

## MEMORANDUM

**SUBJECT:** Distribution of Restricted Use Pesticides to Certified Applicators in Iowa

**DATE:** March 26, 2020

**FROM:** Maury Noonan, IDALS Regulatory Division Director; Dr. Gretchen Paluch, Pesticide Bureau Chief

**TO:** Iowa Pesticide Dealers

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On March 22, 2020, Governor Kim Reynolds issued an emergency [proclamation](#) allowing certified pesticide applicators in Iowa the ability to retain their 'current' certification status through December 31, 2020. The relevant language from the proclamation states:

*Pursuant to Iowa Code § 29C.6(6), I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code § 206.5(2)(a) solely as it applies to commercial applicators, public applicators, and private applicators who were certified applicators as of December 31, 2019.*

Therefore, applicators who were certified on December 31, 2019 retain their certified status. Additionally, those applicators now have until December 31, 2020, to complete and submit the testing or training required to renew a pesticide applicator certification. The purpose of this memo is to help Iowa Pesticide Dealers understand this regulatory relief.

Iowa Code § 206.11(3)(a) states that the following is unlawful:

*To distribute any restricted use pesticide to any person who is required by law or rules promulgated under such law to be certified to use or purchase such restricted pesticides unless such person or the person's agent, to whom distribution is made, is certified to use or purchase such restricted pesticide. Subject to conditions established by the secretary such certification may be obtained immediately prior to distribution from any person designated by the secretary.*

Effective March 23, 2020, Iowa pesticide applicators with certifications that expired on December 31, 2019 are now in a "current" status through December 31, 2020. Commercial applicators must be covered under a current pesticide company license or they are considered in an "inactive" status. Private applicators are not subject to or associated with a company pesticide license.

Certification status can be verified through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship website- <https://iowaagriculture.gov/pesticide-bureau/applicator-licensing-certification>, or presentation of a pesticide applicator certification card that shows a certification expiration date of "12/31/2019".

IDALS has issued official regulatory guidance to licensees and certified applicators regarding the effect of the Governors' proclamation. This guidance is located [here](#).

Please direct questions related to pesticide applicator certification status to the IDALS Pesticide Bureau, 515-281-8591 or email [pesticides@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:pesticides@iowaagriculture.gov).