



Aerial Application

Certification website: [Pesticide Section - Category 11 - Aerial Application \(Plane, Helicopter, etc.\) \(purdue.edu\)](https://www.purdue.edu/pesticide-section-category-11-aerial-application)

Credential Summary

Commercial applicators (for hire, not for hire, and government employees) and businesses using pesticides (insecticides, weed killers, fungicides, etc.) to make any application by plane, helicopter, ultra-light, or lighter than air aircraft. This would cover any aerial application being made to agricultural fields, power lines and other right-of-way areas, forests and wooded areas and aquatic sites. Once certified, a commercial Category 11 fertilizer applicator must become licensed in order to legally use (apply, handle, transport) or supervise the use of commercial fertilizers or manure from a CFO (Confined Feeding Operation) for hire. Licensing refers to the issuance of a wallet-size license (credential).

Overview

- **Related Instructional Hours:** 24
- **Exam details:** Core exam followed by Category 11 Aerial Application
 - May attempt up to 3 times in a 12-month period
- **Third party testing provider:** Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc (AMP)
- **Exam cost:** \$32
- **Renewal details:** Certification is valid for 5 years, expiring December 31 of the fourth year following the year of qualification
 - Can renew for another 5 years by repeating the examination process or accumulating at least 20 continuing certification hours (CCHs) by attending approved recertification programs.

Job Opportunities

- **Relevant SOC codes**
 - Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation 37-3012
 - Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technologists and Technicians 17-3024
- **Demand information**
 - Average flame ranking = 2.6/5
- **Average Wages**
 - Range from \$42,660 (20.51 per hour) to \$70,410 (33.85 per hour)

Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies

- UAV Introduction
- Camera Settings
- Sensors and Artificial Intelligence
- FAA Part 107
- Flight Plans & Record Keeping
- Free Flight Instructions
- Planned Flight Instruction
- Use of Third-Party Applications/Processing Software



Post Secondary Relevance

- **Next level programs of study**
 - Plant and Soil Science
 - Food Science
 - Advanced Life Science: Foods
 - Advanced Life Science, Plants and Soils
 - Agricultural Biotechnology