



United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Plant Protection
and Quarantine

Professional
Development
Center

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Instructions for Completing the National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual



Introduction

Welcome to the *National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual* (Core Manual) training. This self-instructional program is a required component of [PPQ's Pesticide Certification and Recertification training programs](#). The course covers important information about pesticides including labels, application equipment, and personal protective equipment.

How to Proceed Through the Lessons

Start by reading the Introduction, Chapters 1 through 12, and Appendices A through G of the *National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual* (Core Manual). As you read through the manual, complete the review questions at the end of each chapter and compare your answers with those in the back of the manual. When you have finished reading through the manual, complete the practice exam in Appendix E, and check your answers against those at the end of Appendix E.

Time Allotted for PCT

Employees are allowed official time to prepare for and complete this course. The maximum amount of authorized time is listed in the following table:

Activity	Maximum Authorized Time
Self-Study – National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual	17 hours
Test Preparation	3 hours
Test	2 hours
Total time	22 hours

Questions

If you have questions about your responsibilities for completing this training, contact your supervisor, or e-mail treatments.pdc@aphis.usda.gov.