

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

BOARD INFORMATION

1. What are the functions of the Construction Industry Licensing Board?

The Construction Industry Licensing Board regulates construction contractors and their businesses.

2. Does the board have a website?

Yes: <http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/index.html>

3. What are the statutes and rules that govern the licensing of Construction Contractors?

Chapter 489, Part I, of the Florida Statutes and Chapter 61G4 of the Florida Administrative Code.

4. Where can I obtain copies of the laws and rules that govern the construction industry?

The laws and rules can be obtained from the Board's website at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/statutes.html>.

If you need further assistance, you may call the Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395.

5. When and where is the next board meeting?

The dates and locations are available online at <http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/meetings.html>.

6. Where can I obtain a copy of the board meeting agenda or past minutes?

Agendas and minutes are available online at http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/meetings_past.html.

LICENSURE INFORMATION

1. There are two types of licensure - registration and certification. How do I determine which license I need?

If you obtain a local, county or city contracting license, you must apply for initial state registration. You may only practice contracting in that county or city, along with any adjoining locales that will accept your registration. If you complete the Florida contractor's examination and apply for initial certification, your licensure will allow you to work throughout the state. You

may access both licensure applications and the Florida contractor's examination application online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

2. What contractor categories require state registration or certification?

The following categories require registration or certification: general; building; residential; sheet metal; roofing; air-conditioning; mechanical; swimming pool/spa; plumbing; underground utility and excavation; solar and pollutant storage.

3. What types of work can I do with each license?

You can obtain a description of each licensure category online at <http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/codes.html>.

4. Your website lists some additional licensure categories that are not mentioned in Question 2. Why?

The additional licensure categories are "specialty" licenses. They are voluntary, statewide licenses that you may obtain instead of acquiring a local specialty license. They include: specialty structure (e.g., aluminum enclosures, door and window installation); gypsum drywall; swimming pool specialties; marine; glass and glazing and tower.

5. Aren't there certain swimming pool specialty licenses that were recently created by the board?

Yes, they include: swimming pool layout, structural, excavation, trim, decking, piping, and finishes categories. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and of good moral character. The applicant must successfully complete a written or practical examination. A swimming pool contractor who wishes to serve as a practical examiner must register with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and must complete a board-approved examiner course.

6. I don't see the work I do under any of the board's licensure categories. What do I do?

Check your county or city to find out if it offers a local specialty license for the type of work you perform. If it does, you will not have to obtain a state license. However, if your county or city does not offer such a license, and the work you perform creates or modifies a structure, you will most likely require a state residential, building or general contractor's license.

7. What types of work do not require a state license?

Cabinets, countertops, paint, wallpaper, carpet, tile and window treatments are examples of work that do not require state licensure.

8. What are the requirements to become licensed as a registered contractor?

You must provide a copy of your local contractor's license. You may access the application for an initial registered contractor's license online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

9. What are the requirements to become licensed as a certified contractor?

You must complete the Florida contractor's examination, [meet financial stability and responsibility requirements](#) and provide proof of experience for the category in which you wish to become licensed. You may access the application for an initial certified contractor's license and the Florida contractor's examination application online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

10. What experience do I need to become a certified contractor?

You need four years of field experience in the category of licensure you wish to obtain. One of those four years must be supervisory experience. You can also substitute up to three years of college credit hours for experience.

11. Does my college education have to be construction-related?

No, any accredited college credit hours may be applied.

12. Do I have to demonstrate any special experience for a building or general contractor's license?

Yes. You have to demonstrate experience in four of the following seven categories:

- Foundations/Slabs in excess of 20,000 square feet
- Masonry walls
- Steel erection
- Elevated slabs
- Pre-cast concrete structures
- Column erection
- Formwork for structural reinforced concrete
- General Contractors; at least one year of such experience was in construction of structures not less than four (4) stories in height

13. Can I upgrade my license to a higher category?

In certain cases, you can upgrade your license. They include the following:

- An active certified Class C air-conditioning contractor is eligible to take the Class B examination after three years of active certification.
- An active certified Class C air-conditioning contractor is eligible to take the Class A examination after four years of active certification.
- An active certified Class B air-conditioning contractor is eligible to take the Class A examination after one year of active certification.
- An active certified pool/spa servicing contractor is eligible to take the residential pool examination after three years of active certification.
- An active certified pool/spa servicing contractor is eligible to take the commercial pool examination after four years of active certification.
- An active certified residential pool contractor is eligible to take the commercial pool examination after one year of active certification.

To upgrade your license, you must pass the appropriate state certification examination and submit an application for initial licensure in the new category.

14. How often are examinations given?

General, Building, Residential and Tower Specialty contractors must pass an examination which consists of three parts: Project Management, Contract Administration, and Business/Finance. All other categories must pass an examination which consists of two parts: General (or “trade”) Knowledge and Business/Finance.

The Business/Finance examination is computer-based and is administered by the Department’s vendor, Pearson Vue. You can access additional information regarding scheduling the Business/Finance examination online, at http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/servop/testing/documents/cilb_faq.pdf.

The General (or “trade”) Knowledge, Project Management and Contract Administration examinations for the following categories are given by the Department six times per year, in February, April, June, August, October and December: General, Building, Residential, Mechanical, Class-A Air Conditioning, Class-B Air Conditioning, Plumbing, Roofing and Underground Utility and Excavation.

The General (or “trade”) Knowledge examinations for the following categories are given by the Department three times per year, in February, June and October: Commercial Pool/Spa, Residential Pool/Spa, Pool/Spa Servicing, Sheet Metal, Pollutant Storage, Solar, Gypsum, Specialty Structure, Gas Line, Glass and Glazing, and Marine Specialty. **The glass & glazing trade knowledge examination administration will be added to the August and December 2011 examinations.**

The dates and locations of the examinations are available online at <http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/servop/testing/exam.html>.

15. Which examinations are given every month?

Examinations are not given every month; see above question 16.

16. Where are examinations given?

General (or “trade”) Knowledge, Project Management and Contract Administration examinations are administered by the Department in Tallahassee, Orlando, Tampa and Miami. The dates and locations are available online at <http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/servop/testing/exam.html>.

The Business/Finance examination is administered by the Department’s vendor, Pearson Vue, at various examination sites throughout the state. To assist you in selecting a convenient location, Pearson Vue publishes a list of locations online, at <http://www.pearsonvue.com>.

17. How long is the examination?

The General (or “trade”) Knowledge, Project Management and Contract Administration exams are administered in the same day. The Business/Finance examination is six and one-half hours.

18. What type of examination is given?

The examination is open-book. You can access examination information and a detailed list of references, what books are needed and which day of the exam for each category or specialty, as well as schools and bookstores, online at:

<http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/servop/testing/ConstructionExamInformation.html>

19. If I fail one or more portions of the examination, do I have to retake all parts?

No. Rule 61G4-16.009, Florida Administrative Code, states, "A candidate shall be required to retake only the tests on which he or she failed to achieve a passing score or failed to appear to take when scheduled."

20. If I have to re-take a portion of the examination, how long do I have to re-take and pass the other portions?

You must complete all portions of the examination within 4 years of the first attempt. After four years, all previous test scores become invalid and you will be required to take all parts of the examination again.

21. How long after I pass the examinations do I have to apply for Initial Licensure?

You must apply within four years. After four years you must apply to take the examination again.

22. Do I need a Certificate of Authority?

A Certificate of Authority is also known as a "Qualified Business License." **These licenses are not required as of October 1, 2009.** However, if you intend to do business as a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, any business entity other than a sole proprietorship or when you operate as an individual, you must apply to be the "qualifying agent" of the business. The business name will appear on your license.

23. Are contractors required to qualify a construction business?

Yes, contractors are required to qualify a construction business with their individual license.

24. Are contractors required to provide the background information to qualify a business?

Yes, contractors are required to provide the criminal history information to qualify a construction company.

25. Will the name of the construction business be listed on the contractor's license?

Yes, the name of the qualified business will be listed on the contractor's license.

26. Do I need insurance?

Active licensees must maintain minimum amounts of insurance at all times. General and building contractors must maintain \$300,000 liability insurance and \$50,000 property damage insurance. All other categories must maintain \$100,000 liability and \$25,000 property damage insurance, or in amounts as defined by board rule.

27. Do I need workers' compensation coverage?

Active licensees must maintain workers' compensation coverage or an exemption. If you are going to obtain an exemption, you can still apply for licensure, as long as you indicate that you will obtain the exemption within 30 days of becoming licensed.

28. Do I need to demonstrate minimum net worth?

No, but you must submit a credit report showing a FICO credit score of 660 or higher.

29. Do I need a Financially Responsible Officer (FRO) application?

If your company designates a financially responsible officer to take financial responsibility for the company, that individual must complete the FRO application. You may access the FRO application online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

30. Do I need a bond?

If an applicant has a FICO credit score lower than 660, he or she will be requested to provide a licensing bond or letter of credit to obtain licensure. Please review the Department's [Financial Responsibility and Stability website](#) for additional information on the Board's requirements. The amount of the licensing bond or letter of credit is based on the type of license requested: \$20,000 for Division I contractors and \$10,000 for Division II contractors.

Please visit the [Department's Financial Responsibility and Stability website](#) for additional information on the Board's financial requirements.

31. Does my Financially Responsible Officer need a bond?

Yes, all Financially Responsible Officers must have a bond in place to insure financial obligations that may result from construction work. The bond must be payable to the Construction Industry Licensing Board. Bonds must be in the amount of \$100,000.

32. Is a letter of bondability acceptable in lieu of a surety bond or licensing bond?

No, a letter of bondability is not acceptable in lieu of a surety or licensing bond.

33. Is anything acceptable in lieu of a surety bond?

Yes, an irrevocable letter of credit in the same amount as the required bond is acceptable in lieu of a surety or licensing bond.

34. Can a person be the Financially Responsible Officer (FRO) for more than one construction business?

Yes, a person can be a Financially Responsible Officer for more than one construction business. They will be required to complete the FRO application and obtain a bond for each business.

35. How do I switch from one Financially Responsible Officer (FRO) to another?

The current FRO must submit a letter explaining that they are resigning from the position. The new FRO will need to complete and submit a new FRO application. In some cases, you may need to amend the bond or letter of credit that your FRO holds. Contact your bonding or banking agent for additional information.

36. How many contractors can qualify a business?

There is no limit.

37. Does a contractor have to own the business he or she is applying to qualify?

No, however, the contractor must have supervisory authority and must have final approval authority for all of the construction affairs of the business. If the contractor lacks financial responsibility for the company, the company must obtain a Financially Responsible Officer.

38. Do the Florida Statutes provide for endorsement of out-of-state licenses?

Yes. You must demonstrate successful completion of a licensing examination that is substantially equivalent to the Florida examination or you must demonstrate that you have an out-of-state license, and that the licensure requirements were substantially equivalent to Florida's current requirements. Please note that endorsement application requirements are very stringent and rarely get approved by the Construction Industry Licensing Board.

39. Is endorsement guaranteed?

No. Endorsement is subject to approval by the Construction Industry Licensing Board. If the board denies your application, your fee is nonrefundable. Please note that endorsement application requirements are very stringent and rarely get approved by the Construction Industry Licensing Board.

APPLYING TO QUALIFY AN ADDITIONAL ENTITY

40. Can I qualify more than one business?

Yes. You may qualify two or more businesses. You may access the application to qualify an additional business entity online at

<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

41. What are the requirements for a contractor to qualify more than one business?

In order to qualify an additional business entity, you must present evidence to the Construction Industry Licensing Board of supervisory ability for each business. You will be required to appear at one of the board's monthly meetings.

42. Are Credit Reports required?

Credit reports are required for the qualifying agent and for both businesses. Credit reports must include a FICO credit score and indicate that public records were checked on local, state and federal levels.

Please visit the Department's [Financial Responsibility and Stability website](#) for additional information on the Board's financial requirements.

43. If I am the qualifying agent for a business, can I also contract in my own name?

No, to contract as an individual, you would have to apply to qualify an additional business entity.

44. If I obtain a second license in a different contracting category (for example, I am a general contractor and I wish to obtain a roofing license), can I operate that license under a different business?

Yes, but you would have to apply to qualify an additional business entity prior to operating in the new business name.

45. If I no longer wish to qualify a business, can I send the board a letter requesting removal from the company?

No, you must file an application for a change of status from one business entity to another or a change of status from qualifying business to individual status. You may access both applications online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

APPLYING TO QUALIFY A JOINT VENTURE

46. Can I qualify a joint venture with my existing license?

No, you would have to apply to qualify the joint venture just like you would any other business.

47. Can my company form a joint venture with an unlicensed company?

Yes. You would have to apply to qualify the joint venture just like you would any other business.

48. Can the joint venture bid a project prior to my becoming approved as a qualifying agent?

Yes, but the joint venture must obtain approval of the Construction Industry Licensing Board's Executive Director prior to submitting the bid on a construction project. The joint venture must provide the Executive Director a copy of the written joint venture agreement and a statement of authority signed by an officer of each company giving the proposed qualifying agent full authority to conduct the contracting business of the joint venture.

APPLYING FOR LIMITED NONRENEWABLE REGISTRATION

49. If I am licensed in another state, may I come to Florida to build a single project?

You may obtain a limited, nonrenewable registration for a single project. The registration is good for one year. You must appear before the Construction Industry Licensing Board for approval and must be able to demonstrate that the proposed project requires special skills that cannot be obtained by using a Florida licensee. Please note that limited non-renewable registration application requirements are strictly construed and are rarely approved by the Construction Industry Licensing Board.

LOSS OF A QUALIFYING AGENT

50. What happens if my qualifying agent dies?

If your qualifying agent dies, you must notify the Construction Industry Licensing Board office within 30 days, if not immediately. You can request a temporary, nonrenewable license that will allow you to continue any jobs contracted prior to the qualifying agent's death, regardless of whether a permit had already been obtained.

51. What happens if my qualifying agent resigns or I have to fire him?

When a qualifying agent resigns or is fired, the company must obtain another qualifying agent within 60 days. The company can request a temporary, nonrenewable license that will allow it to continue working for up to 60 days to complete any existing contracts.

52. How do I obtain a temporary, nonrenewable license?

You must send a request in writing to the Executive Director of the Construction Industry Licensing Board, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1039.

53. Do I have to have any qualifications to request a temporary, nonrenewable license?

If the qualifying agent dies, you have to demonstrate that you have personal knowledge of the projects, along with the ability to complete them. If the qualifying agent resigns or is fired, you must indicate that you are an officer or partner of the company, and must state that you will assume all the responsibility of a primary qualifying agent.

54. Is there an expiration date on the temporary, nonrenewable license?

If the qualifying agent dies, the temporary, nonrenewable license is good until all projects are finished. If the qualifying agent resigns or is fired, the temporary, nonrenewable license is good for 60 days and cannot be extended.

55. If I resign from a company or I am fired, what do I do to continue contracting?

You must file a change of status application. You may access the application online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/apply/main.html>.

PROBATION INFORMATION

56. What is probation?

Applicants for initial licensure may be placed on a probationary status if the board has concerns about the applicant's criminal history, good moral character, financial stability, or for any other reason deemed appropriate by the board. Additionally, licensees may be placed on probation status due to a disciplinary case.

Probationary licensees are required to appear before the board at least twice annually until the expiration of the probationary status. In connection with each probation appearance, the licensee shall answer questions under oath and shall provide copies of all construction related monthly bank statements, permit applications, contracts, and operations questionnaires.

57. Does a probationary status limit the work that the contractor can perform?

No. As long as the licensee is complying with the conditions of probation, there are no restrictions placed on the probationary license.

LICENSE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

1. How can I obtain assistance on completing my application?

If you have any questions or need assistance completing your application, please contact the department's Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395.

2. Where do I mail my application?

Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Bureau of Central Intake and Licensure
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0783

3. What are the fees for Construction applications?

- Certified Contractor's Examination - \$135.00
- Financially Responsible Officer - \$200.00
- Limited Non-renewable Registration - \$309.00
- Initial Licensure for Certified Contractor – If you passed all parts of your examination prior to January 1, 2009, the following fees apply: \$409.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between May 1 of an even year and August 31 of an odd year. The fee is prorated to \$309.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between September 1 of an odd year and April 30 of an even year. If you apply to qualify a business, you will pay an additional Business Registration fee of \$50.

- Initial Licensure for Certified Contractor – If you passed any part of your examination after January 1, 2009, the following fees apply: \$249.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between May 1 of an even year and August 31 of an odd year. The fee is prorated to \$149.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between September 1 of an odd year and April 30 of an even year. If you apply to qualify a business, you will pay an additional Business Registration fee of \$50.
- Initial Licensure for Registered Contractor - \$309.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between May 1 of an odd year and August 31 of an even year. The fee is prorated to \$209.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between September 1 of an even year and April 30 of an odd year. If you apply to qualify a business, you will pay an additional Business Registration fee of \$50.
- Contractor to change from one business entity to another - \$50.00 for the contractor.
- Contractor to change status from individual to qualifying business - \$50.00 for the contractor.
- Contractor to change status from qualifying a business to individual status - \$50.00
- Certified Contractor to qualify an additional business entity - \$209.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between May 1 of an even year and August 31 of an odd year. The fee is prorated to \$109.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between September 1 of an odd year and April 30 of an even year.
- Registered Contractor to qualify an additional business organization - \$309.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between May 1 of an odd year and August 31 of an even year. The fee is prorated to \$209.00 if you are applying for initial licensure between September 1 of an even year and April 30 of an odd year.

4. Do all applications require review by the board?

No. Most additional business applications and many initial licensure and change of status applications will require review by the board. Notice is mailed approximately 14 days prior to the meeting in which the application will be reviewed.

5. If my application is approved, how long will it take to receive my license?

Licenses are typically issued within two weeks after the conclusion of the board meeting in which the application was approved.

6. What happens if the board denies my application?

Within 60 days after the conclusion of the board meeting, the department will mail a *notice of intent to deny* which explains the reason(s) for denial. The notice includes the information needed in order to file an appeal or request a hearing, should the applicant choose to do so. The notice fully explains all reasons for denial.

RENEWAL INFORMATION

1. Do I have to renew an inactive license?

You must renew your inactive license every two years.

2. When do I renew my qualified business license?

As of October 1, 2009, qualified business licenses are no longer required. You are not required to renew or maintain the qualified business license.

3. What does current, active status mean?

Your contractor's license is current and you may practice within your scope of work.

4. What does current, inactive status mean?

Your contractor's license is current, but you are not actively practicing within the construction profession.

5. What does delinquent, active status mean?

Your contractor's license was not renewed by the expiration date. The status of your license before the expiration date was active. You may not practice with this license until the status has been updated.

6. What does delinquent, inactive status mean?

Your contractor's license was not renewed by the expiration date. The status of your license before the expiration date was inactive.

7. How do I reactivate my inactive license?

You must complete the Department's reactivation application, submit the reactivation fee and provide proof of completing the **continuing education requirements** for the renewal cycle immediately preceding your license reactivation.

8. Can I reactivate my null and void license?

Generally, you must start the licensure process over. If you are certified, you must retake the state contractor's examination. However, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) has discretion to reinstate the certification of a licensee who failed to renew as a result of illness or economic hardship. The Department has discretion on a case-by-case basis to determine illness and economic hardship. To apply, you must submit a reinstatement application. Applications can be found online at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses.

9. When I reapply, will I be able to get my old license number back?

If your license is reinstated because of illness or hardship, you may keep the old license number. If the board does not reinstate your license and you reapply, you will receive a new license number, because the old license no longer exists.

10. What are the fees to renew my certified and registered contractor's license?

- Current, active (individual) - \$209.00
- Current, Active(qualifying business) - \$259.00
- Delinquent, active (individual) - \$309.00
- Delinquent, Active(qualifying business) - \$359.00
- Current, inactive - \$59.00
- Delinquent, inactive \$218.00

11. When do I renew my license?

Certified contractors renew their licenses on August 31 of every even-numbered year. Registered contractors renew their licenses August 31 of every odd-numbered year.

12. What is the application fee for a contractor to reactivate outside of a renewal period?

The fee is \$250.00.

13. What is the fee for a contractor to become inactive outside a renewal period?

The fee is \$50.00. Please note that there is no fee required to become inactive during a renewal period.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) REQUIREMENTS

1. What are the CE requirements for license renewal?

All contractors are required, as a part of the 14 hours of continuing education, to have at least one hour in each of the following areas of study: Workplace Safety, Workers' Compensation, Business Practices, Advanced Module Building Code, and Laws and Rules. Additionally General, Building, Residential, Roofing, Specialty Structure, and Glass and Glazing Specialty contractors must complete one hour of Wind Mitigation Methodology as part of their required 14-hours. The remaining are classified as general credits.

2. Do I have to complete continuing education courses for each renewal cycle my license was inactive in order to reactivate my license?

No. In 2012, the Florida Legislature passed House Bill 517 to limit reactivation requirements for licensed contractors to no more than one renewal cycle of continuing education. Therefore, a contractor may reactivate his or her license by completing the **continuing education requirements** for the renewal cycle immediately preceding license reactivation.

3. Do I still need to take the Florida Building Code Core Course?

No. Sections 489.115 and 553.841 of the Florida Statutes were amended to by the Florida Legislature to remove the core course requirement in 2009.

4. I am changing my license status to inactive. Am I required to maintain my continuing education?

No. However, when you reactivate your license, you must show proof of completing 14 hours of continuing education for the renewal cycle immediately preceding reactivation of your license. Included in the 14 hours, you must show that you have complied with all requirements for your license type.

5. Can continuing education be completed online?

Yes. There are certain providers who are approved to teach online courses. A list of approved providers can be found online at http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/servop/testing/documents/ce_prov.pdf. Providers with the "C / I" or "I" designation are approved to offer online courses.

6. When did continuing education become a requirement?

The requirement became effective in the Florida Statutes in December 1993. For registered contractors, the first reporting cycle was 1993-1995. For certified contractors, the first reporting cycle was 1994-1996.

7. When did business practices become a requirement?

Business practices was added as a mandatory hour in 1998 affecting the 1998-2000 renewal cycle for certified contractors and the 1997-1999 renewal cycle for registered contractors.

8. When did the advanced building code module become a requirement?

It became a requirement in September 2005. It began during the 2004-2006 renewal cycle for certified contractors and the 2005-2007 renewal cycle for registered contractors.

9. When did Wind Mitigation Methodologies become a requirement?

It became a requirement in November 2007. It began during the 2006-2008 renewal cycle for certified contractors and the 2007-2009 renewal cycle for registered contractors.

10. When did Laws and Rules become a requirement?

It became a requirement in September 2007. It began during the 2006-2008 renewal cycle for certified contractors and the 2007-2009 renewal cycle for registered contractors. Originally the requirement was 3-hours however as of November 2007 it was changed to 1-hour.

11. How can I check on the number of hours of CE that I have completed?

Simply go to <https://www.myfloridalicense.com/ActivateAccountInstruct.asp?Page=CErequirements.asp&SID>, to log on or activate your account and verify your completed CE hours. The requirement for

providers to report completion of courses was not established until September 1, 2001. Therefore, the only hours tracked are those completed since that date. Licensees should maintain their individual course completion certificates. Online accounts will only reflect hours for the current renewal cycle. Licensees will not be able to view past hours once a renewal cycle has ended and/or the license has been renewed.

PROVIDER AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

12. Where can I get provider and course applications?

You can download the most current applications at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses. It is critical that you are using the most current versions of all applications you submit to the Department.

13. When does my continuing education providership expire?

Providerships expire May 31 of every odd year.

14. What is the cost of registering as a provider and for having a course approved?

The fee for registering and renewing a providership is \$250.00. The fee for course approval and renewal is \$25.00 per course hour, with a fee cap of \$150.00 per course.

15. How long does it take to get my providership and/or course approved?

The Construction Industry Licensing Board must approve or deny an application within 90 days. That does not mean that it will take a full 90 days; however, delays in the process may be experienced if the application is incomplete. The board office makes every effort to send completed applications to the first board meeting scheduled after receipt of the application.

16. How often are Providership/Course applications reviewed by the Construction Industry Licensing Board for approval?

The board reviews applications during each of its monthly meetings. The Board does not meet in the month of December. Please have your applications prepared for either the November or January Board meetings.

17. When can I advertise my course?

You cannot advertise a course for continuing education credit until the Construction Industry Licensing Board has approved it.

18. Is there a time limit for electronically submitting course completion information?

Florida Statutes require continuing education providers to electronically submit licensee course completion information to the department no later than 30 calendar days after course completion or prior to the licensee's renewal date, whichever occurs sooner.

COMPLAINTS

1. I have a complaint about a contractor or a contracting business. Whom do I contact?

Please contact the department's Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395 or you may file a complaint online at http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/documents/construction_related_complaint_package.pdf.

2. I have a complaint about an unlicensed contractor. Whom do I contact?

Please contact the department's toll-free unlicensed activity complaint line at 1.866.532.1440 or file a complaint online at http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/documents/construction_related_complaint_package.pdf.

SPECIAL BOARD ISSUES

ADVERTISING

1. When is a contractor required to display his or her license number?

Each registered or certified contractor must include his or her license number on any application for building permit; offer of service; business proposal; bid; contract; advertisement; sign; vehicle that displays the name of the contractor or qualified business; or vehicle that displays graphics or text that would lead a reasonable person to believe the vehicle is being used for construction purposes.

2. What does the term "advertise" include for license number purposes?

The term "advertise" applies to business cards, business proposals, contracts, construction site signs, newspaper ads, airwave transmissions, electronic media including Internet sites, phone directories and other media. Other media includes handbills, billboards, flyers, shopping and service guides (coupon offerings), magazines (including trade association publications), classified advertisements, manufacturer's "authorized dealer" listings, and signs on vehicles. The term does not apply to balloons, pencils, pens, hats, shirts, and articles of clothing or other promotional novelties.

MILITARY EXEMPTION

3. Are there exemptions from renewal requirements for military personnel and spouses of military personnel?

Military personnel and spouses are exempt from licensure renewal provisions when they are absent from Florida because of their military duties. The licensee must provide a copy of the orders that require out-of-state service to the department's Central Intake Unit, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0783. Once the orders have been received and approved for exemption, the license will be placed in an inactive status with no fees required. The license will remain on inactive status for up to two renewal cycles, at which time the

licensee must re-submit current orders to update the exemption. If the exemption is not updated, or the license is not renewed prior to expiration, it will become delinquent. Fees and continuing education will not be required to reactivate the license.

LIENS

4. What do I do if a lien is filed on my property?

You may access a brochure that addresses Florida's Construction Lien Law online at http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/documents/florida_lien_law.pdf. Please note that the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the Construction Industry Licensing Board do not regulate the lien law. If you need additional information, please consult an attorney who is experienced in lien law.

5. How can I locate an attorney?

You may contact the Florida Bar at www.flabar.org.