Sec. 1. DEFINITIONS

"Integrated Pest Management" ("IPM") is a pest management strategy that relies on multiple pest control tactics, including the judicious use of pesticides, informed by accurate identification and scientific knowledge of pests, reliable monitoring methods to assess pest presence, preventative measures to avoid pest infestations, and thresholds to determine when corrective control measures are needed. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.114(13).*

"Area of common access" means an area that an individual is likely to be present in or at on a regular basis, such as a building entranceway, mailboxes, laundry rooms, beverage machines, building bulletin boards, hallways, etc. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.114(3)*

"Primary duty" is defined as a job duty that is part of a written job description or is a regularly assigned task of the employee. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.205(c).*

Sec. 2. POLICY

It is the policy of Academy of Accelerated Learning, Inc. (AAL) to utilize IPM guidelines in all pest control activities that take place on School property. AAL recognizes that pesticides can pose risks to human health, property, and the environment. Structural and landscape pests can also pose a significant problem to people, property, and the environment. Pests will be controlled to protect the health and safety of students and staff, to maintain the integrity of AAL structures and property, and to maintain a productive learning environment. The Superintendent and IPM Coordinator shall maintain a copy of this policy.

Sec. 3. USE OF NON-CHEMICAL AND LOWER RISK PESTICIDES

It is the goal of AAL to provide a safe and low risk approach to control pest problems while protecting people, the environment, and property. It is AAL's policy to focus on long-term prevention and give non-chemical methods first consideration when selecting appropriate control measures.

The choice of using chemical pesticides will be based on a review of all other control options and a determination that these control options will not provide adequate control of pests. Cost or staffing consideration alone will not be adequate justification for use of chemical control agents. Selected non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented, whenever possible to provide the desired control.

The full range of alternatives, including no action will be considered. When it is determined that a pesticide or herbicide must be used to meet the pest management goals, the least hazardous material will be chosen.

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Sec. 4. IPM COORDINATOR

a) *Appointment and Registration*

The Superintendent shall appoint an IPM Coordinator to implement AAL's IPM program. Not later than 90 days after the Superintendent designates or replaces an IPM Coordinator(s), AAL shall report to the Texas Department of Agriculture ("TDA") the newly appointed Coordinator's name, address, telephone number, email address and the effective date of the appointment.

If AAL appoints more than one IPM Coordinator, the Superintendent shall designate a Responsible IPM Coordinator who will have overall responsibility for the IPM program and provides oversight of subordinate IPM Coordinators regarding IPM program decisions.

When AAL removes an IPM Coordinator, the departing IPM Coordinator, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee must notify TDA of the removal within ten (10) days in writing. AAL may not be without an IPM Coordinator for more than 30 days.

Tex. Occupations Code § 1951.212(e); 4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.201(2).

b) *Training*

The IPM Coordinator will obtain all required training and licensing required by state law and regulations. An IPM Coordinator shall:

1. Successfully complete a TDA-approved IPM coordinator training course within six (6) months of appointment; and
2. Obtain at least six (6) hours of TDA-approved IPM continuing education units every three (3) years in accordance with the requirements of 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.202.

Tex. Occupations Code § 1951.212(f); 4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.202(a)-(c).

c) *Duties and Responsibilities*

The IPM Coordinator will design a pest management system. The IPM Coordinator will observe and evaluate the site or direct others to do so and determines what steps are needed to achieve the site management objectives.

In addition to implementing the AAL IPM program, the IPM Coordinator shall oversee and be responsible for:

1. Coordination of pest management personnel, ensuring that all school employees who perform pest control, including those employees authorized to perform incidental use

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applications, have the necessary training, are equipped with the appropriate personal protective equipment, and have the necessary licenses for their pest management responsibilities;

2. Ensuring that all IPM program records, including incidental use training records, pest-related work orders, pest control service reports, pesticide applications, and pesticide complaints are maintained for a period of two (2) years and are made available to a TDA inspector upon request;
3. Working with school administrators to ensure that all pest control proposal specifications for outside contractors are compatible with IPM principles, and that contractors work under the guidelines of the AAL's IPM policy;
4. Ensuring that all pesticides used on AAL property are in compliance with AAL's IPM program and that current pesticide labels and Safety Data Sheets ("SDS") are available for interested individuals upon request;
5. Overseeing and implementing that portion of the plan that ensures that school administrators and relevant school personnel are provided opportunities to be informed and educated about their roles in the IPM program, reporting, and notification procedures;
6. Ensuring that pesticide applications, including the approval of emergency applications at buildings and on school grounds, are conducted in accordance with 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.201-205; and
7. Maintaining a current copy of AAL's IPM policy and making available to a TDA inspector upon request.

4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.202(d).

Sec. 5. STAFF TRAINING

The AAL IPM program includes educating all that are involved in the program. IPM training will be provided to school administrators, teachers, and auxiliary staff through training at least annually and monthly emails that will provide information regarding seasonal pest and the School's IPM approach to control them.

Sec. 6. IPM MANAGEMENT AND PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

Pesticide applicators will be licensed by the Texas Department of Agriculture and comply with the AAL IPM policy. Only licensed pesticide applicators are allowed to apply pesticides on school district property. AAL may contract with a licensed commercial pest control company(s) to meet the needs of the facility. If the licensed applicator is a School employee, that employee may also serve as the IPM Coordinator.

4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.201(3).

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Pesticide applicators will be educated and trained in the principles and practices of IPM and the use of pesticides. They will follow regulations and label precautions.

A certified commercial or noncommercial certified applicator or licensed technician shall:

1. Apply only EPA labeled pesticides, appropriate for the target pest, except as provided in 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.201-205;
2. Provide the structural pest management needs of the school by following AAL's IPM program and applicable TDA regulations;
3. Obtain written approval from the IPM Coordinator(s) for the use of pesticides in accordance with 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.201-205;
4. Handle and forward to the IPM Coordinator(s) records of IPM activities, any complaints relating to pest problems, and pesticide use;
5. Ensure that pesticide use records are forwarded to the IPM Coordinator within two (2) business days or in a time frame as agreed to by the IPM Coordinator;
6. Consult with the IPM Coordinator(s) concerning the use of control measures in buildings and grounds, including residential properties; and
7. Ensure that all pest control activities are consistent with AAL's IPM program and IPM policy.

4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.203.

Sec. 7. NOTICE

AAL shall prior to or by the first week of school attendance, ensure that a procedure is in place to provide prior notification of pesticide applications in accordance 4 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 7. Individuals who request in writing to be notified of pesticide applications may be notified by telephonic, written or electronic methods. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.201(4).*

The chief administrator, IPM coordinator, or building manager must notify individuals who work in a district building of an indoor pest control treatment by:

1. Posting the sign made available by the certified applicator or technician in an area of common access that the individuals are likely to check on a regular basis at least 48 hours before each planned treatment; and

2. Making available, on request, the consumer information sheet made available by the certified applicator or technician.

Tex Occupations Code §1951.455(a); 4 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 7.146(c), 7.147(e), 7.148(b).

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The Superintendent or IPM Coordinator must notify the parents or guardians of children attending the facility in writing that pesticides are periodically applied indoors and outdoors, and that information on the times and types of applications and prior notification is available upon request. Such notification must be made at the time of the students' registration. Telephonic, written, or electronic notification of planned applications will meet the notification requirements. *Tex Occupations Code §1951.455(b); 4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.148(c).*

The pre-notification requirements of 4 Texas Administrative Code § § 7.146–7.148 are waived if the customer and certified applicator sign a statement attesting to the fact that an emergency exists which requires immediate treatment. If such an emergency exists, the consumer information sheet must be made available by the licensee. The statement must be kept on file with the pest control use records. If the customer is not available to sign a statement at the time of treatment, that shall be recorded in the use records along with the customer's name and telephone number. An emergency is defined as an imminent hazard to health. An emergency treatment is limited to the localized area of the emergency. *4 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 7.147(g), 7.148(d).*

Sec. 8. PESTICIDE USE

All pesticides used by AAL must be registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the TDA, with the exception of those pesticides that have been exempted from registration by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), Section 25(b). All pesticides used by AAL must also bear a label as required by FIFRA and Chapter 76 of the Texas Agriculture Code. Pesticide use must also meet the following requirements:

1. Pest control signs shall be posted at least 48 hours prior to a pesticide application inside school buildings, including residential properties, as provided for under 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.148.

2. For outdoor applications made on school grounds, including residential properties, the treated area must be identified at all entry points with a sign, or must be secured using a locking device, a fence or other practical barrier such as commercially available barrier caution tape, or periodically monitored to keep students out of the treated area until the allowed reentry time.

3. Pesticides used on school property shall be mixed outside of student occupied areas of buildings and grounds.

4. The use of non-pesticide control measures, non-pesticide monitoring tools and mechanical devices, such as glue boards and traps as permitted in accordance with TDA rules governing IPM for school districts are exempt from posting requirements. The use of non-pesticide tools and devices by unlicensed school personnel, for monitoring purposes, shall

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be permitted. Monitoring by unlicensed school personnel shall be done only as directed, under the supervision of the IPM Coordinator.

5. Pesticide applications shall not be made to outdoor school grounds if such an application will expose students to physical drift of pesticide spray particles. Reasonable preventive measures shall be taken to avoid the potential of drift to occur.

6. AAL is allowed to apply the pesticides to control pests, rodents, insects and weeds at school buildings, grounds, or other facilities in accordance with the approval for use and restrictions set forth in 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.204(6).

4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.204.

Sec. 9. METHOD OF IPM CONTROL

a) *Thresholds*

Before taking corrective action, IPM first sets an action threshold. This is a point at which pest populations or environmental conditions indicate corrective action must be taken. The higher the threshold the more pest can be tolerated. Some level of pest presence, except in the case of a few serious health risks can usually be tolerated. Please refer to the following chart for established action thresholds.

Pest	**Kitchen**	**Classrooms/offices**	**Nurse office**	**Exterior grounds**
Ants, common	3/room	10-12/room	3/room	Moderate ant trails
Fire ants	3/room	3/room	3/room	1 mound
Cockroaches	1/room	3/room	1/room	If noticeable or invading
Rats or mice	1/room	1/room	1/room	Any activity
Bees, honey	1/room	1/room	1/room	If threat to children
Weeds	n/a	n/a	n/a	15% in 100 ft

b) *Monitoring*

Exterior inspection of all schools will be conducted on a bi-monthly basis by school personnel or by pest management contractors. Interior inspections of school cafeterias will be conducted monthly. Monitoring devices will be placed inside cafeterias to determine pest pressure and when corrective action is needed. Monitoring devices will be placed in non-food handling areas on an "as needed basis." A detailed building inspection of each campus will be conducted annually to

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determine if the building has any conducive conditions for pests and to develop a list of structural and landscape improvements.

c) *Identification*

Accurate identification of pest is a vital part of ensuring that proper control methods are used. If needed, local resources will be used to help with the identification of pests.

d) *Action*

Habitat modifications, exclusions, repair, and sanitation efforts will be the first actions considered. Action thresholds will be considered before any corrective measures are taken. Action thresholds will reflect how many pests can be tolerated for a specific site. The presence of some pests does not in itself necessarily require action.

e) *Evaluation*

If it is determined that further action is needed, then there will be a follow up treatment with an appropriate pesticide approved by the IPM Coordinator.

Sec. 10. INCIDENTAL USE

The Incidental Use For Schools Fact Sheet must contain the text set forth in 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.205(a). *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.205(a).*

The Incidental Use For Schools Fact Sheet must be provided during pesticide instruction and training by the IPM Coordinator to each employee of the school whose primary duty is not pest control, and whose work may include tasks subject to the exception. The IPM Coordinator must keep records of all the training conducted annually. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.205(b).*

Pest control use records for all incidental pesticide use application, including the reason for application and justification for emergency, must be maintained by the IPM Coordinator for a period of two (2) years. *4 Tex. Admin. Code § 7.205(d).*

Incidental pesticide use is limited to insecticides specified in 4 Texas Administrative Code § 7.205(e). *4 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 7.204(6)(A),(B), 7.205(e).*

Sec. 11. RECORD KEEPING

The IPM Coordinator will maintain records of pesticide and herbicide applications, pest inspection reports, pesticide complaints and all other records pertaining to the IPM program. The IPM Coordinator will notify AAL staff and students of upcoming pesticide treatments. Notices will be

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posted in designated areas at each site. IPM records will be kept in a binder in the IPM Coordinator's office. The IPM records will also be scanned and stored electronically.

Sec. 12. INSPECTIONS

AAL will be inspected by TDA at least once every five (5) years. TDA may waive these requirements due to department staff availability, budgetary constraints, inspection trends, or operational efficiencies. A lack of compliance with TDA rules may result in more frequent inspections based on risk considering (1) prior violations; (2) prior inspection results; and (3) prior complaints.

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