

Pesticide Applicator Certificate of Qualification

Administrative change

Effective immediately, the printed credential titled Pesticide Applicator Certificate of Qualification will be printed as Pesticide Applicator Certificate.

There has not been a change in legislation. This change is administrative in nature and does not affect an individual's certification status, training requirements, or the activities they are authorized to perform.

Holders of a Pesticide Applicator Certificate will continue to be authorized to conduct pesticide applications in accordance with their training and certification category. The credential will continue to be recognized by the Alberta Environment and Protected Areas as the required certification for individuals working under a pesticide service registration and for pesticide applications where certification is required.

The purpose of this change is to provide greater clarity regarding the nature of the credential. The pesticide applicator credential is a regulatory requirement established under Alberta's pesticide regulatory framework. While it remains an important professional credential, it is **not a recognized skilled trade certification**. Administratively renaming the credential to Pesticide Applicator Certificate helps distinguish it from apprenticeship and designated trade qualifications.

What this means for individuals who currently hold a Pesticide Applicator Certificate of Qualification

- Their existing credential remains valid.
- Their authority to apply pesticides within the scope of their certification is unchanged.
- Their certification category and qualifications remain unchanged.
- The credential continues to satisfy certification requirements associated with pesticide service registrations.
- No action is required.

Updated credentials will be issued as part of normal program operations and renewal processes.

If you have questions regarding this change, please contact the Alberta Pesticide Certification Program at EPA.Pesticides@gov.ab.ca

Change at a glance

The credential is being administratively renamed from **Pesticide Applicator Certificate of Qualification to Pesticide Applicator Certificate** to better reflect its purpose as a regulatory credential and to avoid confusion with recognized skilled trades and apprenticeship certifications.

- There is no change to a certified pesticide applicator's authority to apply pesticides. If an individual holds a valid credential, they can continue performing pesticide applications within the scope of their certification category and training.
- This change does not affect exam requirements, training requirements, or continuing eligibility.
- Existing credentials remain valid and recognized.
- The certificate continues to be recognized by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas and by employers as the required credential for certified pesticide applicators.
- The credential continues to satisfy the certification requirements associated with pesticide service registrations.
- The requirements, privileges, and legal recognition associated with the credential remain unchanged.
- Newly processed certification and recertification applications will receive printed certificates with the updated title. Previously issued certificates remain valid and will not be reprinted unless another administrative change occurs, such as an applicator adding a new class or making a name change.
- Current credential holders do not need to take any action as a result of this change.
- Certificate numbers and certification records will remain unchanged.
- A person may continue to indicate that they hold a valid Alberta pesticide applicator credential. The title appearing on the printed credential will be **Pesticide Applicator Certificate**, but the person's qualifications and authorization remain unchanged.