



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Structural Pest Control Certified Applicator CEU Course Provider and Technician Training Course Provider Update - 2022

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has proposed rule that CEU courses provided via webinar with a speaker presenting live and able to answer questions from attendees will be considered an in-person course. Applicants for this type of course must mark their CEU applications to indicate the course will be given via webinar. Applicants must also provide a link to join the webinar along with the course number to the department at least 72 hours prior to the webinar. The proposed rules may not be adopted until after the first part of the year 2022, therefore TDA will extend its allowance for Department approved CEUs to be given as a web-based interactive and live courses, where the audience can ask questions of the instructor and exchange information until such time as the proposed rules go into effect.

TDA will continue to enforce requirements for CAs to obtain their CEU's for their respective license and categories each calendar year. CA's must complete their calendar year 2021 CEU's by 12/31/2021 and their 2022 CEU's by 12/31/2022. Per 4 TAC § 7.134, self-study online CEUs may be used every other year to meet CEU requirements. Web-based interactive and live online courses as authorized by this notice are not considered self-study online courses.

Currently there is no proposed rule to allow for Technician Training Courses to be given via webinar in 2022. The Structural Pest Control Advisory Committee asked that the subject of Technician Training Courses being given via webinar in the future be added to the agenda for the January 20, 2022, meeting. The topic was discussed, and additional discussion will take place in future committee meetings in 2022. **Therefore, due to the current COVID situation and the need for more discussion by the advisory committee in 2022, Technician Training Courses will be allowed to be given via webinar through December 31, 2022. As of January 1, 2023, Technician Training Courses will be required to be in-person courses until further notice.**

INFORMATION FOR PROVIDERS OF CERTIFIED APPLICATOR CEU COURSES

Interactive and live courses that have received TDA approval for CEU credit may continue to be offered via-live web-based courses. These CEU courses must have the capability for the audience to ask questions and/or interact with the speaker. The Department must be notified at least 14 days ahead of time of any web-based interactive course and must be provided with web access to the course so that TDA may be able to monitor the course, should it choose to do so. The TDA will allow live web-based CEU courses to be given until such time as the proposed rules are adopted, which will allow live-web-based CEU courses to be considered in-person courses. Course providers are responsible for adhering to all other rules applicable to CEU courses such as establishing procedures for verification of completion, including accurately recording participant attendance records throughout the stated class length, and all other requirements outlined in applicable statutes or regulations.

INFORMATION FOR PROVIDERS OF TECHNICIAN TRAINING COURSES

Due to the current COVID situation and the need for more discussion by the advisory committee, Technician Training Courses will be allowed to be given via webinar through December 31, 2022. As of January 1, 2023, Technician Training Courses will be required to be in-person courses until further notice.

TESTING

Testing is currently offered by the TDA's third party testing company, PSI, LLC. PSI can be reached at their website, www.psiexams.com or 1-855-807-3998.

IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE: Structural Pest Control Service. SPCS@TexasAgriculture.gov Phone: (512) 463-3207