

Becoming a GI-BMP Certified Instructor

Certified Instructors

By becoming a GI-BMP certified instructor you will be able to train one or more sections of the GI-BMP training and have the authority to organize and deliver GI-BMP trainings, and proctor tests. You must meet the eligibility requirements below prior to attending the GI-BMP Instructor Training class. If you are unsure of your eligibility or have questions, please contact the Regional Coordinator in your area.

Eligibility

Education professionals, government employees, industry professionals and citizen volunteers can become GI-BMP certified instructors, in accordance with the FDEP criteria described below. Instructors are required to have an appropriate level of technical knowledge in the field of landscape management or environmental management of agrochemicals and horticultural practices, gained through education and/or professional experience.

Prospective Instructor	Experience	College Degree (accredited institution)
Green Industry Professional	Minimum two years in training or supervisory position, competency in subject matter and competency in training.	None required
Education Professional	Two years of experience in subject matter.	Bachelor's
Government Employee	Two years of experience in subject matter and competency in training.	Bachelor's
Citizen Volunteer	Two years of experience in subject matter, and competency in training.	Bachelor's

Being certified by a related professional association, such as the Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FNGLA), or having a FDACS Certified Pest Control Operator License are preferred qualifications for instructors.

Eligibility Waiver

The degree or experience requirements may be waived by the Program Manager or the Regional Coordinators for persons with key expertise, such as foreign language skills, upon determination that the applicant meets the other requirements and fulfills a critical need.

Earning Instructor Certification

Effective January 1, 2009 instructors must earn a GI-BMP Instructor Certificate by completing the following four steps:

- 1. Attend a GI-BMP training and pass the test with a minimum score of 90%**

Prospective instructors will not be admitted in the GI-BMP Instructor Training without a valid GI-BMP certificate and a passing grade of at least 90%. Certificates obtained prior to 2006 are not accepted, because this class has undergone major changes since then.

- 2. Complete the registration form and meet the eligibility requirements [see attachment]**

To register in a GI-BMP Instructor Training class, participants need to submit to the respective GI-BMP Regional Coordinator a registration form (see attachment) along with a copy of the university degree (if required) and an updated copy of the resume, as proof that they meet the eligibility criteria.

- 3. Attend the GI-BMP Instructor Training and pass the test with a minimum score of 75%**

After successfully completing of the instructor training (passing score of 75% or higher), prospective instructors must complete two co-trainings to obtain their instructor certificate. Attendees who did not obtain a score of at least 75% during the instructor training will be notified that they need to retake this class. These classes are organized by the GI-BMP Regional Coordinators in different locations across the State. For a schedule of GI-BMP Instructor Training classes please visit: http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/bmp_training_schedule.htm.

- 4. Co-train at least two classes supervised by an FDEP authorized training provider**

Co-training involves teaching one or more GI-BMP modules under the supervision of an experienced instructor to gain proficiency in presentation of the subject matter and to become familiar with the logistics of conducting a class. This includes assisting with sign-in, distributing of materials, compiling documents, catering and proctoring tests. Prospective instructors need to coordinate with the GI-BMP Regional Coordinators to identify classes where they can co-train. Co-training is both an evaluation period and a learning experience. Some people may require more than two sessions if they have not had experience in public speaking or classroom training in the past. Evaluations will be reviewed by the Regional Coordinators prior to approval as an instructor.

Upon class completion, the authorized training provider, responsible for organizing the class, needs to record the co-training and evaluate the prospective instructor, by completing a Co-Training Instructor Evaluation Form (see attachment) for each class. Completed forms need to be sent to the GI-BMP Data Manager for processing.

The completed evaluation forms will be used by the Regional Coordinators to assess the prospective instructor's performance and authorize the emission of a GI-BMP Instructor Certificate.