

Short -Term Career Pathway Course

# CUSTOM APPLICATOR



## What is a Custom Applicator?

Custom Application is a service provided by agronomy centers to area farmers. Farming operations may also hire a personal custom applicator. Custom Applicators mix, load, and apply crop protection products to fields at approved applicable rates. They are responsible for the operation of spray equipment and the effective application of crop protection products. Custom Applicators also operate and maintain a variety of equipment and vehicles including sprayers, spreaders, and trucks. They use software systems to assure accuracy and environmental stewardship while maintaining accurate application records and communication with customers.

Custom Applicators are responsible for operating and maintaining all equipment and vehicles, mixing, loading and applying pesticides and fertilizers, handling and delivering bulk and packaged chemicals, maintaining application/spray records, managing customer service relations, organizing and coordinating with customers, being knowledgeable of seed and crop protection products to make informed decisions.

## A Growing Industry

Become a Custom Applicator and prepare for a high-demand career in the agriculture industry, the number one industry in North Dakota and the Midwest. The need for Custom Applicators is projected to increase by 10% over the next five years. Several agriculture career hiring firms indicate Custom Applicators are in the top five in-demand jobs in agriculture.

## An affordable and quick stackable certificate!

The Custom Applicator program prepares participants in custom application of crop protection products. Greater technical expertise is required to ensure proper application of fertilizers and pesticides due to developments in precision equipment, advanced crop technologies, and increased environmental awareness. Introducing the concepts necessary for proper operation of applicator equipment, the training will provide students with the necessary skills for success in this career field.

## Training Outcomes

The Custom Applicator training program is a combination of classroom theory and hands-on training in precision agriculture, agronomy, and agriculture math concepts. Content delivery is provided in multiple formats including lecture, class discussion, independent assignments, and hands-on or behind-the-wheel demonstrations.

This program culminates in a one-week, on-campus industry training where participants receive hands-on training on applicator equipment operation and maintenance. Industry members providing expertise and equipment include RDO Equipment Company, Heartland Ag Systems, and Butler Machinery.

Flexibility of online instruction, combined with intensive industry training, allows students to gain the skills needed for this high-demand career while continuing to work.

Upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive a Bismarck State College Custom Applicator Certificate of Completion and the option to take the North Dakota Commercial Applicator License exam.\*

Participants will be prepared to take the Commercial Drivers License's (CDL) permit exam.

\* Reciprocity eligible for bordering states



"This work is supported by grant #2020-67037-31037 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture."

"Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and should not be construed to represent any official USDA or U.S. Government determination or policy."

## Custom Applicator Course Details

### Precision Agriculture Operations \$480

Self-paced, Online (estimated at four hours per week)

January 13 - March 7, 2025

Provides a background on precision agriculture. Emphasizes working with control consoles, equipment, precision digital platforms, zone management, and variable rate management.

### Applied Agronomy \$480

Self-paced, Online (estimated at four hours per week)

January 13 - March 7, 2025

Teaches the basics of crop and pest identification. Covers types of pesticides and fertilizers, their uses, and application methods. Provides an emphasis on pesticides in the environment and how to avoid off-target contamination. Participants will be prepared to take the Commercial Applicator Ground Core exam.

### Fertilizer and Pesticide Calculations \$480

Self-paced, Online (estimated at four hours per week)

January 13 - March 7, 2025

Applies mathematical concepts and skills as they relate to fertilizer blending and pesticide mixing and application.

### Applicator Equipment Operations \$480

Self-paced, Online (estimated at four hours per week)

January 13 - March 7, 2025

Participants will acquire knowledge of applied theory and concepts of the operation and maintenance of equipment utilized in custom application of crop protection products. Participants will be prepared to take the Commercial Learner's Permit exam with the ND DOT.

### Applicator Equipment Training and Certification \$500

In person, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (32 hours)

BPS Career Academy, Multipurpose Room

March 3 - 6, 2025

Participants will acquire hands-on training on the operation and maintenance of Butler, Case IH and John Deere equipment utilized in custom application of crop protection products. The North Dakota Commercial Applicator License exam will be administered for those interested in receiving their certification. Participants who take the exam will be advised to register with the NDSU Pesticide Extension. The fee to take the exam is the participant's responsibility and is estimated at \$150.

Reciprocity eligible for bordering states.

## Early Bird Pricing

Participants registering on or before December 9 will receive a discount of \$100 off of each online course and \$200 off of the in-person course.

## Course Commitment

To showcase competency, commitment to the profession, to build expertise in the Custom Applicator profession, and to assist with job advancement, it is recommended that participants complete all five courses. Participants are given 7 weeks to simultaneously complete the first four courses.

## Course Size

Each course is limited enrollment. Enrollment is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Waiting lists are established once classes have met maximum enrollment.

Review the computer requirements at [https://bit.ly/BSC\\_ComputerRequirements](https://bit.ly/BSC_ComputerRequirements)

## Refund Policy

To be eligible for a refund of the course fee, participants must request the refund at least three (3) business days prior to the start of the course. A \$50.00 processing fee will be deducted from the amount refunded. No refunds will be issued with notice fewer than three (3) business days prior to the start of the course.

## Registration Requirements

Registration closes January 8, 2025.

- Before registering, please understand the course commitment and refund policy.
- Register online at [registeratbsc.com](https://registeratbsc.com) or in person at Bismarck State College, National Energy Center of Excellence, 1200 Schafer Street, Room 107. Payment must be remitted at the time of registration.
- After registering and closer to the course start date, you will receive an email that includes detailed instructions on how to access the online course content.
- No books required.

## Contact Us



### In Person

National Energy Center of Excellence  
1200 Schafer Street, Room 107, Bismarck  
Phone: (701) 224-5600 or (877) 846-9387



### Mail

BSC Continuing Education & TrainND  
PO Box 5587, Bismarck, ND 58506-5587



### Online

[https://bit.ly/BSCCE\\_CustomApplicator](https://bit.ly/BSCCE_CustomApplicator)



Powered by: Bismarck State College

Bismarck State College  
Continuing Education & TrainND  
(701) 224-5600  
[bsc.training@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:bsc.training@bismarckstate.edu)

# CUSTOM APPLICATOR REGISTRATION FORM 2025



**2025 Start Date** (Registration Closes 1/8/2025)

January 13 - March 7 (online classes)  
 March 3 - March 6 (in-person class)

All fields are required unless otherwise indicated; please fill out this registration form completely.

Date of Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Class Start Date \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Body \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

*Your confirmation will be sent to this e-mail address.*

Would you like to receive notifications via text message to the cell phone number provided above?  Yes  No

Have you previously taken a course through a ND University System institution (UND, NDSU, BSC, etc.)?  Yes  No

If so, indicate your Blackboard Username or Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT COURSE(S) DO YOU WISH TO REGISTER FOR?** *Checks should be made payable to Bismarck State College.*  
**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.**

Precision Agriculture Operations (online), \$480 or Early Bird Price, \$380

Applied Agronomy (online), \$480 or Early Bird Price, \$380

Fertilizer & Pesticide Calculations (online), \$480 or Early Bird Price, \$380

Applicator Equipment Operations (online), \$480 or Early Bird Price, \$380

Applicator Equipment Training & Certification (in person), \$500 or Early Bird Price, \$300

I am a sponsored student. Enclosed is the Third Party Authorization Letter as well as the name and address of the sponsoring business provided below:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Must register on or before December 9 to receive Early Bird Pricing.*

**COURSE COMMITMENT AND GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT:**

I understand the commitment of each course. I have reviewed the computer requirements needed to access course content. If I must cancel my registration, I understand that I must notify BSC Continuing Education at least three (3) working days prior to the start of class to receive a refund of the tuition and that a \$50 processing fee will be deducted from the amount refunded. No refunds will be issued with notice fewer than three (3) business days prior to the start of the course or the once online course has been accessed.

\_\_\_\_\_ **My initials indicate that I have read and understand the above requirements.**



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For questions or assistance with registration, contact us at:

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 National Energy Center of Excellence, 1200 Schafer Street, Room 107, Bismarck  
 Phone: (701) 224-5600 or (877) 846-9387
- Mail**  
 BSC Continuing Education & TrainND, PO Box 5587, Bismarck, ND 58506-5587
- Online**  
 [https://bit.ly/BSCCE\\_CustomApplicator](https://bit.ly/BSCCE_CustomApplicator) or [bsc.training@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:bsc.training@bismarckstate.edu)

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Action \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Pymt Method \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Pymt Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Tran ID \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Party Company \_\_\_\_\_ Invoice # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Invoice Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Pymt Method \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Pymt Amount \_\_\_\_\_ SF Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_ Updated 10/2024