

# Pesticide Technician's GUIDEBOOK

This **guidebook** will provide answers about the Pesticide Technician Program.

## New Legal Requirement

Ontario Regulation 914 under the Pesticide Act, as administered by the Ministry of Environment (MOE), now requires anyone who applies pesticide must be either Licensed or have Technician Status.

*Therefore, all unlicensed assistants working with licensed exterminators must complete a basic pesticide safety course in order to legally apply pesticides under “indirect supervision” – must have **Technician Status**.*

Indirect supervision means that the licensed exterminator is required to observe the technicians' work at least once a week at the extermination site. Unlicensed assistants who do not have technician status must work under direct supervision (i.e. hand in hand)

The Ministry of Environment (MOE) has approved the Pesticide Technician Program for unlicensed assistants to acquire the required Technician Status.

# Pesticide Technician Program

The Pesticide Technician Program consists of two parts:

- **Academic component:** a written test based on the Technician Training Manual, administered by an Industry Accredited Examiner.
- **Practical component:** a practical demonstration of 5 safety tasks, administered by a Licensed Exterminator.

## Details for Becoming a Pesticide Technician

1. Candidate enrolls with:
  - Pesticide Industry Council (PIC) **or**
  - an industry accredited examiner **or**
  - participating institution – Community College or University
  - their employer

### **Pesticide Industry Council (PIC)**

#### **c/o Landscape Ontario (Horticultural Trades)**

7856 Fifth Line South  
Milton, ON L9T 2X8

800-265-5656 toll free  
PIC Fax 905-875-3942

905-875-1805 ext 351  
computer fax 905-875-3686

Email [pic@landscapeontario.com](mailto:pic@landscapeontario.com)

Website: [www.ptppic.com](http://www.ptppic.com) for Pesticide Technician information

Website: [www.ptppic.org](http://www.ptppic.org) electronically send Technician required information

2. After the registration fee is received, a **Technician Training Manual** and PIC Guidebook will be given to the candidate directly or through an Accredited PIC Examiner. (See “Fee Schedule” on page 4 of this guide)

Website: [www.ptppic.org](http://www.ptppic.org) electronic registration

## The Academic Component

3. The Candidate studies the **Technician Training Manual**. Optional training is available through PIC, Universities and Community Colleges, Trade Associations, employers and private trainers.
4. When the Candidate is ready, the employer or an Accredited Examiner arranges an exam time and location through PIC.
5. Candidate writes the academic exam. The exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions and is open book based on the key knowledge component (first part of each chapter) of the Technician Training Manual. Only the Technician Manual will be allowed during the open book exam.
6. Upon successful completion of the academic exam, with a pass mark of 75% or greater, the candidate will receive a **Technician Identification Card** signed and dated by the Accredited Industry Examiner. (This card is **not** valid until the practical test is completed and signed off by a Licensed Exterminator). Two signatures plus the Technician's signature are required on the Technician's Card before the card is valid.

**Note:** there are no restrictions on the number of attempts to successfully complete the academic exam. However, the examination may not be attempted more than once on the same day.

## The Practical Component

7. Within 30 days of passing the Academic Exam, a Candidate performs the "five part practical demonstration" for a Licensed Exterminator, based on Part I of the **Practical Pesticide Safety Training Document** (Appendix B of the Technician Training Manual). The candidate must demonstrate proficiency in these five practical pesticide safety tasks:
  1. diluting a concentrated pesticide with a solvent
  2. correctly applying a pesticide
  3. emergency response procedures for equipment
  4. emergency response procedures for pesticide exposure
  5. emergency response procedures for handling a spill
8. If the candidate successfully completes the Practical component, the candidate will provide the **Technician Identification Card** to the Examining licensed exterminator who will sign, date, and include his or her licence number on the **Technician Identification Card**. (The *candidate* must ensure that the Required Technician Information is faxed mailed or electronically sent (ptppic.org) to the PIC within 5 working days in order to be officially registered as a Technician.)

The candidate now has Technician status, which is valid for 2 years from the date of the Academic Exam.

**Note:** Where a candidate is employed within the industry, the practical component must be completed within 30 days of passing the academic component. If the candidate is not employed in the pest management industry, such as a student, the candidate will have 365 days to complete the practical test before the card will become null and void.

## **Fee Schedule**

The fee schedule for a candidate to acquire Technician Status.

- \$95.00 per candidate

**Note:** If the examiner is “in house” or working on behalf of a member of a PIC Association of Councils, the fee is \$90.00 per candidate.

The registration fee with the PIC includes the Technician Training Manual, one examination sitting, Technician’s Guidebook, Technician Identification Card, Technician’s Log Book and on-going maintenance in the Technician database.

Training costs are over and above the registration fee. The PIC has no involvement in the conducting of training or setting training costs for other organizations.

**Cheques are made payable to “Landscape Ontario – PIC”**

## **Training Opportunities**

Workshops will be available across Ontario through PIC, Universities and Community Colleges, Private Trainers and employers. Dates for workshops are available from the PIC. Training costs are additional.

## **Limitations of Technician Status**

According to Regulation 914 neither the Trainee nor Technician are allowed to select or recommend a pesticide, calibrate equipment, or select the method or rate of application. They are also not allowed to mix, fill equipment with or apply a Schedule 2 pesticide that is suspended in air, a rodenticide, a bird control product or a soil fumigant, except in the presence of a Licensed Exterminator.

## **Documentation Required By a Technician**

A Licensed Exterminator must supervise a Technician. Supervision consists of detailed documentation of the extermination and weekly visits. The Technician must carry a work order, invoice, job sheet, logbook or other form of written instruction that contain details of the specific extermination and documentation of the and weekly visits. This information must include the location, target pest, name of the pesticide, registration number under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada) and the name and license number of the supervising exterminator. The Technician must also record the signature and date of each weekly site visit for the past 30 days of the Supervising Licensed Exterminators.

## **Changes of Address**

If a candidate’s information changes or the Technician Identification Card is lost or damaged, the Technician must notify the appropriate PIC or PIRC within 7 days so that the database can be updated or a replacement card issued.

**Check out our website for more information: [www.ptppic.com](http://www.ptppic.com)**