

5 Steps to Obtaining Your Louisiana Building Contractor's License

Step 1. Sign up for the exam.

All individuals bidding or performing work on a commercial project where the cost of which equals \$50,000.00 or more must be licensed under the classification "Building Contractor". This license allows new construction, remodeling and repair of commercial structures only. This license is needed when constructing apartment buildings, subdivisions, and multiple units of duplexes, tri-plexes, and four-plexes; it DOES NOT cover detached single-family dwellings. There are no specific experience requirements in Louisiana. An application form must be submitted to the board before testing.

Request a license application package from:

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors
P.O. Box 14419
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
Phone (225) 765-2301
Fax (225) 765-2690
Website: <http://www.lslbc.louisiana.gov>
Email: testing@lslbc.louisiana.gov

Exam and License fees: The total fee for examination and licensing is \$265 (\$100 for license classification, \$25 transaction fee, \$40 per person Business and Law study guide fee and \$100 examination/verification fee). Contractors domiciled outside the State of Louisiana making applications for a contractor's license are required to submit a \$400 surcharge in addition to the regular license fee.

Scheduling: A candidate may request three dates upon which he or she will be available to take the examination. An attempt will be made to accommodate the candidate. New applicants for licensure will be given priority in scheduling. Examinations will not be scheduled unless you submit your qualifying party application and required documentation.

Financials: Once you have passed your test, applicants must furnish the board with a financial statement, current to within 12 months of the date of filing, prepared by an independent auditor and signed by the applicant and auditor before a notary public, stating the assets of the applicant, to be used by the board to determine the financial responsibility of the applicant to perform work on a construction undertaking, the entire cost of which is \$50,000 or more. Such assets shall include a net worth of at least \$10,000.

Reciprocity: The Board has reciprocity agreements with the Alabama Licensing Board for General Contractors, the Arkansas Contractors Licensing Board, the Mississippi Board of Contractors, the North Carolina Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors, the Tennessee Board for Licensing General Contractors, and the Utah Construction Trades Bureau Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing. PLEASE NOTE: Your firm must be domiciled in one of these states and hold a license in the domiciliary state for a minimum of three years with no record of disciplinary action. If your firm meets these requirements, the Board will consider waiver of the sixty-day waiting period for out-of-state contractors and may consider waiver of trade examinations. There is no waiver of the Business and Law examination. Reciprocity is not automatic. You must submit a written request for consideration.

Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.

To find out what documents and books the State of Louisiana requires for this exam, follow this link to the list of documents and books on your state's exam page of our website:

<http://www.constructionbook.com/contractor-license/louisiana/index.asp>. You must purchase these documents and books in preparation for the exam and, if applicable, bring them with you on testing day for the open book portions of the exam.

Step 3. Start studying!

To fully prepare for your exam it is best to thoroughly study the required documents and books, as well as any recommended studying materials. The amount of preparation time needed will be different for each individual. Be sure to allow yourself enough time to fully prepare for the exam.

Step 4. Follow the rules.

The following security procedures will apply during the exam:

- Cell phones, pagers, and guests are not allowed in the examination site. This policy is strictly enforced.
- Non-programmable, non-printing, silent, battery-operated, non-alphabet key calculators will be permitted.
- No reference books will be permitted into the examination site. Exams are closed-book.

Step 5. Good luck on the exam!

It is best that you arrive at the examination site at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled exam time on the day of testing. Be sure to bring at least two forms of valid picture identification that has been issued by a state or federal authority.

The Louisiana Contractors Licensing Board gives the exam. The Contractors Exam has 80 multiple-choice questions and a 4-hour time limit. The same is true for the Business and Law Exam. Both are closed-book tests. The Contractors Exam is broken down into the following subject areas:

Subject area

Rough Carpentry

Associated Trades

Concrete and Rebar

Excavation and Sitework

Roofing

Masonry

Finish Carpentry

Structural Steel