Who Needs It?

Any person who engages in pest control for hire (advertises, solicits, or operates as a pest control business). This includes, but is not limited to, the following types of activities (FAC sections 11403, 11701):

- Ground, aquatic, and/or aerial pest control applications
- Farm management or golf course management companies when their services include pest control
- Packing houses, shippers, storage facilities, and other processors who treat agricultural commodities owned by another person or firm (does not include cooperatives)
- Companies that perform pest control on rights-of-way, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, and nurseries
- Companies that sanitize institutional portable lines, dairy milk lines, and other similar areas
- Companies that treat cooling towers and evaporative condensers

What's Required?

- Have at least one person in a supervisory position who holds a QAL with the appropriate pest control category(ies) at each principal and branch location (FAC section 11701.5)
- 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 $160.00 per year for the principal location and $80.00 per year for each branch location (FAC section 11703)

Additional Requirements!

- Register with the county agricultural commissioner (CAC) in each county where work is performed (FAC section 11732)
- Retain pest control application notification records (NOIs) for two years (3 CCR section 6619)
- 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)
- Written recommendations retained for one year (FAC section 12004)
- Businesses that perform pest control using an aircraft must have a person who holds a valid Journeyman Pest Control Aircraft Certificate (FAC section 11901)
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Operating Certificate required to operate as a commercial agricultural aircraft operator.

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