

West's Annotated Code of Virginia

Title 54.1. Professions and Occupations

Subtitle II. Professions and Occupations Regulated by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation and Boards Within the Department

Chapter 11. Contractors

Article 1. Regulation of Contractors

VA Code Ann. T. 54.1, Subt. II, Ch. 11, Art. 1, Refs & Annos

[Currentness](#)

VA Code Ann. T. 54.1, Subt. II, Ch. 11, Art. 1, Refs & Annos, VA ST T. 54.1, Subt. II, Ch. 11, Art. 1, Refs & Annos
The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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Title 54.1. Professions and Occupations (Refs & Annos)

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1100

§ 54.1-1100. Definitions

Effective: July 1, 2016

Currentness

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

“Board” means the Board for Contractors.

“Class A contractors” perform or manage construction, removal, repair, or improvements when (i) the total value referred to in a single contract or project is \$120,000 or more, or (ii) the total value of all such construction, removal, repair, or improvements undertaken by such person within any 12-month period is \$750,000 or more.

“Class B contractors” perform or manage construction, removal, repair, or improvements when (i) the total value referred to in a single contract or project is \$10,000 or more, but less than \$120,000, or (ii) the total value of all such construction, removal, repair or improvements undertaken by such person within any 12-month period is \$150,000 or more, but less than \$750,000.

“Class C contractors” perform or manage construction, removal, repair, or improvements when (i) the total value referred to in a single contract or project is over \$1,000 but less than \$10,000, or (ii) the total value of all such construction, removal, repair, or improvements undertaken by such person within any 12-month period is less than \$150,000. The Board shall require a master tradesmen license as a condition of licensure for electrical, plumbing and heating, ventilation and air conditioning contractors.

“Contractor” means any person, that for a fixed price, commission, fee, or percentage undertakes to bid upon, or accepts, or offers to accept, orders or contracts for performing, managing, or superintending in whole or in part, the construction, removal, repair or improvement of any building or structure permanently annexed to real property owned, controlled, or leased by him or another person or any other improvements to such real property. For purposes of this chapter, “improvement” shall include (i) remediation, cleanup, or containment of premises to remove contaminants or (ii) site work necessary to make certain real property usable for human occupancy according to the guidelines established pursuant to § 32.1-11.7.

“Department” means the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

“Designated employee” means the contractor's full-time employee, or a member of the contractor's responsible management, who is at least 18 years of age and who has successfully completed the oral or written examination required by the Board on behalf of the contractor.

“Director” means the Director of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

“Owner-developer” means any person who, for a third party purchaser, orders or supervises the construction, removal, repair, or improvement of any building or structure permanently annexed to real property owned, controlled, or leased by the owner-developer, or any other improvement to such property and who contracts with a person licensed in accordance with this chapter for the work undertaken.

“Person” means any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, joint venture, or other legal entity.

“Value” means fair market value. When improvements are performed or supervised by a contractor, the contract price shall be *prima facie* evidence of value.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; Acts 1990, c. 911; Acts 1992, c. 330; Acts 1992, c. 713; Acts 1992, c. 715; Acts 1992, c. 812; Acts 1993, c. 499; Acts 1993, c. 815; Acts 1994, c. 601; Acts 1994, c. 754; Acts 1995, c. 581; Acts 1997, c. 885; Acts 1998, c. 754; Acts 2005, c. 348; Acts 2010, c. 62; Acts 2016, c. 527.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1100, VA ST § 54.1-1100

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1101

§ 54.1-1101. Exemptions; failure to obtain certificate of occupancy; penalties

Effective: July 1, 2018

Currentness

A. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

1. Any governmental agency performing work with its own forces;
2. Work bid upon or undertaken for the armed services of the United States under the Armed Services Procurement Act;
3. Work bid upon or undertaken for the United States government on land under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government either by statute or deed of cession;
4. Work bid upon or undertaken for the Department of Transportation on the construction, reconstruction, repair or improvement of any highway or bridge;
5. Any other persons who may be specifically excluded by other laws but only to such an extent as such laws provide;
6. Any material supplier who renders advice concerning use of products sold and who does not provide construction or installation services;
7. Any person who performs or supervises the construction, removal, repair or improvement of no more than one primary residence owned by him and for his own use during any 24-month period;
8. Any person who performs or supervises the construction, removal, repair or improvement of a house upon his own real property as a bona fide gift to a member of his immediate family provided such member lives in the house. For purposes of this section, "immediate family" includes one's mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandchild, grandparent, mother-in-law and father-in-law;
9. Any person who performs or supervises the repair or improvement of industrial or manufacturing facilities, or a commercial or retail building, for his own use;

10. Any person who performs or supervises the repair or improvement of residential dwelling units owned by him that are subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act ([§ 55-248.2 et seq.](#));
11. Any owner-developer, provided that any third-party purchaser is made a third-party beneficiary to the contract between the owner-developer and a licensed contractor whereby the contractor's obligation to perform the contract extends to both the owner-developer and the third party;
12. Work undertaken by students as part of a career and technical education project as defined in [§ 22.1-228](#) established by any school board in accordance with Article 5 ([§ 22.1-228 et seq.](#)) of Chapter 13 of Title 22.1 for the construction of portable classrooms or single family homes;
13. Any person who performs the removal of building detritus or provides janitorial, cleaning, or sanitizing services incidental to the construction, removal, repair, or improvement of real property;
14. Any person who is performing work directly under the supervision of a licensed contractor and is (i) a student in good standing and enrolled in a public or private institution of higher education, (ii) a student enrolled in a career training or technical education program, or (iii) an apprentice as defined in [§ 40.1-120](#); and
15. Work undertaken by a person providing construction, remodeling, repair, improvement, removal, or demolition valued at \$5,000 or less per project on behalf of a properly licensed contractor, provided that such contractor holds a valid license in the (i) residential building, (ii) commercial building, or (iii) home improvement building contractor classification. However, any construction services that require an individual license or certification shall be rendered only by an individual licensed or certified in accordance with this chapter.

All other contractors performing work for any government or for any governmental agency are subject to the provisions of this chapter and are required to be licensed as provided herein.

B. Any person who is exempt from the provisions of this chapter as a result of subdivision A 7, 10, 11, or 12 shall obtain a certificate of occupancy for any building constructed, repaired or improved by him prior to conveying such property to a third-party purchaser, unless such purchaser has acknowledged in writing that no certificate of occupancy has been issued and that such purchaser consents to acquire the property without a certificate of occupancy.

C. Any person who is exempt from the provisions of this chapter as a result of subdivision 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 14 of subsection A shall comply with the provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building [Code](#) ([§ 36-97 et seq.](#)).

D. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection B or C shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The third or any subsequent conviction of violating subsection B or C during a 36-month period shall constitute a Class 6 felony.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1998, c. 754](#); [Acts 2003, c. 1025](#); [Acts 2004, c. 189](#); [Acts 2005, c. 348](#); [Acts 2007, c. 332](#); [Acts 2016, c. 527](#); [Acts 2017, c. 132](#); [Acts 2017, c. 135](#); [Acts 2018, c. 767](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1101, VA ST § 54.1-1101

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1102

§ 54.1-1102. Board for Contractors membership; offices; meetings; seal; record

Effective: July 1, 2017

Currentness

A. The Board for Contractors shall be composed of 16 members as follows: one member shall be a licensed Class A general contractor; the larger part of the business of one member shall be the construction of utilities; the larger part of the business of one member shall be the construction of commercial and industrial buildings; the larger part of the business of one member shall be the construction of single-family residences; the larger part of the business of one member shall be the construction of home improvements; one member shall be a subcontractor as generally regarded in the construction industry; one member shall be in the business of sales of construction materials and supplies; one member shall be a local building official; one member shall be a licensed plumbing contractor; one member shall be a licensed electrical contractor; one member shall be a licensed heating, ventilation and air conditioning contractor; one member shall be a certified elevator mechanic or a licensed elevator contractor; one member shall be a certified water well systems provider; one member shall be a professional engineer licensed in accordance with Chapter 4 ([§ 54.1-400 et seq.](#)); and two members shall be nonlegislative citizen members. The terms of the Board members shall be four years.

The Board shall meet at least once each year and at such other times as may be deemed necessary. Annually, the Board shall elect from its membership a chairman and a vice-chairman to serve for a one-year term. Nine members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

The Board shall promulgate regulations not inconsistent with statute necessary for the licensure of contractors and tradesmen and the certification of backflow prevention device workers, and for the relicensure of contractors and tradesmen and for the recertification of backflow prevention device workers, after license or certificate suspension or revocation. The Board shall include in its regulations a requirement that as a condition for initial licensure as a contractor, the designated employee or a member of the responsible management personnel of the contractor shall have successfully completed a Board-approved basic business course, which shall not exceed eight hours of classroom instruction.

The Board may adopt regulations requiring all Class A, B, and C residential contractors, excluding subcontractors to the contracting parties and those who engage in routine maintenance or service contracts, to use legible written contracts including the following terms and conditions:

1. General description of the work to be performed;

2. Fixed price or an estimate of the total cost of the work, the amounts and schedule of progress payments, a listing of specific materials requested by the consumer and the amount of down payment;

3. Estimates of time of commencement and completion of the work; and
4. Contractor's name, address, office telephone number and license or certification number and class.

In transactions involving door-to-door solicitations, the Board may require that a statement of protections be provided by the contractor to the homeowner, consumer or buyer, as the case may be.

The Board shall adopt a seal with the words "Board for Contractors, Commonwealth of Virginia." The Director shall have charge, care and custody of the seal.

- B. The Director shall maintain a record of the proceedings of the Board.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1991, c. 659](#); [Acts 1994, c. 895](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#); [Acts 1996, c. 380](#); [Acts 1996, c. 934](#); [Acts 1996, c. 1006](#); [Acts 1997, c. 885](#); [Acts 2006, c. 454](#); [Acts 2006, c. 475](#); [Acts 2009, c. 184](#); [Acts 2009, c. 586](#); [Acts 2010, c. 83](#); [Acts 2012, c. 522](#); [Acts 2017, c. 579](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1102, VA ST § 54.1-1102

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1103

§ 54.1-1103. Necessity for license; requirements for water well drillers and landscape irrigation contractors; exemption

Effective: July 1, 2013

Currentness

A. No person shall engage in, or offer to engage in, contracting work in the Commonwealth unless he has been licensed under the provisions of this chapter. The Board may waive any provision of this chapter for Habitat for Humanity, its local affiliates or subsidiaries, and any other nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under [§ 501\(c\)\(3\) of the Internal Revenue Code \(26 U.S.C. § 501\(c\)\(3\)\)](#) for the purpose of constructing or rehabilitating single-family dwellings that will be given to or sold below the appraised value to low-income persons. Prior to a joint venture engaging in, or offering to engage in, contracting work in the Commonwealth, (i) each contracting party of the joint venture shall be licensed under the provisions of this chapter or (ii) a license shall be obtained in the name of the joint venture under the provisions of this chapter.

B. Except as provided in [§ 54.1-1117](#), the issuance of a license under the provisions of this chapter shall not entitle the holder to engage in any activity for which a special license is required by law.

C. When the contracting work is for the purpose of landscape irrigation or the construction of a water well as defined in [§ 32.1-176.3](#), the contractor shall be licensed, regardless of the contract amount, as follows:

1. A Class C license is required when the total value referred to in a single contract or project is no more than \$10,000, or the total value of all such water well or landscape irrigation contracts undertaken within any 12-month period is no more than \$150,000;

2. A Class B license is required when the total value referred to in a single contract is \$10,000 or more, but less than \$120,000, or the total value of all such water well or landscape irrigation contracts undertaken within any 12-month period is \$150,000 or more, but less than \$750,000; and

3. A Class A license is required when the total value referred to in a single contract or project is \$120,000 or more, or when the total value of all such water well or landscape irrigation contracts undertaken within any 12-month period is \$750,000 or more.

D. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, an architect or professional engineer who is licensed pursuant to Chapter 4 ([§ 54.1-400 et seq.](#)) shall not be required to be licensed or certified to engage in, or offer to engage in, contracting work or operate as an owner-developer in the Commonwealth in accordance with this chapter when bidding upon or negotiating design-build contracts or performing services other than construction services under a design-build contract. However, the construction services offered or rendered in connection with such contracts shall only be rendered by a contractor licensed or certified in accordance with this chapter.

E. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, any person licensed under the provisions of Article 4 ([§ 9.1-138 et seq.](#)) of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 as a private security services business shall not be required to be licensed or certified to engage in, or offer to engage in, contracting work in the Commonwealth in accordance with this chapter when bidding upon or performing services to install, service, maintain, design or consult in the design of any electronic security equipment as defined in [§ 9.1-138](#) including but not limited to, low voltage cabling, network cabling and computer or systems integration.

F. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, persons bidding upon or performing services to design or undertake public works of art commissioned by the Commonwealth; a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, including any county, city, or town; or a nonprofit corporation exempt from taxation under [§ 501\(c\)\(3\) of the Internal Revenue Code](#) shall not be required to be licensed or certified in accordance with this chapter. However, the installation of the artwork and related construction services offered or rendered in connection with such commission shall only be rendered by a contractor licensed or certified in accordance with this chapter.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1992, c. 713](#); [Acts 1994, c. 601](#); [Acts 1994, c. 754](#); [Acts 1995, c. 581](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#); [Acts 1997, c. 885](#); [Acts 1998, c. 271](#); [Acts 1998, c. 754](#); [Acts 1999, c. 959](#); [Acts 1999, c. 977](#); [Acts 1999, c. 991](#); [Acts 2002, c. 653](#); [Acts 2004, c. 190](#); [Acts 2005, c. 348](#); [Acts 2010, c. 62](#); [Acts 2012, c. 308](#); [Acts 2013, c. 298](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1103, VA ST § 54.1-1103

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1104

§ 54.1-1104. Register of applicants

Currentness

The Director shall keep a register of all applicants showing their date of application, name, qualifications, place of business, place of residence, and whether such application was approved or refused. The books and register of the Board shall be prima facie evidence of all matters recorded therein.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1104, VA ST § 54.1-1104

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1105

§ 54.1-1105. Repealed by Acts 1991, c. 151

Currentness

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1105, VA ST § 54.1-1105

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106

§ 54.1-1106. Application for Class A license; fees; examination; issuance

Effective: July 1, 2017

Currentness

A. Any person desiring to be licensed as a Class A contractor shall file with the Department a written application on a form prescribed by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by a fee set by the Board pursuant to § 54.1-201. The application shall contain the name, place of employment, and business address of the proposed designated employee, and information on the knowledge, skills, abilities, and financial position of the applicant. The Board shall determine whether the past performance record of the applicant, including his reputation for paying material bills and carrying out other contractual obligations, satisfies the purposes and intent of this chapter. The Board shall also determine whether the applicant has complied with the laws of the Commonwealth pertaining to the domestication of foreign corporations and all other laws affecting those engaged in the practice of contracting as set forth in this chapter.

B. As proof of financial responsibility, the applicant shall demonstrate compliance with the minimum net worth requirement fixed by the Board in regulation by providing either:

1. A financial statement on a form prescribed by the Board, subject to additional verification if the Board determines that sufficient questions or ambiguities exist in the applicant's presentation of financial information; or
2. A balance sheet reviewed by a certified public accountant licensed in accordance with § 54.1-4409.1.

C. In lieu of compliance with subsection B, an applicant may demonstrate financial responsibility by electing to obtain and maintain a bond in the amount of \$50,000. Proof of current bond shall come from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth and approved by the Attorney General and shall be filed with the Department.

D. In addition, if the applicant is a sole proprietor, he shall furnish to the Board his name and address. If the applicant is a member of a partnership, he shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of all of the general partners of the partnership. If the applicant is a member of an association, he shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of all of the members of the association. If the applicant is a corporation, it shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of all officers of the corporation. If the applicant is a joint venture, it shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of (i) each member of the joint venture and (ii) any sole proprietor, general partner of any partnership, member of any association, or officer of any corporation who is a member of the joint venture. The applicant shall thereafter keep the Board advised of any changes in the above information.

E. If the application is satisfactory to the Board, the proposed designated employee shall be required by Board regulations to take an oral or written examination to determine his general knowledge of contracting, including the statutory and regulatory requirements governing contractors in the Commonwealth. If the proposed designated employee successfully completes the examination and the applicant meets or exceeds the other entry criteria established by Board regulations, a Class A contractor license shall be issued to the applicant. The license shall permit the applicant to engage in contracting only so long as the designated employee is in the full-time employment of the contractor or is a member of the contractor's responsible management. No examination shall be required where the licensed Class A contractor changes his form of business entity provided he is in good standing with the Board. In the event the designated employee leaves the full-time employ of the licensed contractor or is no longer a member of the contractor's responsible management, no additional examination shall be required of such designated employee, except in accordance with [§ 54.1-1110.1](#), and the contractor shall within 90 days of that departure provide to the Board the name of the new designated employee.

F. The Board may grant a Class A license in any of the following classifications: (i) residential building contractor, (ii) commercial building contractor, (iii) highway/heavy contractor, (iv) electrical contractor, (v) plumbing contractor, (vi) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning contractor, and (vii) specialty contractor.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; Acts 1990, c. 911; Acts 1992, c. 713; Acts 1994, c. 601; Acts 1996, c. 707; Acts 1998, c. 754; Acts 1999, c. 393; Acts 2003, c. 892; Acts 2005, c. 348; Acts 2007, c. 804; Acts 2013, c. 116; Acts 2017, c. 572.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106, VA ST § 54.1-1106

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106.1

§ 54.1-1106.1. Violations of certain State Board of Health regulations; penalty

Currentness

The Board for Contractors shall consider violations of regulations of the State Board of Health relating to water wells as violations of this chapter, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or suspension or revocation of license. No contractor shall be subject to the monetary penalties provided by this section if he has been assessed a civil penalty for such violation pursuant to § 32.1-27.

Credits

Acts 1989, c. 241; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106.1, VA ST § 54.1-1106.1

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106.2

§ 54.1-1106.2. Additional monetary penalty for certain violations

Effective: July 1, 2014

Currentness

A. If the Board finds any person licensed under the provisions of this chapter to be in violation of a statute or regulation involving fraudulent or improper or dishonest conduct as defined in § 54.1-1118, which violation occurred while engaged in a transaction initiated arising from a declared state of emergency as defined in § 44-146.16, the Board shall impose a monetary penalty of up to \$10,000 for each such violation.

B. The penalty imposed pursuant to this section shall be in addition to that provided in § 54.1-202.

Credits

Acts 2014, c. 508.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1106.2, VA ST § 54.1-1106.2

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1107

§§ 54.1-1107, 54.1-1107.1. Repealed by Acts 1990, c. 911, eff. Jan. 1, 1991

Currentness

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1107, VA ST § 54.1-1107

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1107.1

§§ 54.1-1107, 54.1-1107.1. Repealed by Acts 1990, c. 911, eff. Jan. 1, 1991

Currentness

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1107.1, VA ST § 54.1-1107.1

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108

§ 54.1-1108. Application for Class B license; fees; examination; issuance

Effective: July 1, 2017

Currentness

A. Any person desiring to be licensed as a Class B contractor shall file with the Department a written application on a form prescribed by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by a fee set by the Board pursuant to § 54.1-201. The application shall contain the name, place of employment, and business address of the proposed designated employee; information on the knowledge, skills, abilities, and financial position of the applicant; and evidence of holding a current local license pursuant to local ordinances adopted pursuant to § 54.1-1117. The Board shall determine whether the past performance record of the applicant, including his reputation for paying material bills and carrying out other contractual obligations, satisfies the purpose and intent of this chapter. The Board shall also determine whether the applicant has complied with the laws of the Commonwealth pertaining to the domestication of foreign corporations and all other laws affecting those engaged in the practice of contracting as set forth in this chapter.

B. As proof of financial responsibility, the applicant shall demonstrate compliance with the minimum net worth requirement fixed by the Board in regulation by providing either:

1. A financial statement on a form prescribed by the Board, subject to additional verification if the Board determines that sufficient questions or ambiguities exist in the applicant's presentation of financial information; or

2. A balance sheet reviewed by a certified public accountant licensed in accordance with § 54.1-4409.1.

C. In lieu of compliance with subsection B, an applicant may demonstrate financial responsibility by electing to obtain and maintain a bond in the amount of \$50,000. Proof of current bond shall come from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth and approved by the Attorney General and shall be filed with the Department.

D. In addition, if the applicant is a sole proprietor, he shall furnish to the Board his name and address. If the applicant is a member of a partnership, he shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of all of the general partners of that partnership. If the applicant is a member of an association, he shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of all of the members of the association. If the applicant is a corporation, it shall furnish to the Board the name and address of all officers of the corporation. If the applicant is a joint venture, it shall furnish to the Board the names and addresses of (i) each member of the joint venture and (ii) any sole proprietor, general partner of any partnership, member of any association, or officer of any corporation who is a member of the joint venture. The applicant shall thereafter keep the Board advised of any changes in the above information.

E. If the application is satisfactory to the Board, the proposed designated employee shall be required by Board regulations to take an oral or written examination to determine his general knowledge of contracting, including the statutory and regulatory requirements governing contractors in the Commonwealth. If the proposed designated employee successfully completes the examination and the applicant meets or exceeds the other entry criteria established by Board regulations, a Class B contractor license shall be issued to the applicant. The license shall permit the applicant to engage in contracting only so long as the designated employee is in the full-time employment of the contractor and only in the counties, cities, and towns where such person has complied with all local licensing requirements and for the type of work to be performed. No examination shall be required where the licensed Class B contractor changes his form of business entity provided he is in good standing with the Board. In the event the designated employee leaves the full-time employ of the licensed contractor, no additional examination shall be required of such designated employee, except in accordance with [§ 54.1-1110.1](#), and the contractor shall within 90 days of that departure provide to the Board the name of the new designated employee.

F. The Board may grant a Class B license in any of the following classifications: (i) residential building contractor, (ii) commercial building contractor, (iii) highway/heavy contractor, (iv) electrical contractor, (v) plumbing contractor, (vi) HVAC contractor, and (vii) specialty contractor.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1994, c. 601](#); [Acts 1996, c. 707](#); [Acts 2003, c. 892](#); [Acts 2013, c. 116](#); [Acts 2017, c. 572](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108, VA ST § 54.1-1108

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108.1

§ 54.1-1108.1. Waiver of examination; designated employee

Currentness

Any Class A contractor licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia prior to January 1, 1991, and in business on December 31, 1990, shall provide to the Board in writing the name of one full-time employee or member of the contractor's responsible management who is at least 18 years of age and that employee shall be deemed to have fulfilled the requirement for examination in § 54.1-1106, so long as he remains a full-time employee of the contractor or remains a member of the contractor's responsible management. The designated employee shall not be required to take an examination if the Class A contractor changes his form of business entity and is in good standing with the Board. Upon his leaving the employ of the contractor or his leaving as a member of the contractor's responsible management, the contractor shall name another full-time employee or member of the contractor's responsible management in accordance with § 54.1-1106.

Any Class B contractor registered in the Commonwealth prior to January 1, 1991, and in business on December 31, 1990, shall, within its current period of registration, provide on a form prescribed by the Board satisfactory information on the financial position, and knowledge, skills and abilities of the registered firm; and the name of a full-time employee who is at least 18 years of age and that employee shall be deemed to have fulfilled the requirement for examination in § 54.1-1108, so long as he remains a full-time employee of the contractor. The designated employee shall not be required to take an examination if the Class B contractor changes his form of business entity and is in good standing with the Board. If such employee leaves the employ of the contractor, the contractor shall name another full-time employee in accordance with § 54.1-1108.

Credits

Acts 1990, c. 911; Acts 1996, c. 707; Acts 2003, c. 892; Acts 2005, c. 348.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108.1, VA ST § 54.1-1108.1

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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Article 1. Regulation of Contractors (Refs & Annos)

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108.2

§ 54.1-1108.2. Application for Class C license; fees; issuance

Effective: July 1, 2013

Currentness

A. Any person desiring to be licensed as a Class C contractor shall file with the Department a written application on a form prescribed by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by a fee set by the Board pursuant to § 54.1-201. The application shall contain information concerning the name, location, nature, and operation of the business, and information demonstrating that the applicant possesses the character and minimum skills to properly engage in the occupation of contracting.

B. The Board may grant a Class C license in any of the following classifications: (i) residential building contractor, (ii) commercial building contractor, (iii) highway/heavy contractor, (iv) electrical contractor, (v) plumbing contractor, (vi) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning contractor, and (vii) specialty contractor.

Credits

Acts 1995, c. 771; Acts 1997, c. 885; Acts 1998, c. 754; Acts 2003, c. 892; Acts 2013, c. 116.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1108.2, VA ST § 54.1-1108.2

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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Article 1. Regulation of Contractors (Refs & Annos)

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1109

§ 54.1-1109. Expiration and renewal of license or certificate

Effective: July 1, 2017

Currentness

A. A license or certificate issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire as provided in Board regulations. Application for renewal of a license or certificate may be made as provided by Board regulations. The application shall be accompanied by a fee set by the Board pursuant to § 54.1-201.

B. With respect to a contractor electing continuous bonding under § 54.1-1106 or 54.1-1108, proof of current bond is required in order to renew the license or certificate. The bond shall commence no later than the effective date of the license and shall expire no sooner than the date of expiration of the license or certificate.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; Acts 1990, c. 911; Acts 1995, c. 771; Acts 1996, c. 1014; Acts 2017, c. 572.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1109, VA ST § 54.1-1109

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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Chapter 11. Contractors (Refs & Annos)

Article 1. Regulation of Contractors (Refs & Annos)

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1110

§ 54.1-1110. Grounds for denial or revocation of license or certificate

Currentness

The Board shall have the power to require remedial education, suspend, revoke, or deny renewal of the license or certificate of any contractor who is found to be in violation of the statutes or regulations governing the practice of licensed or certified contractors in the Commonwealth.

The Board may suspend, revoke, or deny renewal of an existing license or certificate, or refuse to issue a license or certificate, to any contractor who is shown to have a substantial identity of interest with a contractor whose license or certificate has been revoked or not renewed by the Board. A substantial identity of interest includes but is not limited to (i) a controlling financial interest by the individual or corporate principals of the contractor whose license or certificate has been revoked or nonrenewed, (ii) substantially identical principals or officers, or (iii) the same designated employee as the contractor whose license or certificate has been revoked or not renewed by the Board.

Additionally, the Board may suspend, revoke or deny renewal of an existing license or certificate, or refuse to issue a license or certificate to any contractor who violates the provisions of Chapter 5 ([§ 60.2-500 et seq.](#)) of Title 60.2 and Chapter 8 ([§ 65.2-800 et seq.](#)) of Title 65.2.

Any person whose license is suspended or revoked by the Board shall not be eligible for a license or certificate under any circumstances or under any name, except as provided by regulations of the Board pursuant to [§ 54.1-1102](#).

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1992, c. 243](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#); [Acts 1996, c. 380](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1110, VA ST § 54.1-1110

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1110.1

§ 54.1-1110.1. Re-examination of designated employee

Currentness

The Board shall have the power to require remedial education or may require a designated employee to retake the examination required by this chapter, in any case where the conduct of the designated employee, while in the employ of a licensed Class A or Class B contractor, has resulted in any disciplinary action by the Board against such contractor.

Credits

Acts 1996, c. 707.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1110.1, VA ST § 54.1-1110.1

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1111

§ 54.1-1111. Prerequisites to obtaining business license; building, etc., permit

Effective: July 1, 2018

Currentness

A. Any person applying to the building official or any other authority of a county, city, or town in this Commonwealth, charged with the duty of issuing building or other permits for the construction of any building, highway, sewer, or structure, or any removal, grading or improvement shall furnish prior to the issuance of the permit, either (i) satisfactory proof to such official or authority that he is duly licensed or certified under the terms of this chapter to carry out or superintend the same, or (ii) file a written statement that he is not subject to licensure or certification as a contractor or subcontractor pursuant to this chapter. The applicant shall also furnish satisfactory proof that the taxes or license fees required by any county, city, or town have been paid so as to be qualified to bid upon or contract for the work for which the permit has been applied.

It shall be unlawful for the building official or other authority to issue or allow the issuance of such permits unless the applicant has furnished his license or certificate number issued pursuant to this chapter or evidence of being exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

The building official, or other such authority, violating the terms of this section shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

B. Any contractor applying for or renewing a business license in any locality in accordance with Chapter 37 ([§ 58.1-3700 et seq.](#)) of Title 58.1 shall furnish prior to the issuance or renewal of such license either (i) satisfactory proof that he is duly licensed or certified under the terms of this chapter or (ii) a written statement, supported by an affidavit, that he is not subject to licensure or certification as a contractor or subcontractor pursuant to this chapter.

No locality shall issue or renew or allow the issuance or renewal of such license unless the contractor has furnished his license or certificate number issued pursuant to this chapter or evidence of being exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1991, c. 151](#); [Acts 1992, c. 713](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#); [Acts 1998, c. 754](#); [Acts 2010, c. 82](#); [Acts 2010, c. 755](#); [Acts 2018, c. 37](#); [Acts 2018, c. 88](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1111, VA ST § 54.1-1111

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1112

§ 54.1-1112. Invitations to bid and specifications to refer to law

Currentness

All architects and engineers preparing plans and specifications for work to be contracted in Virginia shall include in their invitations to the bidder and in their specifications a reference to this chapter so as to convey to the invited bidder prior to the consideration of the bid (i) whether such person is a resident or nonresident of the Commonwealth, (ii) whether the proper license or certificate has been issued to the bidder, and (iii) the information required of the bidder to show evidence of proper licensure or certification under the provisions of this chapter.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; Acts 1990, c. 911; Acts 1995, c. 771.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1112, VA ST § 54.1-1112

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1113

§ 54.1-1113. Nonresident bidders to appoint statutory agent for service of process

[Currentness](#)

Before any nonresident person or any foreign corporation bids on any work in this Commonwealth, the nonresident person or foreign corporation, by written power of attorney, shall appoint the Director as his agent upon whom all lawful process against or notice to such nonresident person or foreign corporation may be served, and authorize the Director to enter an appearance on his behalf. Upon the filing of the power of attorney the provisions of §§ 13.1-763 through 13.1-766, with reference to service of process and notice, and judgments, decrees and orders, shall be applicable as to such nonresident person or foreign corporation.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1113, VA ST § 54.1-1113

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1114

§ 54.1-1114. Filing and hearing of charges

Currentness

Any person may file complaints against any contractor licensed or certified pursuant to this chapter. The Director shall investigate complaints and the Board may take appropriate disciplinary action if warranted. Disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act ([§ 2.2-4000 et seq.](#)). The Board shall immediately notify the Director and the clerk and building official of each city, county or town in the Commonwealth of its findings in the case of the revocation of a license or certificate, or of the reissuance of a revoked license or certificate.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1114, VA ST § 54.1-1114

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115

§ 54.1-1115. Prohibited acts

Effective: July 1, 2018

Currentness

A. The following acts are prohibited and shall constitute the commission of a Class 1 misdemeanor:

1. Contracting for, or bidding upon the construction, removal, repair or improvements to or upon real property owned, controlled or leased by another person without a license or certificate, or without the proper class of license as defined in § 54.1-1100 for the value of work to be performed.
2. Attempting to practice contracting in the Commonwealth, except as provided for in this chapter.
3. Presenting or attempting to use the license or certificate of another.
4. Giving false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or any member thereof in an application for the issuance or renewal of a license or certificate.
5. Impersonating another or using an expired or revoked license or certificate.
6. Receiving or considering as the awarding authority a bid from anyone whom the awarding authority knows is not properly licensed or certified under this chapter. The awarding authority shall require a bidder to submit his license or certificate number prior to considering a bid.

B. Any person who undertakes work without (i) any valid Virginia contractor's license or certificate when a license or certificate is required by this chapter or (ii) the proper class of license as defined in § 54.1-1100 for the work undertaken, shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$500 per day for each day that such person is in violation, in addition to the authorized penalties for the commission of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any violation of clause (i) of this subsection shall also constitute a prohibited practice in accordance with § 59.1-200, provided that the violation involves a consumer transaction as defined in the Virginia Consumer Protection Act (§ 59.1-196 et seq.), and shall be subject to any and all of the enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

C. A construction contract entered into by a person undertaking work without a valid Virginia contractor's license shall not be enforceable by the unlicensed contractor undertaking the work unless the unlicensed contractor (i) gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and (ii) did not have actual knowledge that a license or certificate was required by this chapter to perform the work for which he seeks to recover payment.

Failure to renew a license or certificate issued in accordance with this chapter shall create a rebuttable presumption of actual knowledge of such licensing or certification requirements.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; [Acts 1990, c. 911](#); [Acts 1994, c. 79](#); [Acts 1995, c. 771](#); [Acts 1998, c. 691](#); [Acts 2000, c. 33](#); [Acts 2003, c. 429](#); [Acts 2003, c. 430](#); [Acts 2004, c. 131](#); [Acts 2008, c. 294](#); [Acts 2018, c. 43](#); [Acts 2018, c. 653](#).

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115, VA ST § 54.1-1115

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115.01

§ 54.1-1115.01. Responsibility for contracting with persons lacking the proper credential

Effective: July 1, 2017

Currentness

Any contractor that directly employs or otherwise contracts with a person who is not credentialed by the Board for work requiring a credential under this chapter shall be solely responsible for any monetary penalty or other sanction resulting from the act of employing or contracting with a person who lacks the proper credential based upon such person's failure to obtain or maintain the required credential.

Credits

Acts 2017, c. 132; Acts 2017, c. 135.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115.01, VA ST § 54.1-1115.01

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115.1

§ 54.1-1115.1. Evidence of violation of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code

Currentness

In any proceeding pursuant to § 54.1-1114, the Board shall consider any written documentation of a violation of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ 36-97 et seq.) provided by a local building official as evidence of a violation of such building code. Such written documentation shall not be prima facie evidence of a building code violation.

Credits

Acts 1993, c. 942.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1115.1, VA ST § 54.1-1115.1

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1116

§ 54.1-1116. Repealed by Acts 1993, c. 717

Currentness

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1116, VA ST § 54.1-1116

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VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1117

§ 54.1-1117. Licensing of certain contractors by localities; qualifications and procedure; registration of certain persons engaged in business of home improvement; civil penalty

Effective: July 1, 2012

Currentness

A. Except as to contractors currently licensed under the provisions of § 54.1-1106, any locality shall have the power and authority to adopt ordinances, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, requiring every person who engages in, or offers to engage in, the business of home improvement or the business of constructing single-family or multi-family dwellings, in such locality, to obtain a license from such locality.

B. The locality adopting ordinances pursuant to this section may require every applicant for such license, other than those currently licensed under the provisions of § 54.1-1106, (i) to furnish evidence of his ability and proficiency; and (ii) to successfully complete an examination to determine his qualifications. The locality may designate or establish an agent or board and establish the procedures for an examination according to the standards set forth in this chapter and in the regulations of the Board for Contractors. Except contractors currently licensed under the provisions of § 54.1-1106, licensure may be refused to any person found not to be qualified. Persons not currently licensed pursuant to § 54.1-1106 may be required to furnish bond in a reasonable penal sum, with reasonable condition, and with surety as the governing body deems necessary. The governing body may provide for the punishment of violations of such ordinances, provided that no such punishment shall exceed that provided for misdemeanors generally.

C. A locality may by ordinance establish a civil penalty that may be assessed when a person or business falsely represents to a customer or prospective customer that such person or business has a valid contractor's license issued pursuant to the provisions of § 54.1-1106. Such civil penalty shall not exceed \$2,500.

D. For the purpose of this section the business of home improvement shall mean the contracting for and/or providing labor and material or labor only for repairs, improvements, and additions to residential buildings or structures accessory thereto where any payment of money or other thing of value is required.

Credits

Acts 1988, c. 765; Acts 1994, c. 895, eff. July 1, 1995; Acts 2012, c. 552.

VA Code Ann. § 54.1-1117, VA ST § 54.1-1117

The statutes and Constitution are current through the End of 2018 Reg. Sess. and 2018 Sp. Sess. I and include 2019 Reg. Sess. cc. 11, 17, 18, 49, 100, 164, 225, 282 (part), 441, 464, 600, 653, 654, 826, 840& 847.

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