



# **Pesticide Worker Safety Efforts Related to Children's Health**

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# Overview

- Intro to OPP's Certification & Worker Protection Branch's (CWPB) work
- Worker Protect Standard (WPS) requirements
- Cooperative agreements
- Interactions with stakeholders



## CWPB's work

- Implement two rules:
  - Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS)
  - Certification of Pesticide Applicators (CPA)
- Manage cooperative agreements
- Stakeholder engagement
- ...and **much more!**



Photo Credit: PERC & AFOP



# Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS)

- The WPS is a regulation that aims to reduce the risk of pesticide exposure for **agricultural workers**, **pesticide handlers** (people who mix, load, and apply pesticides), and others
- Provides occupational protections for over 2 million **agricultural workers** and **pesticide handlers**
  - DOL National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) 2019-2020 estimated that 5% of agricultural workers were between the ages of 14-19.
- Learn more about the [WPS on EPA's Website](#)



# WPS Requirements

- Some WPS requirements also protect **children's health**:
  - Minimum age of 18 for pesticide handlers (people who mix, load, or apply pesticides)
  - Requirement to train workers and handlers on potential hazards to children and pregnant women from pesticide exposure
  - Requirement to train workers and handlers on understanding and preventing take-home exposures via clothing and hygiene practices
  - Mandatory posting of bilingual/visual "Do Not Enter" signs on treated fields subject to entry restrictions





# Cooperative Agreements: Farmworker Training

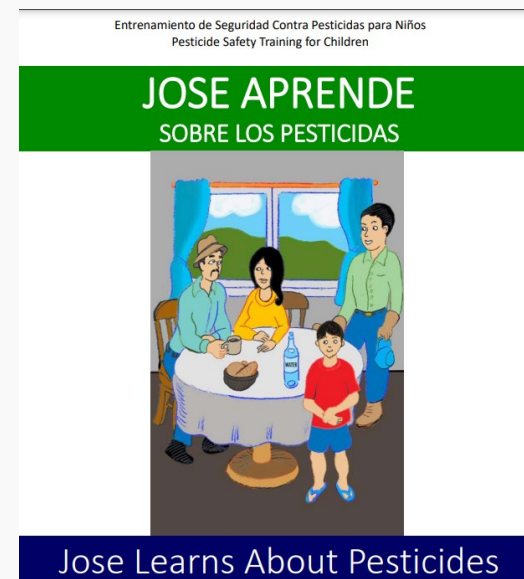


ASSOCIATION OF FARMWORKER  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

## National Farmworker Training Program

Provides multiple occupational health safety training topics to the farmworker community. Projects include:

- [Pesticide Safety Training for Children](#)
- [Project LEAF](#) (Limiting [Pesticide] Exposure Around Families)
- [Pesticide Exposure & Pregnancy](#)
- [Children in the Fields Campaign](#) - funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- [National Farmworker Women's Health Social Media Campaign](#)







# Cooperative Agreements: Pesticide Education



**PERC**

Pesticide Educational Resources  
Collaborative (PERC)

University of California Davis Extension in collaboration  
with Oregon State University

- Coordinates the development of pesticide-related educational resources (i.e., manuals, videos, guides) that meet national needs.
- PERC's cooperative agreement includes a subaward program for Agricultural Community-Based Projects (AgCBPs).
  - Funds nonprofits to serve farmworker communities by contributing to the safe use of pesticides
  - Currently 6 AgCBPs have been awarded amounting nearly \$550,000
  - Third round of projects will be funded soon



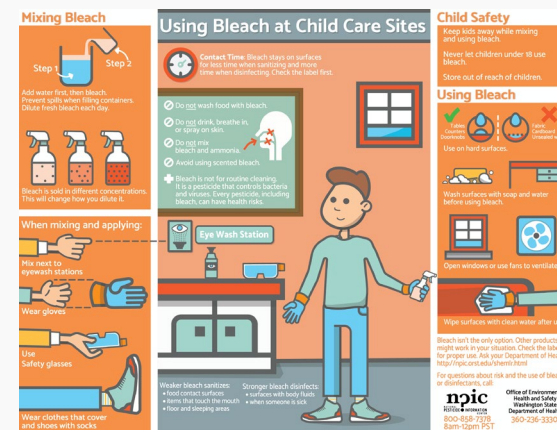
# Cooperative Agreements: Pesticide Information



## National Pesticide Information Center

Oregon State University in collaboration with  
University of California Davis Extension

- Provides objective, science-based information about pesticides and pesticide-related topics
- Resources
  - Phone line (English and Spanish): [1.800.858.7378](tel:18008587378)  
(8:00AM to 12:00PM Pacific Time, Mon-Fri)
  - [Infographics](#)
    - Using Bleach at Child Care Sites
    - Disinfectants in Schools
    - Disinfectant Wipes
    - Rodent Bait Safety







# Cooperative Agreements: Healthcare Provider Training



**PERC-med**  
Pesticide Educational Resources  
Collaborative - Medical

Pesticide Educational Resources  
Collaborative - medical (PERC-med)

University of California Davis Extension, in  
collaboration with Oregon State University

- Provided resources to help medical professionals prevent, recognize, and treat pesticide-related illnesses.
- Collaborated with the Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) to develop the following resources:
  - [Recognizing Acute Pesticide Poisoning in Children](#)
  - [Non-acute Pesticide Exposure and Child Health](#)



# Interactions with Stakeholders: Federal Advisory Committees

- 2021 [Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee \(PPDC\)](#) Farmworker & Clinician Workgroup provided recommendations on EPA's cooperative agreements
- Contributed to [OPP's 2023 response](#) to CHPAC recommendations on take-home exposures
- Recently received recommendations related to implementation of the WPS from [National Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(NEJAC\)](#)



# Interactions with Stakeholders: Requests for Information

- Published Requests for Information (RFIs)
  - Sought input on new cooperative agreements for health care provider and farmworker training
  - *Healthcare RFI*: **Published 9/25/2023** ([EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0457](#))
  - *Farmworker RFI*: **Published 1/25/2024** ([EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0643](#))
- Feedback related to children's health
  - *Healthcare RFI*: Agreement could support occupational/housing screening for pediatric patients
  - *Farmworker RFI*: Agreement could support training on pesticide safety for children of farmworkers, school staff who work near agricultural fields



## Certification & Worker Protection Branch Contacts for WPS and Cooperative Agreement Questions

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Questions?