

UNDERSTANDING Pesticide Applicator Rule Changes

TERM	EXPLANATION
Worker protection standard	Federal regulation set by the Environmental Protection Agency to protect agricultural workers and pesticide handlers from exposure to pesticides. It requires employers to provide information, training and protective measures to minimize risks associated with pesticide use.
Certified commercial applicator	Person who demonstrates a fundamental knowledge of the minimum state and federal standards of competency for commercial applicators by passing an examination administered by the department and filing for certification.
Noncertified applicator	Person who is not certified in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 45 to use restricted use pesticides. A noncertified applicator may use restricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a certified applicator within the first 21 days of initial employment if all requirements are met.
Supervising pesticide applicator	Person who is certified in the appropriate category, to apply or supervise the use of pesticides. In some cases, uncertified applicators can work under the direct supervision of a certified applicator for a limited time period if qualifications are met.
Certified pesticide handler	Person employed by a licensed commercial, noncommercial, public applicator or a pesticide dealer. May handle any pesticide in open containers for the purposes of preparing, mixing, or loading pesticides for application by another person, repackaging bulk pesticides, or disposing of pesticide-related wastes from these activities.
Direct supervision	The application of a pesticide is made by a competent person acting under the instructions and control of a certified applicator who is physically present by being in sight or hearing distance of the noncertified applicator.
Private applicator	Certified applicator who uses or supervises the use of any pesticide which is classified for restricted use on property owned or rented by the applicator or the applicator's employer or, if applied without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of another person.
Commercial applicator	Person engaged in the business of applying any pesticide to the lands or property of another. Each individual who applies pesticides for a commercial pesticide applicator is required to be certified.
Restricted use pesticides	Pesticide products containing active ingredients classified as restricted use by the department or EPA under the FIFRA are limited to use by or under the direct supervision of a certified applicator. These products are not available for purchase or use by the general public.

