



Idaho State Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 7249 • Boise, Idaho 83707
P: 208.332.8500 • F: 208.334.2170
www.agri.idaho.gov

BRAD LITTLE, GOVERNOR
CELIA GOULD, DIRECTOR

ISDA Agricultural Resources COVID-19 Updates & FAQs

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Due to closures and modified operations in response to COVID-19, the Agricultural Resources Division has received some questions about what services are being offered. Those that provide agricultural services, including landscaping services and pest control are defined as essential services under Idaho's stay-home order.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture is operational and fully staffed. The Boise main office staff are available daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to answer questions, process license renewals, and provide assistance with licensing, enforcement, training and product registration services. In-person meetings are by appointment only.

The following is a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Question: What services are currently being provided?

Answer: The ISDA is maintaining all of its duties and functions except for proctoring applicator examinations. Social distancing policies directly affect our ability to proctor exam sessions and as a result, we are unable to provide exams to the public at this time.

We encourage customers to call or email the ISDA. However, if you must visit in-person, you will need to arrange an appointment to meet with a member of our staff. ISDA staff are unavailable for all walk-in consultations and meetings at this time

Question: My Private Applicator license expires in 2020, and I was unable to obtain all of my recertification points due to cancelled grower meetings and seminars. Are there other options for credits to renew my license?

Answer: Private Applicator license holders who need credits for license renewals may obtain their required recertification credits online. Please visit our [website](#) for a current list of online seminars and trainings.

Question: My Private Applicator license expires in 2020 and I normally renew my license by taking the recertification exam. Since exam sessions are postponed, what options do I have to renew my license?

Answer: If you do not wish to obtain online credits, you will need to wait until the ISDA resumes applicator examination sessions before you can renew your license by testing. See the question concerning private applicator licenses and online recertification courses above. The ISDA does not have a date for resuming pesticide exams at this time.

Question: I have a professional pest control company, and my business needs to license new pesticide applicators. What options are there to get my employees licensed? If they aren't able to obtain a license, can they still make pesticide applications?

Answer: Idaho regulations allow pesticide applications by unlicensed pesticide applicators if they are directly supervised by a licensed professional applicator. This means that an appropriately licensed pesticide applicator may supervise pesticide applications performed by unlicensed individuals, as long as the licensed pesticide applicator is present during the application(s). It is important to note that the supervising licensed pesticide applicator is responsible for all applications made by the unlicensed applicator(s) including all required regulatory actions, such as record keeping and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Question: I need to update my information for my license. How can I get my personal or company information updated?

Answer: You can change your personal information, business information or other administrative information by requesting the change by email. [Email](#) your changes and one of our section members will be able to update the information and reply to you once it is changed. You may also call the ISDA Licensing Section at (208) 332-8600 and talk to a section member or leave a message for them to call you back.

Question: Can I still register a pesticide product in Idaho?

Answer: Yes, for assistance with product registration please contact our Pesticide Product Registration section at (208) 332-8610. For questions or information related to special product registrations, such as the Section 18 Emergency Exemptions and the Section 24(c) Special Local Needs product registrations, please contact (208) 332-8609.

Question: Can my employees travel to a reciprocal state to test for an Idaho pesticide applicator license?

Answer: Yes, please contact the reciprocal state to inquire about reciprocal licenses. Idaho has reciprocal agreements with Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Question: I am finding a shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to purchase for my pesticide applications. What can I do to continue to apply pesticides when I don't have the label required PPE?

Answer: Pesticide applicators must wear the label-required PPE for the pesticide applications they perform. If you do not have adequate label required PPE for a pesticide application, you cannot perform the application.

Below are some suggestions for pesticide applications during this period.

- Choose pesticide products that do not require PPE or use products for which you have the required PPE.
- Use PPE that offers more protection than what is required by the pesticide product label. If this PPE is available, pesticide applicators may wear the additional equipment to mitigate exposure and still be in compliance with the label requirements.