

# Cornell University

<https://pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/master-beekeeper-program/>

Cornell offers an advanced training program for beekeepers who have at least 3 years of beekeeping experience. The program is 15 months in duration and consists of four online classes and three in-person final exams at Cornell's Dyce Lab for Honey Bee Studies.

This series of courses equips beekeepers from the hobby to the commercial level with the concepts, knowledge, and best management practices needed to pass Cornell University's Master Beekeeper Certificate written, oral, and field examinations. By the end of this series of courses you will have the skills and knowledge needed to keep colonies healthy and productive year after year. You'll be able to expand the amount, quality, and type of bee products and services you produce; and determine if you want to take advantage of the business opportunities that beekeeping can provide. You will gain a deep understanding of honey bees as living organisms and be able to navigate controversial topics so you can communicate with credibility in the beekeeping community. Lastly, you will be able to act as a resource to educate new beekeepers and participate in bee research and outreach.

In order to receive the final certificate, students must contribute meaningfully in a set number of discussions and pass the written, oral, and field exams at Dyce Lab. The exam series includes a written exam, the delivery of a presentation, and a field exam where individuals will demonstrate key beekeeping skills. A Cornell University Master Beekeeper Certificate from Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Department of Entomology will be awarded to individuals who successfully complete the required coursework and receive a passing grade on all portions of the exam series.

Honey Bee Evolution, Biology, and Behavior  
The Science and Art of Beekeeping  
Managing Pests and Diseases  
The Rewards and Contributions of Beekeeping

## KEY COURSE TAKEAWAYS

Apply knowledge of honey bee evolution and behavior to better identify and respond to the needs of your honey bees

Use systematic hands-on techniques to support your colonies' ability to thrive, keeping your colonies healthy year after year, and achieving your specific objectives

Prevent and control pests and diseases that interfere with honey bee health and productivity

Explore the possibilities and considerations of how you can both profit from and contribute to the success of these amazing pollinators