

Pennsylvania Hemp Certified Sampling Agent Program

All hemp growing in Pennsylvania must be sampled and submitted to a laboratory for THC testing. The PA Department of Agriculture is looking for individuals interested in becoming certified to perform sampling.

To become a PDA-certified sampling agent, you must:

- Watch a training presentation about the process and review the sampling protocol and associated forms;
- Apply to become a certified sampling agent; and
- Receive 80% or higher on a test administered by the PDA.

PDA-certified sampling agents may not have an active hemp permit and may not have an economic interest in any active hemp permit in any state. Contact information for PDA-certified sampling agents will be available on PDA's hemp website. Certified sampling agents may set their own fees for service, which will be paid directly by the hemp growers who request those services.

Training materials are now available at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Hemp Program website: https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/industrial_hemp/Pages/default.aspx

Essential Work Functions/Expectations for Certified Hemp Sampling Agents

Sampling work often requires driving, working outdoors and indoors in all weather conditions, walking over uneven terrain, standing for long periods, bending, stretching and occasional light lifting.

A certified hemp sampling agent must be able to:

- drive to growing sites, and have access to a vehicle that can navigate off-road situations;
- deal with potentially confrontational situations;
- complete paperwork according to PDA's procedures and expectations;
- collect samples using PDA's methods and prescribed equipment, including GPS-capable device and digital camera;
- collect and ship/deliver samples in a condensed timeframe; and
- have access to a computer with Microsoft Office software (especially Excel) and internet capabilities