



DEADLINE EXTENDED to 9/23/16!

Request for Applications: Subject Matter Experts, and Illustrator(s)

**National Worker Protection Standard (WPS)
Central Posting Materials**

The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) invites applications to serve on a national project team to inform and create materials that meet WPS requirements for displaying pesticide safety information on agricultural establishments.

About PERC: PERC is led by University of California of Davis Extension and Oregon State University, and is funded by a 5-year cooperative agreement (#X8-83616301) from the U.S. EPA. PERC aims to support the development of resources/materials about the safe use of pesticides by applicators and handlers in agricultural, commercial, and residential settings. Materials could include brochures, factsheets, posters, videos, manuals, and mobile tools, while addressing the needs of low-literacy and multilingual audiences. These materials will help prevent pesticide exposure incidents for pesticide applicators, handlers, workers, and their families. The PERC supports the U.S. EPA's Strategic Goal 4: Ensuring the Safety of Chemicals and preventing pollution.

The Project: The primary goal of this project is to create 3-5 versatile display items that contain pesticide safety information required by the new Worker Protection Standard. See the Code of Federal Regulations, [Title 40, 170.311](#) for the required content. Outputs may or may not be distributed by EPA through the National Service Center for Environmental Publications ([NSCEP](#)).

The pesticide safety information must be displayed at each of the following sites on the agricultural establishment:

- 1) At a place on the agricultural establishment where workers and handlers are likely to pass by or congregate and where it can be readily seen and read.
- 2) Anywhere that decontamination supplies must be provided on the agricultural establishment pursuant to §§170.411, 170.509 or 170.605, but only when the decontamination supplies are located at permanent sites or being provided at locations and in quantities to meet the requirements for 11 or more workers or handlers. *(Regulatory language paraphrased for clarity)*

Outputs will include:

- 1) A large poster (approximately X by Y) appropriate for low-literacy audiences, presented in English and Spanish,
- 2) A smaller item (approximately letter-sized), similar to the poster described above, appropriate for posting at decontamination sites, portable rest-rooms, or other locations

Outputs may also include:

- 1) A banner appropriate for the inside of mass transit vehicles
- 2) A long, thin piece to be affixed to a pole or tree
- 3) A four-fold wallet card with pesticide safety information on one side, training record(s) on the other
- 4) A magnetized piece to be displayed on the outside of a vehicle
- 5) Similar items within the budget/scope of the project

The Team: As many as four (4) team members / subject matter experts (SMEs) are needed to participate in determining priorities, developing the resources for displaying pesticide information, and improving drafts.

One or more illustrators are needed to make the new resources accurate, complete, and as clear/intuitive as possible for low-literacy groups.

The level of effort for each team member depends on the number of SMEs/illustrators recruited, their availability (hours/week) and their skill level. PERC predicts peak effort between October and November and could vary as much as 5-20 hours per week. It is expected that the outputs will be complete by December 31, 2016, although some team members may be retained through February, 2017 to respond to user feedback.

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Job Description & Qualifications:

Job descriptions will vary, but may include some or all of the following:

- Collect examples, best practices, and resources relevant to the project.
- Serve as lead or contributing author of the pesticide safety information display piece(s), and to include feedback from the target audience, agricultural workers and pesticide handlers.
- Work in close collaboration with one or more illustrators to develop effective images for conveying pesticide safety concepts;
- Collect input/feedback from target user groups, including farm/greenhouse workers, pesticide handlers, and agricultural/handler employers, among others
- Maximize cultural competence and sensitivity;
- Ensure a range of imagery that reflects the diversity of agricultural sectors (orchards, vineyards, forestry operations, mushroom houses, field crops, nursery settings, etc.)
- When appropriate, incorporate feedback from the PERC Advisory Board.
- Maintain ongoing consultation via PERC administrators with EPA to ensure regulatory accuracy and achieve EPA approval of final products.
- SMEs may participate in one, many, or all of the following roles: advising the team, creating new materials, reviewing drafts, coordinating the team, and/or Spanish translation.

Illustrator Job Description & Qualifications:

The job description may include some or all of the following:

- Meet with a team of subject matter experts in person or remotely to develop ideas/plans
- Evaluate examples, best practices, and resources relevant to the project
- Work in close collaboration with subject matter experts to develop effective images for conveying pesticide safety concepts;
- Incorporate input/feedback from target user groups, including farm/greenhouse workers, pesticide handlers, and agricultural/handler employers, among others;
- Maximize cultural competence and sensitivity;
- Ensure a range of imagery that reflects the diversity of agricultural sectors (orchards, vineyards, forestry operations, mushroom houses, field crops, nursery settings, etc.)

Eligibility: Federal, state and tribal regulators, academic, non-profit, private educators, professional illustrators, and representatives from professional associations are encouraged to apply. A limited amount of funding is available for compensation for a project member's time, pending the applicant's eligibility to accept payment under the rules governing this cooperative agreement, and/or offer in-kind services through participation.

Application Procedure & Selection: Complete the web-based form available at this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/BGULER50yjlawLCZ2>. Be prepared to describe your qualifications, availability, compensation requirements, and any constituent groups you feel you can represent.

Extended Application receipt deadline: Friday, September 23, 2016.

Earliest funding start date: ~ October 21, 2016

Using a system for evaluating applications, PERC administrators from the University of California of Davis Extension and Oregon State University will make the final selections and will notify all applicants of their decision by **Friday, October 14.**

For questions, please contact Suzanne Forsyth (spforsyth@ucdavis.edu) or Kaci Buhl (kaci.buhl@oregonstate.edu).

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