



ODA Pesticide Advisory

Flight Experience Requirements:

Qualifying for the Oregon Aerial Pesticide Applicator License

September 12, 2024

It is a violation of Oregon law to apply any pesticide by aircraft (including unmanned aerial vehicles) unless you are appropriately licensed as an Aerial Pesticide Applicator. This means that someone without an Aerial Pesticide Applicator license cannot make a pesticide application via aircraft in Oregon, even if supervised by a licensed Aerial Pesticide Applicator.

Therefore, if you are training to qualify for an Oregon Aerial Pesticide Applicator license, you are limited to one of the following options to gain the required 50 hours of flight experience:

1. Apply water, fire retardant, fertilizer, granular formulation blanks, or some other substance that is not a pesticide, via aircraft to simulate a pesticide application.
2. Receive in-person training from an appropriately licensed Aerial Pesticide Applicator during flights in which the Aerial Pesticide Applicator applies pesticides (or some other substance to simulate a pesticide application) via aircraft. In this scenario, where pesticides are being applied, you must not operate any controls that could influence the application equipment (including controllers that are jointly used to control the aircraft and application equipment). Such training must be reasonably free from distractions and allow for communication between the person being trained and the licensed aerial applicator.
3. Apply pesticides via aircraft in a state other than Oregon. You must be appropriately licensed in the state in which the pesticide application takes place.

Additionally, for the flight experience to count, you must be appropriately licensed at the time the flight occurs and you must appropriately document your experience.

Additional information is available from our [guidance document](#). If you have questions, please contact the ODA Pesticides Program at pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov or 503.986.4635.