

Field Fumigation Licensing Requirements

Beginning in 2009, when licensed pest control businesses do field fumigations, the work must be supervised by a qualified applicator that has a special field fumigation license. The person acting in a supervisory capacity for a pest control business that conducts field fumigations must also get the special field fumigation license.

Regulations to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from fumigant pesticides went into effect in January 2008. To help assure competency in fumigation applications, beginning in 2009, pest control businesses that do field fumigations must have a supervisor with special training. This requirement applies statewide.

New licensing requirements for field fumigation

The new field fumigation licensing requirements include:

- ◆ When licensed pest control businesses do field fumigations, a QAL/QAC holder with the new field fumigation subcategory O must supervise them.
- ◆ A person who performs or supervises field fumigation applications for a licensed pest control business must hold a QAL/QAC in the field fumigation subcategory.
- ◆ When private applicators do field fumigations, they will not be required to hold the special license/certificate.
- ◆ All other DPR license types (that is, pilots, advisers, dealer designated agents, dealers, brokers and maintenance gardener pest control business) may not conduct field fumigations.

These requirements go into effect January 1, 2009.

Private applicators who do field fumigations are not required to hold the special fumigation license.





Anyone wanting to use previous experience to qualify for the new license subcategory must apply by December 31, 2008.



How to qualify for the new fumigation subcategory

Applicators may qualify for subcategory O in one of two ways:

- ◆ *Through December 31, 2008*, by meeting the experience criteria described below for grandfathering into the subcategory, or
- ◆ *Beginning January 1, 2009*, by taking the new field fumigation licensing exam.

Experience needed to qualify for the new license without an exam (before January 1, 2009)

These are the experience criteria needed to qualify for subcategory O (applies only before January 1, 2009):

- ◆ Anyone who already has a QAL or QAC in plant agriculture (category D), regulatory pest control (category G), or demonstration and research (category J), and who has at least two years recent experience conducting field fumigation (described in next bullet), will be able to qualify for the license subcategory without exams or fees.
- ◆ The applicator must have at least 24 months of field fumigation experience between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2008. Experience must be documented by the applicant on the form, *Qualified Applicator's Qualifications and Employment Certification Statement*. The form is available on DPR's Web site, www.cdpr.ca.gov, click on "Licensing,," then "Forms."

Experienced applicators wishing to take advantage of this option must apply by December 31, 2008. Applicants after that date must take the examination and pay required fees.

Testing criteria (beginning January 1, 2009)

To obtain a QAL/QAC in the field fumigation subcategory after December 31, 2008, applicators must pass the Laws and Regulations Exam and Field Fumigation Pest Control Subcategory Exam. The subcategory exam will be the same for both QAL and QAC. Study materials will be available in December 2008.

Renewing subcategory O licenses and certificates

The renewal requirement for subcategory O is the same as for other qualified applicators, that is, a minimum of 20 hours of approved continuing education relating to pest management and pesticides, including not less than four hours pertaining to pesticide laws and regulations.

For more information on the new requirements, visit our Web site, www.cdpr.ca.gov, click on "A-Z Index," then on "VOC regulations."