifies an individual's knowledge of the school IPM law, IPM strategies, and the increased risks posed by pesticides to children when compared to adults.
- Covers all areas on the school campus: With certain limitations, the proposed license category would cover pesticide applications made both indoors and outdoors on the campus.
- Lower costs for many: Most typical applications can be carried out under a single license category, rather than an applicator having to have two or more categories, as is common.
- License category is optional: Applicators who are satisfied with their current license categories are not required to also have the School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) license category.

Can I make pesticide applications that aren't covered by the proposed School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) license category?

Yes, but you will need another appropriate [license category](#), and you are still subject to the requirements of the school IPM law and the school's IPM plan.

How can I obtain the school IPM license category?

To add the school IPM license category to your current Public or Commercial Pesticide Applicator license, you will need to pass the school IPM exam (available starting March 25, 2019) at an ODA-approved testing center. If you do not yet have a Public or Commercial license, you will also need to pass the Laws and Safety exam.

Once you pass the required exams, a license application will be sent to you. Please submit the completed application with payment to the secure fax or address listed on the application form and allow 2-4 weeks for processing.

How do I schedule and exam?

Exams can be scheduled starting March 25, 2019 through the [Metro Institute's](#) website. Additional information about testing centers and fees is available on the [ODA website](#).

What should I study before taking the school IPM category exam?

Before taking the school IPM license category exam, it is highly recommended that you study the *Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Oregon Schools* manual. This manual will be available for order through the National Pesticide Safety Education Center starting March 1, 2019. Information about ordering the manual will be available on the [ODA website](#).

Is the training manual for the proposed school IPM license category the only way to learn more about the school IPM law?

No. The [OSU School IPM Program](#) offers several trainings across Oregon each year.

Additionally, ODA worked with the OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program to offer a breakout session on the school IPM law at the 2019 [Chemical Applicator's Short Course](#) and [Non-Crop Vegetative Management Course](#).