

Do Individual Pesticide Safety Education Programs Share Resources Across State Lines?

National Stakeholder Team for Pesticide Safety Education Program Funding

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PSEP have and are actively engaged in sharing resources across state lines. This has not always been the case, especially in the first 30 years of the program. But declining state and federal resources over the last 10 years has made it an absolute necessity. What follows are a few examples:

- **New York's Cornell University PSEP develops many of the [pesticide training manuals for the NE region of the country](#).** Thus an applicator in Massachusetts will not use a manual created or duplicative of Cornell's effort. Content in these manuals is not determined solely in New York, but rather from collaboration and input from PSEP Coordinators from across the New England States.
- **North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska all routinely participate in cross border training events.** Some are live, where Iowa's Pesticide Safety Educator travels to Fargo, ND to deliver talks on seed treatments at trainings sponsored by NDSU/UM. Others involve distance education, where Nebraska's Pesticide Educator is web conferenced into a structural pest control training sponsored by SDSU and NDSU.
- **Arkansas, Colorado, Arizona, Washington, Alabama, North Carolina, Ohio and Maryland have all benefited by curriculum developed by North Dakota.** Essentially, training modules/videos developed by NDSU were shared and then used widely in these states on the following topics: [temperature inversions and pesticide spray drift management](#), label language interpretation, and phosphine fumigant safety. Indeed, over the past four years, *these modules have been downloaded and used by 221 users in 36 states and three Canadian provinces*. Users are not just PSEP Coordinators. They include industry, state lead agency inspectors, EPA personnel, and county extension agents.
- **PSEP Coordinators have and are developing web based training tools that are being used nationwide.** [Washington](#) and [Florida](#) have web based on-line recertification courses that have been used by thousands of applicators across the country. [Nebraska has been at the forefront of developing dramatized pesticide safety videos](#) that are used in live trainings, trainings delivered by web or video conferencing, and/or or streamed over YouTube to a smartphone or iPad. [Pennsylvania](#), [Iowa](#), and [Washington](#) have developed presentations and videos that focus on Worker Protection in the field, in greenhouses, nurseries, and even in mushroom growing operations.
- **Pesticide certification [exam databases](#), exam blueprints, training manual syllabi, and training manuals are also being coordinated and developed at the national level by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation.** States with expertise engage on these efforts to minimize duplications of efforts. To date 31 states are using one or more of these tools in basic pesticide safety, soil fumigation, rights-of way, and aerial application. The work has and continues to be supported by grants from EPA, but the actual development is carried out by Pesticide Coordinators, State Lead Agency Certification and Training Managers, and subject matter experts from industry.

The above describes only a fraction of the collaboration taking place across the country. This sharing of resources has resulted in dynamic synergies in pesticide safety education and it has also avoided duplication of effort.