

Louisiana State Licensing Board For Contractors 2023 Annual Report



Brad Hassert, Executive Director
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Executive Staff Message

I am proud to present the 2023 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 and renewal of licenses.
- The Human Resources & 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 LSLBC currently licenses over 28,000 contractors. This is the largest number of contractors licensed in the history of LSLBC. Despite the COVID pandemic and numerous weather events in the last few years, the construction industry remains strong and vital to the economy of Louisiana. The LSLBC is proud to continue to help all contractors become licensed, explore ongoing construction projects, and educate the consumer in the importance and increased safety of using licensed contractors.

The information and statistics contained in this report serve as a reflection of our agency as well as a benchmark for future progress. I trust that this annual report proves useful and educational to all we serve.

Brad Hassert
Executive Director

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Overview

The Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) is governed under Title 37:2150-2165 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 \$7,500 or more
- Residential Construction – projects (residential building or home improvement) in excess of \$75,000
- Residential Swimming Pools for work which exceeds \$7,500
- 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
Ronald Barron	Highway & Street Construction
Brian J. Bordelon	Building or Industrial Construction
N.R. "Noah" Broussard	Oilfield Construction
Kristen Brown	Building or Industrial Construction
Courtney Davis	Subcontractors
Kym DiGiovanni	Member-at-Large
Courtney A. Fenet, Jr.	Highway & Street Construction
August Gallo	Mechanical Construction
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	
Elliott Temple	Chairman
Curtis Joseph	Vice Chairman
Dodie Adams	
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 28,000+ 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 continue to be a top priority. In prior years, the LSLBC launched an interactive contractor portal, which allows contractors to manage their licenses online. With this portal, contractors are able to update their own information, renew online and print their license certificates online. In 2023, LSLBC added new features to their portal that allows the contractor to respond to their outstanding issues and pay outstanding fees effecting their application or renewal process. Additional features include contractors being able to view their fee history, print payment receipts, view their exam history and print their exam transcripts through their portal. These new features further enhances the contractor's ability to manage their licenses online, which streamlines and accelerates the processing of applications and renewals.

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
2023	19,973	4,622	3,251	373	28,219
2022	19,485	4,604	3,317	355	27,761
2021	18,919	4,572	3,181	342	27,014

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 2023, the Division began redevelopment of diagnostic assessments for use in examination preparation.

Most Frequently Administered Exams	2023	2022	2021
Building Construction	519	470	441
Residential Building Contractor	304	449	383
Electrical Work (Statewide)	363	410	336
Mechanical Work (Statewide)	141	119	115
Heavy Construction	99	129	121
Highway, Street & Bridge Construction	68	80	60
Municipal & Public Works Construction	81	68	55
Roofing and Sheet Metal, Siding	58	74	78

In 2023, this Division processed 4,916 requests for exams and administered 2,329 exams. The Board offers exams at ten satellite testing centers throughout the state: 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, River Parishes Community College in Gonzales and Sowela Technical Community College in Lake Charles.



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.

	2023	2022	2021
Complaints Received	445	703	599
Complaints Scheduled for Administrative Hearings	640	668	499
Contractors Found Guilty and Fined	478	658	494
Contractors Found Not Guilty/Dismissed	3	10	5
Cases Against Licensed Contractors	93	199	171
Cases Against Unlicensed Contractors	388	469	328
Commercial Construction Cases	195	273	241
Residential and Home Improvement Construction Cases	286	395	258

Staff Listing

Administration		
Brad Hassert	Executive Director	225.346.6348
Janna Lege	Deputy Director	225.346-6333
Tracy Guidry	Director of Information Technology	225.346.6319
Damien Smart	IT Program Manager	225.346.6301
Applications/Licensing		
Tarah Revette	Director of Applications	225.346.6313
Megan Hurst	Licensing Analyst Manager	225.346.6340
Monica Webster	Licensing Analyst Manager	225.346.6341
Human Resources & Examinations		
Nikki Lopez	Director of HR & Examinations	225.346.6359
Doug Traylor	HR Consultant	225.346.6329
Shannon Temple	Examinations Proctor	225.346.6328
Compliance		
Sean Beavers	Director of Compliance	225.346.6314
Leann Evans	Administrative Program Director	225.346.6316
Carrie Morgan	Compliance Manager	225.346.6315
David Hamm	Compliance Supervisor—N LA	225.346.6346
Joseph Anderson	Compliance Supervisor—NOLA Region	225.346.6304
Logan Cockerham	Compliance Supervisor—BR Region	225.346.6330
Todd Brady	Public Information Officer/Public Records	225.346.6323
Accounting		
Maria Brady	Director of Accounting	225.346.6336
Kelly Smith	Accountant Supervisor	225.346.6332