

Directions on how to get a College Course Approved for the DPR Agricultural Pest Control Adviser (PCA) Minimum Education Requirement

DPR with the help of the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee (APCAC) is developing a list of courses (sorted by college) that meet the PCA minimum education qualifications. This list is expected to be posted to DPR's web site in May 2016: <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/pcacoursreq.htm>

Anyone can submit a course at any time to DPR by using the email or mailing address at the bottom of this page. We highly encourage college professors or administration to review courses annually and submit any new or revised courses to DPR with as much lead time as possible. This will allow DPR staff to review, approve, and add the course to DPR's web site for students' use prior to the college's course registration period. Perspective PCAs and students are also welcome to directly submit courses to DPR for review and approval.

DPR will need the following information in order to review and approve a course:

- 1.) College/University Name
- 2.) Course Title
- 3.) College's Course Number
- 4.) Course Curriculum (detailed course description)
- 5.) Number of semester or quarter units the course receives
- 6.) Which of the following DPR PCA minimum education category(ies) you feel it belongs in:
 - **Physical and Biological Sciences** – This category includes inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, plant biology or botany, general ecology, biology, genetics, plant physiology, and zoology.
 - **Crop Health** – This category includes soils and irrigation, as well as introductory courses in vegetative management or weed science; plant pathology; entomology; plant nutrition or fertility; nematology; and vertebrate management. Note: For course titles such as Senior Project, Internship, Cooperative Work Experience, Independent Study, Dissertation, and Thesis, only a total of 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units are allowed and the PCA applicant will be asked to include a course or project description, and a justification for the course category and principal area of study within the category to be accepted for credit.
 - **Pest Management Systems and Methods** – This category includes applied courses in entomology; plant pathology; vegetation management or weed science; and other pest management disciplines, in addition to biological control and courses related to pesticides, pest control equipment systems, and the use of pesticides, note that one course is required that emphasizes integrated pest management principles. Courses on alternative cropping systems and sustainable or organic agricultural systems are acceptable. Note: For course titles such as Senior Project, Internship, Cooperative Work Experience, Independent Study, Dissertation, and Thesis, only a total of 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units are allowed and the PCA applicant will be asked to include a course or project description, and a justification for the course category and principal area of study within the category to be accepted for credit.
 - **Production Systems** – This category includes horticulture; viticulture; forestry; agronomy; and crop, vegetable, fruit, or animal sciences; or other production systems. Note: For course titles such as Senior Project, Internship, Cooperative Work Experience, Independent Study, Dissertation, and Thesis, only a total of 3 semester or 4.5 quarter units are allowed and the PCA applicant will be asked to include a course or project description, and a justification for the course category and principal area of study within the category to be accepted for credit.

Questions and Course Submissions:

Please contact us should you have any questions about the course approval process:

PCAmail@cdpr.ca.gov

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