

Louisiana State Licensing Board For Contractors 2021 Annual Report



Michael McDuff, Executive Director
Judy Dupuy, Board Administrator

600 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | www.lacontractor.org | 225.765.2301

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Executive Staff

Letter from the Director

I am proud to present the 2021 Annual Report of the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC).

The LSLBC was created by Act 233 in 1956 to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public dealing with companies engaged in the contracting vocation.

The major objectives of the licensing board are fulfilled by its three major divisions:

- The Applications Division oversees the timely screening and processing of applicants seeking to become licensed contractors.
- The Examinations Division provides oversight for administering, developing, and validating examinations to ensure competency of contractors through the testing process.
- The Compliance Division oversees investigation and monitoring of licensed and unlicensed contractors to ensure proper licensure and classification of work.

Additionally, LSLBC has forged partnerships and cooperative efforts with permit offices, as well as law enforcement and criminal justice entities, leading to a systemic and quicker response in serving the public.

The number of contractors licensed by this agency have increased 7% in the past year, to over 27,000 licensed companies today. This represents the largest number of contractors licensed in the history of the LSLBC. Even though the state has been dealt with a global pandemic and multiple hurricanes in the past couple of years, indicators are that the construction industry continues to be strong and vital to the Louisiana economy.



Michael McDuff
Executive Director



Judy Dupuy
Board Administrator

Overview

The Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) is governed under Title 37:2150-2192 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, Chapter 24. The LSLBC ensures the integrity of the construction industry through its licensing, enforcement, and public awareness efforts, as well as being a resource that educates contractors and consumers alike.

Through the Commercial Board and its Residential Subcommittee, the LSLBC regulates commercial, industrial and residential contractors who bid or perform construction projects with the following thresholds, including materials and labor:

- Commercial and Industrial - \$50,000 or more
- Home Improvement – projects which exceed \$7,500 but do not exceed \$75,000
- Mechanical, Electrical or Plumbing – in excess of \$10,000
- Mold Remediation – projects of \$1 or more
- Residential Construction – projects (residential building or home improvement) in excess of \$75,000
- Residential Specialties in the following areas for work which exceeds \$7,500 on any new single residential project with no more than four incorporated or attached dwelling units
 - Residential Pile Driving
 - Residential Foundations (Including Forming; Steel Reinforcement Placement; and Concrete Placement and Finishing)
 - Residential Framing
 - Residential Roofing
 - Residential Masonry/Stucco
 - Residential Swimming Pools
- Asbestos, Hazardous Waste, Lead-Based Paint Abatement/Removal, Underground Storage Tanks - projects of \$1 or more

Statutes and rules have recently been updated to simplify and streamline the application, examination and renewal processes for applicants and licensed contractors.

Governance

The State Licensing Board consists of nineteen (19) members appointed by the Governor. For the five-year period prior to their appointment, prospective board members must have been a resident of the state of Louisiana and must have been actively engaged as a responsible contractor in the construction classification that they represent.

Commercial Board	
Lee Mallett, Chairman	Subcontractor
William J. Clouatre, Vice Chairman	Building or Industrial Construction
Nelson "Andy" Dupuy, Jr., Treasurer	Building or Industrial Construction
Elliott Temple, Secretary	NAACP
Lloyd "Chip" Badeaux	Member-At-Large
Ronald Barron	Highway & Street Construction
Brian J. Bordelon	Building or Industrial Construction
N. R. "Noah" Broussard	Oilfield Construction
Courtney A. Fenet, Jr.	Highway & Street Construction
August Gallo	Mechanical Construction
Danny R. Graham	Building or Industrial Construction
Kenneth W. Jones	Subcontractor
Curtis Joseph	Member-At-Large
Donald G. Lambert	Highway & Street Construction
Garland Meredith	Electrical Construction
Joel Rushing	Building or Industrial Construction
Christopher N. Stuart	Highway & Street Construction
Keith Tillage	Member-At-Large
Victor Weston	Building or Industrial Construction

The Residential Subcommittee consists of five (5) members appointed by the Governor. For the five-year period prior to their appointment, members must have been residents of Louisiana, and must have been actively engaged in residential contracting. Three members of the subcommittee are nominated by the Louisiana Homebuilders Association. An ex-officio member of the State Licensing Board for Contractors is appointed to serve on the subcommittee as Chairman.

Residential Subcommittee	
Lloyd "Chip" Badeaux	Chairman
Elliott Temple	Vice Chairman
James C. Fine	
Travis Manceaux	
Frank W. Morse, Jr.	
Craig Stevens	

Applications/Licensing Division

The Applications/Licensing Division oversees the processing and issuance of new applications and renewals for Louisiana’s 27,000+ commercial, industrial, residential and home improvement contractors. Licenses are issued to companies (not individuals, unless operating as a sole proprietor). Entities who are required to be registered with the Secretary of State must submit articles of incorporation, articles of organization or partnership agreements. Applicants must demonstrate that there are no liens or financial judgments against the company or its officers, and must submit financial documents which indicate that the entity meets the statutory minimum requirement of \$10,000 net worth.

Efficiency and simplification of the licensing process continues to be a top priority. The LSLBC implemented a new interactive contractor’s tracking system. Contractors are able to update their own information and renew online through a portal. This system allows for additional streamlining and acceleration in processing applications and renewals. In early 2022, LSLBC will implement an online application process.

The Division also processes all name or corporate structural changes to licenses and provides assistance to already licensed contractors with the addition of classifications, qualifying parties, and other changes to their existing licenses. Daily assistance is available in person or by phone to those contractors desiring to become licensed.

Licenses and Registrations by Category

Year	Commercial	Residential	Home Improvement	Mold Remediation	Total
2021	18,919	4,572	3,181	342	27,014
2020	18,435	4,214	2,391	238	25,278
2019	18,219	4,012	1,920	197	24,328



Human Resources & Examinations

Each year this Division helps safeguard the public by providing a means to evaluate contractors for basic competency in their trade(s) by developing, validating and administering examinations and other assessment tools. In an effort to better assist contractors through the licensing process, two new initiatives were recently developed for applicants. The interactive Classification Matrix allows contractors to determine the most appropriate classification for the type of work they perform. The second initiative is the diagnostic assessment tool. After a classification has been identified, the assessment tool assists in test preparation. By taking a sample test, contractors will receive a focused direction of study based on their individual needs as well as become familiar with the types of questions that could be present on the actual test.

Most Frequently Administered Exams	2021	2020	2019
Building Construction	441	382	337
Residential Building Contractor	383	298	258
Electrical Work (Statewide)	336	222	201
Mechanical Work (Statewide)	115	102	137
Heavy Construction	121	136	117
Highway, Street & Bridge Construction	60	49	65
Municipal & Public Works Construction	55	46	63
Roofing and Sheet Metal, Siding	78	43	41

In 2021, this Division administered 2,375 computer-based examinations statewide. Of these examinations, 1,326 were administered by the Board’s satellite testing center partners at Bossier Parish Community College in Bossier City, Delgado Community College in New Orleans, Fletcher Technical Community College in Shriever, Louisiana State University at Alexandria, Louisiana Delta Community College in Monroe, Northshore Technical Community College in Mandeville, Nunez Community College in Chalmette, South Louisiana Community College in Lafayette, and Sowela Technical Community College in Lake Charles.

Number of Current Licenses	2021	2020	2019
Building Construction	7,739	7,510	7,360
Residential Building Contractor	4,144	3,885	3,760
Electrical Work (Statewide)	3,245	3,127	3,084
Mechanical Work (Statewide)	2,196	2,159	2,142
Heavy Construction	1,633	1,609	1,557
Municipal & Public Works Construction	1,376	1,342	1,332
Highway, Street & Bridge Construction	1,355	1,311	1,297
Plumbing	613	579	572

Compliance Division

The Compliance Division is the investigative and enforcement arm of the LSLBC. This Division works to ensure that construction projects throughout the state are conducted in accordance with the contractor licensing laws of Louisiana. Investigators make routine construction site visits, handle complaints and allegations of unlicensed activities, monitor permit offices, and partner with various law enforcement agencies to protect the general public.

If a contractor appears to be in violation of LSLBC’s licensing laws, documentation is gathered indicating the nature of the violation, and the contractor is summoned to appear before the Board for an administrative hearing.

While most contractors are interested in operating according to the dictates of the law, there are those who choose to ignore the regulations or are unaware of them. By maintaining a presence throughout the state, the Compliance Division has an opportunity to inform contractors and the general public of the LSLBC licensing laws.

	2021*	2020*	2019
Complaints Received	599	299	276
Complaints Scheduled for Administrative Hearings	499	355	470
Contractors Found Guilty and Fined	494	351	460
Contractors Found Not Guilty/Dismissed	5	4	10
Cases Against Licensed Contractors	171	120	133
Cases Against Unlicensed Contractors	328	235	337
Commercial Construction Cases	241	193	250
Residential and Home Improvement Construction Cases	258	162	220

* Fewer administrative hearings were conducted in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.



Staff Listing

Administration		
Michael McDuff	Executive Director	225.763.3983
Judy Dupuy	Board Administrator	225.763.3982
John Dixon	Information Technology Director	225.765.2301 x 1261
Applications/Licensing		
Elaine Riggins	Applications Director	225.765.2301 x 1243
Tarah Revette	Applications Manager	225.765.2301 x 1213
Examinations/Assessment		
Janna Lege	Examinations Director/ Human Resources	225.765.2301 x 1233
Nikki Lopez	Examinations/Assessments	225.765.2301 x 1259
Doug Traylor	Examinations/Assessments	225.765.2301 x 1229
Shannon Temple	Examinations	225.765.2301 x 1228
Compliance		
Brad Hassert	Compliance Director	225.765.2301 x 1248
Leann Evans	Administrative Program Director	225.765.2301 x 1216
Carrie Morgan	Compliance Manager	225.765.2301 x 1215
Bobby Abraham	Compliance Supervisor	225.765.2301
Todd Brady	Compliance Supervisor	225.765.2301 x 1223
Accounting		
Tracy Guidry	Accountant Administrator	225.765.2301 x 1219
Maria Brady	Accounting Supervisor	225.765.2301 x 1236

