

Worker Protection Standard Training Programs, Submission Process and Criteria

The 2015 Worker Protection Standard (WPS) regulation requires WPS pesticide safety trainings (PSTs) for agricultural workers (people involved in the production of agricultural plants) and pesticide handlers (people who mix, load, or apply crop pesticides) to be EPA-approved. The WPS trainings must cover required training topics about how to mitigate and protect oneself from pesticide exposure and understanding take home exposure, worker rights, and employer responsibilities, among other topics.

The WPS also requires persons who conduct pesticide safety training for workers and handlers to meet certain qualifications. There are several ways to become qualified as a WPS trainer:

- Be designated as a trainer of certified applicators, handlers, or workers by EPA or the State or Tribal agency responsible for pesticide enforcement
- Have completed an EPA-approved pesticide safety train-the-trainer (TTT) program for trainers of workers and/or handlers
- Be currently certified as an applicator of restricted use pesticides under 40 C.F.R. Part 171

The 2015 WPS ensures that pesticide safety training is effective and accessible for the nation's workers and handlers by:

- requiring training in a manner that workers and handlers can understand;
- requiring the employer to ensure that handlers understand relevant portions of the labeling before handling a pesticide;
- expanding training to provide information on seeking medical care in the event of a pesticide exposure; and
- highlighting the anti-retaliation provisions of the WPS.

How to Submit WPS Training Materials for EPA Review

For all WPS PST and TTT training material submissions for EPA review, please submit materials electronically to Jennifer Park (park.jennifer@epa.gov) and Ana Rivera-Lupiáñez (rivera-lupianez.ana@epa.gov). In the email, please include the following:

- Name of main point of contact
- Affiliation (organization, university, state agency, etc.)
- Contact information (email, phone number)
- Indication if the training materials are for workers, handlers, or both OR if the training materials are for trainers of workers, handlers, or both
- Method of delivery (in-person, online modules, webinar, audiovisual, other media). If there is interest in creating a video, please send a script for review first before producing a video.

- Reminder: Training must be provided either orally from written materials or audio-visually.
- Affirmation statement that materials submitted are in English
 - Plans for non-English language translations (Yes/No)
 - If yes, submitters should explain how translations will be verified as accurate.
- If the training material submission is for a TTT program and documentation of the trainer's successful completion of the course will be provided, list the contents of the documentation, and if possible, provide examples (e.g., certificates or proof of completion).

For PST submissions, please ensure all required WPS training topics are covered by using this checklist.

[WPS PST Worker and Handler Checklist \(pdf\)](#) (203.78 KB)

For TTT submissions, please ensure all required WPS training topics and training administration requirements are covered by using this checklist.

[WPS TTT Worker and Handler Checklist \(pdf\)](#) (162.63 KB)

Pesticide Worker Safety

- [How EPA Protects Workers from Pesticide Risk](#)
- [Recognition and Management of Pesticide Poisonings](#)
- [In Case of Pesticide Poisoning](#)
- [Agricultural Worker Protection Standard \(WPS\)](#)
- [How to Get Certified as a Pesticide Applicator](#)
- [Pesticide Containers](#)
- [Pesticide Containment Structures](#)

[Contact Us About Pesticide Worker Safety](#)

Complete and Submit Trainer Application for Review and Approval by the NJDEP – New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

- No trainer shall conduct training of workers or handlers required by subchapter N.J.A.C. 7:30-12 without receiving recognition as a trainer by the NJDEP.
1. A person currently licensed in New Jersey as a pesticide applicator is exempt from the need to receive recognition as a trainer by the Department, unless training workers or handlers of an employer other than the trainer's employer.

- A New Jersey Trainer recognition shall be issued if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The Department receives proof that the person meets at least one of the criteria's below;

- i. Be currently certified as an applicator of restricted use pesticides under 40 CFR Part 171;
- ii. Be currently recognized as a trainer of certified applicators or pesticide handlers by a state, Federal, or Tribal agency having jurisdiction; or
- iii. Have completed an EPA-approved pesticide safety train-the-trainer program for trainers of workers.

2. And the trainer demonstrates to the Department a knowledge of relevant New Jersey pesticide laws and regulations.

The [Application for Worker Protection Trainer Recognition/Agreement](#) must be filled out, signed, and returned to NJDEP – New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection via fax or email wpspesticides@dep.nj.gov in order for you to receive a trainer certificate. This must be done prior to conducting training in New Jersey.

Training rosters, which must be completed with information from training sessions, and submitted to this office, can be downloaded here:

Worker Training Roster	Handler Training Roster
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