Who Needs It?

For persons who perform pest control for hire (advertises, solicits, or operates as a pest control business) incidental to their business of maintenance gardening (FAC section 11704[a]). The incidental pest control is limited to ornamental and turf plantings indoors, in commercial parks, or surrounding structures (FAC section 11704[b]). This license also includes maintenance gardening work in parks, golf courses, cemeteries, rights-of-ways, and other similar sites. In any other situation, the business must obtain a pest control business license.

Exemptions: Persons doing pest control, incidental to new construction, are not required to obtain this business license. This would include construction work in establishing new landscapes.

What’s Required?

• Have at least one person in a supervisory position who holds a valid QAC or QAL with the Maintenance Gardener (Category Q) or the Landscape Maintenance (Category B) Pest Control Category at each location (FAC section 11704[a])
• Fulfill financial responsibility requirement (FAC section 11701[c][2] and 3 CCR section 6524)
• Fictitious Business Name Statement from the County Clerk’s Office (FAC section 11702[a])
• Certificate of Good Standing for companies that are corporations - obtained for a fee from the Secretary of State (FAC 11702[a])
• License fee of $80.00 per year (FAC section 11704[c])

Additional Requirements!

• Register with the county agricultural commissioner (CAC) in each county where work is performed (FAC section 11732)
• Retain records of pesticide use for two years (3 CCR section 6624)
• Submit pesticide use report records to CAC (3 CCR sections 6626 and 6627)
• Have valid permits for restricted materials used (3 CCR section 6632)

References: Food and Agricultural Code sections 11403, 11701 - 11741 and Title 3, California Code of Regulations sections 6522 - 6524.