

Electronic applications for the LF license/  
certificate may be submitted at  
<https://aesecomm.freshfromflorida.com/>

Before starting, please use this link to  
download a manual on how to use the  
electronic site:

[http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/  
download/35769/834473/How\\_to\\_use\\_AES  
\\_eCommerce\\_Site\\_for\\_Limited\\_Urban\\_Co  
mmercial\\_Landscape\\_Fertilizer\\_Applicator.  
pdf.](http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/35769/834473/How_to_use_AES_eCommerce_Site_for_Limited_Urban_Commercial_Landscape_Fertilizer_Applicator.pdf)

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A web link for questions about water  
quality and BMP requirements:

[http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint  
/faq.htm](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint/faq.htm)

DACS-P-01741  
Rev (07/14)

Need an Application Form

or more information

about Limited Certification?

Contact Headquarters by:

TELEPHONE  
(850)-617-7996

FAX  
(850) 617-7967

MAIL  
3125 Conner Blvd, Suite N  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1650

or, visit our website:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com>

## LIMITED COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Florida Department of  
Agriculture & Consumer Services

Division of Agricultural  
Environmental Services

Bureau of Inspection and Incident Response



Florida Department of  
Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Nicole "Nikki" Fried, Commissioner

## **Certification Requirements for Florida Commercial Fertilizer Applicators**

This brochure was designed to provide information needed to comply with regulations for making commercial fertilizer applications.

In order to improve ground water quality in the State of Florida, Commercial (for-hire) fertilizer applications are now regulated by several agencies. There are two separate requirements – training and licensing/certification.

Local government ordinances may already require fertilizer applicators to have the Green Industry's Best Management Practices (GIBMP) training and a valid Certificate of Completion on file.

### WHO NEEDS TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

GIBMP training protects our groundwater from excessive fertilizer components, and is important for anyone making fertilizer applications in Florida.

Florida Law now requires EVERY Commercial (for-hire) Fertilizer Applicator to have the FDACS Limited Commercial Fertilizer (LF) Applicator License/Certificate by January 1, 2014, with limited exceptions:

An FDACS LF license is NOT REQUIRED for fertilizer applications to:

- \*Property used for Agricultural production
- \*Golf courses
- \* Property owned by the applicator's employer (for example - an apartment complex, parks, schools, state, county or municipal property, or stadiums)

Yard workers are also exempt when using equipment and fertilizer purchased and owned by the property owner.

HOWEVER, THE GIBMP TRAINING may still be needed to comply with local ordinances.

NOTE: A fertilizer applicator with GIBMP training and/or the LF certificate MAY NOT:

1. apply pesticides to turf or ornamental plants – including weed-n-feed products
2. operate a pest control business, or
3. supervise an “uncertified” person to make a fertilizer application under their “supervision or authority”.

### WHERE TO GET THE TRAINING

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) have partnered to provide the necessary GIBMP training. All scheduled training is listed on the official website at <https://gibmp.ifas.ufl.edu/>. This site will also offer on-line training, and training is available in Spanish.

To receive a GIBMP certificate, one must attend the course and pass the course examination with a score of 75% or higher.

### FDACS LIMITED COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

To receive a certificate, submit proof of completion of the GIBMP training (a copy of the training certificate will be satisfactory) and submit a fee of \$25.

The certificate is valid for 4 years from date of issuance.

Prior to renewal, the applicant must obtain 4 hours of Continuing Education Training (2 hours of which must be in BMP topics) and submit this proof of training with the renewal application and renewal fee. (Note: some local ordinances may require MORE than 4 hours of CEU training.)

Submit the Application for Limited Commercial Fertilizer Applicator Certificate, DACS form 13677, (available now at: <http://forms.freshfromflorida.com/13677.pdf>) with the fee and proof of training to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for processing.