Pesticide Applicator License

Description and Labor Market Information
Certifies applicant to apply pesticides in accordance with EPA and HDOA regulations.

This credential was associated with 26 occupations that were identified as well-paying and in demand. Overall, those occupations represent 64,730 positions with 7,694 annual openings within the state and median hourly earnings of $27.43.

Sample Occupations

Tree Trimmers and Pruners
Median Hourly Earnings: $21.60
Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
Total Positions: 252
Annual Job Openings: 35

Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers
Median Hourly Earnings: $15.77
Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: No formal educational credential
Total Positions: 8,598
Annual Job Openings: 1,147

First-Line Supervisors of Landscaping, Lawn Service, and Groundskeeping Workers
Median Hourly Earnings: $26.91
Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
Total Positions: 675
Annual Job Openings: 78

Certifying Entity Information
State of Hawaiʻi - Plant Industry Division
Website: hdoa.Hawaiʻi.gov
Phone: (808) 973-9409
Local Availability:
Local Plant Industry branch

Exam Details
Age Requirement: 18
Coursework/Hours to Complete: None
Length of Certification Validity: 5 years
Exam Cost: $100
Exam Time: 3 hours
Number of Questions: 50 to 100
Pass Rate: 50%
This project has been a joint effort between Kamehameha Schools, the Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i, University of Hawai‘i P-20, and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation.

Students in Hawai‘i can earn hundreds of industry-recognized credentials right now. Thousands of students are investing time and resources to achieve these credentials with the hope they will lead to a career that enables them to live and thrive in Hawai‘i. But how effective are these programs at preparing Hawai‘i students for future careers and long-term success?

Promising Credentials in Hawai‘i, a first-of-its-kind analysis for our state, looks at whether the credentials students can earn actually matter in the real world to local employers.

Through intensive labor market analysis and outreach to local Hawai‘i businesses, this project has identified 137 Promising Credentials that are associated with in-demand, living wage occupations throughout the state. The process began with identifying 274 Promising Occupations that met wage and demand thresholds. A list of corresponding credentials for the 274 occupations was then compiled using job postings data. Finally, Hawai‘i employers from across the state completed surveys and participated in focus groups to narrow the list of nearly 2,000 credentials down to the 137 credentials they say matter most when making hiring and promotion decisions.

The resulting Promising Credentials were identified as relevant in hiring and promotional decisions for multiple in demand and well-paying occupations within the state. A detailed one-page summary of each of these Promising Credentials has been organized for student, school, and community use.

The comprehensive report and associated data can be found at www.HawaiiCareerPathways.org.