

## Pesticide Testing: Frequently Asked Questions

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### Which exam(s) do I need?

Find detailed licensing information, study guides, links to key websites, and CEU opportunities at [www.polksmallfarms.com](http://www.polksmallfarms.com).

### When are the exams?

The first working Monday of every month beginning at 9 a.m. Exams may also be offered with exam prep classes. Check the calendar page of [www.polksmallfarms.com](http://www.polksmallfarms.com) for exam dates as well as local and regional training opportunities.

### Which exams are offered?

All Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement exams are offered, including restricted use, public health, and structural categories. Pest Control Operator exams are only available via a limited number of four hour computer exam timeslots.

### Do I need to register in advance?

There is no need to register in advance for paper exams. There is a three hour time limit per paper exam. You may take as many exams as needed by 5 p.m. There is no penalty for taking exams and not passing.



CHRIS ROBINSON AND JAMISON ESKDALE SIT FOR COMPUTER EXAMS  
PHOTO BY: MARY BETH HENRY

### Can I take the exam on computer?

All exams are now available to take on computer, administered at the Extension office. Computer exams require prior registration through the FDACS website and are administered at the same time as paper exams. The advantage to taking exams on computer is that you will find out your score right away. Computer exams are different each time, as questions are randomly selected from a bank of questions. Computer exams are limited to two hours per exam. See factsheet #2 for details and <https://pesticideexam.ifas.ufl.edu> to register.

### What do I need to bring to the exam?

Bring a current form of state issued identification. Cell phones brought into the exam room will be collected so it's easier if you leave them in the car. For paper exams you will complete a form which requires the address and phone number of your employer. If you are taking a computer exam, be sure to bring your voucher number.

## How much does it cost?

For restricted use licenses, there is no charge to take the exams. There is a fee for the license once you have passed the Core and a category exam: \$100 for a private or public license and \$250 for a commercial license. There is no additional charge for multiple license categories.

There is an application and fee to take all structural exams including all limited exams. The Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Exam also requires a six hour training class. With the limited licenses you pay to take the exam, but there is no fee for the license. FDACS now has an online payment feature and payment is required prior to taking any structural exam on computer.

## Where can I get the materials?

See the required manuals and helpful study guides at [www.polksmallfarms.com](http://www.polksmallfarms.com). Manuals are available through The University of Florida Extension Bookstore at 1-800- 226-1764 or online at <http://ifasbooks.ifas.ufl.edu/c-114-pesticides.aspx>. A copy of the most commonly requested study materials have also been placed in the Polk County Library System.

## What score do I have to earn to pass?

Restricted use and Mosquito Control Exams require 70% correct to pass; and Structural exams require 75%. For the restricted use exams, if you don't pass both the Core and category exams the first time, you have a year to pass the other exam. After one year the results of the exam you passed are void and you must retest.

## How long will it take to get my results?

It can take two weeks to a month to receive your exam score through the mail. One advantage to taking the exam on computer is that you will find out your score as soon as you finish the exam.

## Can I check my score online?

Search restricted use exam scores using the database searches at:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Environmental-Services/Business-Services/Pesticide/Pesticide-Applicator-Certification/Pesticide-Licensee-Dealer-Database-Searches>.

This feature cuts out the mail time and can also be used to search for CEU classes and more.

## How do I renew my license?

Renew by retesting or earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The required CEUs and renewal interval vary among licenses. CEUs are available through classes, online and by video, offered the first working Monday of the month.

License	Total CEUs	Core	Category	Renew every
Aquatic	20	4	16	4 years
Natural Areas	20	4	16	4 years
Ornamental and Turf	16	4	12	4 years
Private	8	4	4	4 years
Right of Way	12	4	8	4 years
Limited Lawn and Ornamental	4	2	2	4 years
Limited Commercial Maintenance	4	2	2	1 year

## Where can I find more information?

See upcoming exam dates and more detailed information at [www.polksmallfarms.com](http://www.polksmallfarms.com).

## Or, Call your County Extension Agent:

Mary Beth Henry, Integrated Pest Management Extension Agent II, [mbhenry@ufl.edu](mailto:mbhenry@ufl.edu), 863-519-1049.