

Pesticide Safety Education Program Improvement and Modernization Initiative 2014-16

8/20/2013

Overall Objective: Strengthen the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) throughout the US. Improve the quality, consistency, and accessibility of applicator training materials and classes, as well as passing rates and scores on certification tests.

Specific Goals the Initiative Will Support:

- Pursue direct and indirect sustainable support at the state level (e.g. fees, fines, charges for manuals and classes, low university overhead)
- Develop minimum certification/recertification training standards
- Create more on-line distance education classes
- Establish a national website for training materials
- Compile, update, and develop materials for the national website
- Enhance collaborative efforts among states to fill training material gaps

Board Membership:

- One representative from each registrant and association that a) provides financial or fund management support and b) desires a position on the Board.
- One representative from AAPSE, AAPCO, ASPCRO, EPA, USDA, and Extension Administration.

All Board members must be able to commit 4-8 hours per week from startup through February, 2014, and for all required activities beyond that date.

Initial Board (as of 8/20/13):

American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) - Andrew Thostenson (co-chair)
DuPont Crop Protection - Bob Magee (co-chair)

Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) - Ed Crow
Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO) - Jim Burnette
CropLife America - Bill Kuckuck
Dow AgroSciences – Jane Stautz
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Richard Pont
Extension Administration - Larry Olsen
Syngenta - Carol Somody
USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP) - David Epstein

Board Responsibilities: The Board is responsible for all activities needed to implement the initiative.

- Define the website requirements
- Facilitate the establishment of minimum training standards
- Prepare the request for applications (RFA)
- Evaluate and select PSEP applications, allocate funding, identify facilitators, and track progress

Timeline (from startup through February, 2014):

- August 13: Board operational
- September 30: RFA released
- November 15: PSEP applications due
- February 28: First year funds distributed

Measures of Success: The Board will establish annual measures of success, focusing on the number of PSEPs accomplishing or progressing toward their individual commitments.

The National Stakeholder Team, State Lead Agencies, University Administrations, and others will have key support roles, where appropriate, to assist PSEPs in meeting their goals.

<http://psep.us>