

**National Stakeholder Team for Pesticide Safety Education Program Funding**  
**Archived documents available at <http://psep.us>**  
Summary – First Teleconference – October 31, 2012

The intent of this team is to focus on the task of permanent and voluntary source(s) of support for PSEP by forward-facing brainstorming. Archived documents available at <http://psep.us>

**Discuss Objective 1 - To clarify the scope of PSEP activities on which this stakeholder team will focus.** Strong support was voiced to have the team's primary focus be on the education of pesticide users and dealers who must be certified, including train-the-trainer efforts. Education of non-certified pesticides users should remain a secondary focus. In 2011, there were 480,999 certified Private Applicators (growers, ranchers, foresters, nurseryman, etc. – producing commodity on their own or their employer's property) and 410,981 certified Non-Private Applicators (EPA definition: Commercial Applicator). Some in the public sector may be certified, though not required by law to be so.

**Brainstorm Objective 2 - To establish a permanent source of federal funding for the PSEP program in every state and territory.** Currently certified applicator training is underfunded. CTAG document records a variety of funding mechanisms being used. Use multiple methods. Keep it simple. How much annual funding is needed, who should manage it, and PSEP accountability were discussed. Some state statutes prohibit PSEPs and SLAs from cost recovery (model language from a state that has succeeded at this was recommended). Funding sources mentioned:

*National:* EPA, USDA, federal maintenance fees, USDA Crop Protection (IPM), voluntary industry fund like the ACRC model, commodity check-off program

*Regional:* EPA grant funded projects

*State:* pass through portion of exam fees, certification fees, registration/maintenance fees; recertification course request/approval fees

*Users:* cost recovery directly to programs through training manual fees, training fees

**Update Objective 3 - To determine the status of, and additional potential for, state and territory support of PSEP through pesticide product registration fees, enforcement fines and other means.** A survey was sent out to state lead agencies and 32 states have responded. Survey results are posted at <http://psep.us>. 56% of states responding (to date) do provide some financial support. Review report to see where fees are deposited, fee increase limitations, mechanisms to pass funds to PSEP, etc.

**Update Objective 4 - To explore various processes for stakeholders to provide unrestricted gifts, grants, and endowments to support all or designated PSEP programs.** The process varies by university, but 47 states (universities) have now identified or established a process to accept gifts specifically directed to PSEP, and two additional states will provide this soon. Most will take no overhead; only two over 10%. Details will be posted to <http://psep.us> in ~2 weeks.

Next Conference Call: November 28, 2012 - 2:30 pm Eastern Time