

Train-the-Trainer (T2) Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

T2 Program and Instructor Information

Question: What is the purpose of a Train-the-Trainer (T2) program?

Answer: Individuals providing training to pesticide handlers and fieldworkers involved in the commercial or research production of an agricultural commodity must meet minimum qualifications to be qualified to train. One way to become a qualified trainer is to attend a DPR-approved T2 course that is taught by a DPR-approved T2 instructor.

Question: How do I become a T2 instructor?

Answer: To become a DPR-approved T2 instructor and provide T2 training to those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers, individuals or organizations must submit their qualifications and T2 programs to DPR's T2 program for review and approval. The requirements for a T2 program can be found in a PDF titled "Criteria for Train-the-Trainer Programs and Instructors" on DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/trainers.htm) (<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/trainers.htm>). Once approved, T2 instructors must ensure that they update their program as needed and provide written documentation to those who have completed their program.

Question: How do I submit a T2 program and what does it need to include?

Answer: To offer T2 courses to those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers, you must submit a T2 program to DPR for approval. The requirements for a T2 program can be found in a PDF titled "Criteria for Train-the-Trainer Programs and Instructors" on DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/trainers.htm). T2 programs must initially be submitted to DPR as a hardcopy, as well as electronically. However, all subsequent revisions are submitted to DPR electronically to T2Trainers@cdpr.ca.gov.

Question: Can T2 instructors/organizations hire individuals and train them to be trainers?

Answer: Yes, T2 instructors/organizations with approved T2 programs can hire individuals and train them to be trainers under their approved T2 program.

Question: Do I need to submit a T2 program to train my employees?

Answer: Individuals who want to train only their employees do not need to submit a T2 program. However, they must be qualified to train pesticide handlers or fieldworkers by either completing an approved T2 course or holding one of several types of applicator licenses. See 3 CCR sections 6724(f) and 6764(f) for a full list of qualifications to train. See also "Who Can Train?" below.

Question: If I am training pesticide handlers and fieldworkers, do my training materials need to have DPR approval?

Answer: Materials used to train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers do not require DPR approval, but must cover all the required training topics for pesticide handlers and fieldworkers in Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations (3 CCR), sections 6724 and 6764, respectively.

Question: What resources are available for those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers?

Answer: [Training resources](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/wpresources.htm) for those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers are available at <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/wpresources.htm>. Additionally, pesticide handler and fieldworker [training program templates](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/whs_regulations.htm), which lists the required training topics, are available at https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/whs_regulations.htm.

Who Can Train?

Question: Who is qualified to train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers involved in the production of an agricultural commodity?

Those who are qualified to provide pesticide handler and fieldworker training to their employees include qualified applicator licensees (QALs) and certificate holders (QACs), private applicator certificate holders (PACs), journeyman pilots (JPCs), agricultural pest control advisers (PCAs), registered professional foresters, county biologists with a valid license in Pesticide Regulation or Investigation and Environmental Monitoring, University of California Extension Advisors, and those who have completed a DPR-approved T2 program. See 3 CCR sections 6724(f) and 6764(f) for a full list of qualifications to train.

Question: Who is qualified to be a T2 instructor and offer a T2 program?

Individuals who wish to instruct trainers using a DPR-approved T2 program are required to meet certain qualifications. DPR is authorized to evaluate and approve T2 instructors and their T2 programs used to qualify trainers who will train fieldworkers and pesticide handlers on pesticide safety.

Question: I am a certified T2 instructor with Company A, which has a DPR-approved T2 program. I am a contractor for Company B, which also has a DPR-approved T2 program. Can I retain my T2 instructor certification from Company A and continue to offer T2 training as a contractor with Company B.

Answer: Yes, you can conduct T2 trainings as a contractor with Company B. However, you will need to resubmit your application and qualifications, such as a resume or statement of qualifications, in order to be approved as a certified instructor under Company B's T2 program.

Question: My company conducted T2 training courses prior to 2018. Do we need to resubmit our T2 program to continue conducting T2 training courses?

Answer: As of March 1, 2018, DPR requires every T2 program to submit a new or revised program to include the expanded training topics that were added to California regulations. Unless the program you're currently using was approved on or after March 1, 2018, you will need to submit a new T2 program for approval. You can find all of the information for how to submit a T2 program on DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](#).

Question: If I am training pesticide handlers that work with pesticides that are not used in the production of an agricultural plant commodity, do I need to take a T2 course?

Answer: Although attending a T2 course isn't required when you are training handlers that work with pesticides not used in production agriculture, it is strongly recommended nonetheless. However, the handlers still must be trained on the required topics found in 3 CCR section 6724.

Offering a T2 Course

Question: What do I need to do to offer a T2 course?

Answer: Once DPR has approved your T2 program, you may offer T2 courses to the public. Once you determine when and where you will hold your T2 course, please contact DPR at T2Trainers@cdpr.ca.gov to provide this information.

Question: I want to offer T2 courses virtually. Are there specific changes we need to make to our program to offer it virtually?

Answer: You do not need to make any changes to your approved T2 program. However, you will need to ensure that the T2 instructor is available for the entirety of the course to answer any questions.

Question: Do I need to fill out a Continuing Education (CE) Additional Course Date Request form if I am offering a T2 course?

Answer: You do not need to fill out a CE form to offer a T2 course. However, if you want to offer CE credits for the course, you will need to fill out a CE form. The CE process, administered by DPR's Licensing and Certification Program, is separate from the T2 program. If you want to offer CE credits for your course, please email LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov.

Question: Is there a CE requirement for T2 instructors?

Answer: If you are certified as a T2 instructor you do not need CE credits to remain qualified. However, if you want to provide T2 trainings under a T2 program other than the one you are certified under, you must resubmit your qualifications to be certified under another program.

Attending a T2 Course

Question: I would like to attend a T2 course. Is there a schedule of upcoming T2 courses being offered?

Answer: DPR maintains a list on its [T2 Program Webpage](#) of approved T2 programs that offer training courses for those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers. Please contact a T2 program to determine course availability. By attending a T2 training, you will be qualified to train employees that handle (mix, load, apply, etc.) pesticides and fieldworkers who conduct work in treated fields.

Question: Is there a CE requirement for those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers?

Answer: If you completed an “instructor training” course presented by a [DPR-approved T2 program](#), you do not need CE credits to remain qualified. The certificate of completion you should have received can be presented to your local County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office inspector to validate your qualification.

Online T2 Courses

Question: Is there an online T2 course approved by DPR?

Answer: DPR has not approved an online T2 course. However, DPR maintains a list on its [T2 Program Webpage](#) of approved T2 programs that offer T2 courses, some of which are offered virtually.

Question: I recently completed a web-based [training for trainers course](#) through the Pesticide Education Resources Collaborative (PERC). My completion certificate indicates that the course was created through a cooperative agreement between U.S. EPA, UC Davis, and Oregon State University. Is this course approved by DPR for providing pesticide safety training to fieldworkers and handlers?

Answer: Although the course was created in cooperation with UC Davis, it was not submitted to DPR for approval, so the training is not an approved T2 course in California at this time.

T2 Training Records and Verification

Question: Is there is an expiration date on a T2 certification?

Answer: There is no expiration date for a T2 certification from an approved T2 program. However, as a qualified trainer, you must ensure that your training materials are updated with new information as regulations change.

Question: Where is the DPR approval number located on a T2 course completion certificate?

Answer: Although completion certificates can vary between T2 programs, the DPR approval number (W/H 000xx-CA) is generally located at the bottom of the certificate.

Question: How do I know if my T2 course completion certificate is still valid?

Answer: DPR revised its Pesticide Worker Safety regulations in 2017 to align with U.S. EPA’s revised Worker Protection Standard. Previous programs were contacted to update and resubmit for approval their T2 programs. If the T2 program has a DPR-approval number (H/W-000xx-CA), has a 2017 date or newer, and is listed on DPR’s list of [approved T2 programs](#), then it is still valid.

Question: Does the list of T2 program instructors contain all approved individuals in the state that can train those who train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers?

Answer: Yes. The list of T2 program instructors on DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](#) contains all currently approved T2 instructors and programs that can provide training to fieldworkers and handlers.

Question: If a T2 training completion certificate contains the name of an instructor not listed as an approved T2 program instructor on DPR's Webpage, is the certificate still valid?

Answer: When an approved instructor leaves an organization with an approved T2 program, that program will request that the individual's name be removed from DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](#). To verify the status of an instructor based on a completion certificate, it is best to first contact the T2 program to ensure that the listed instructor is active under that program. As long as the instructor was active with the T2 program at the time the certificate was issued, it is valid.

Question: How do I verify that an individual has completed a DPR-approved T2 program and is qualified to train pesticide handlers and fieldworkers?

Answer: While DPR does not maintain records of those who have completed a T2 course, this information is available by contacting the individual T2 program itself, as each DPR-approved program must keep record of all attendees. The list of T2 program instructors on DPR's [T2 Program Webpage](#) contains all currently approved T2 programs and instructors that provide training to those who train fieldworkers and handlers.

Question: How do I verify that a person conducting a fieldworker training is qualified to train?

Answer: It is the responsibility of the employer to keep records of those who provided the training and their qualifications, as specified in 3 CCR section 6764(e). If the trainer is qualified because he/she attended a T2 training, you can verify this by contacting the certifying T2 program. All DPR-approved T2 programs are required to keep records of all persons who attend and successfully complete their training and must provide these records upon request.

Question: What must a T2 instructor report to DPR for trainees who only want to train fieldworkers?

Answer: T2 instructors only need to keep a record of individuals they have trained and provide them with completion certificates. If they train certain individuals to only conduct fieldworker training, the instructor can simply make note of this in their training record and on the trainee's certificate.

Question: What must a T2 instructor report to DPR so that a trainee's certificate of completion is documented?

Answer: T2 instructors must keep a record of those they have trained. They do not need to provide DPR with training records or certificates.