

Department of Examinations and Assessment

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors

The logo for the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) is a dark blue rounded rectangle containing the letters "LSLBC" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Solar Energy Equipment

Classification Description:

Refers to the construction, installation or repair of solar photovoltaic and thermal systems for the production of electricity or heating for houses, buildings, swimming pools, plumbing systems, etc. This classification allows the homeowners utilizing the services of the contractor to qualify for certain state tax breaks. Requires specialized training and the possession of the classification(s) of either Residential Building Contractor, Electrical Work, Mechanical Work or Building Construction to obtain this classification.

Solar Energy Equipment

The following is excerpted from the Contractors Licensing Law L.a. R.S. §2156.3:

§2156.3. Installation of solar energy equipment and systems

A. No licensed contractor shall install solar energy equipment or solar energy systems on or after February 1, 2015, unless he is in compliance with the provisions of this Section and any rules adopted by the board in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

B. Contractors applying for the classification of Solar Energy Equipment, shall, in addition to all other application or licensing requirements, hold one or more of the following major classifications:

- (1) Building Construction.
- (2) Electrical.
- (3) Mechanical.
- (4) Residential Construction.

C. Any work performed to connect wiring or hookups for any photovoltaic panel or system wherein the panel or system is of a value, including labor, materials, rentals, and all direct and indirect project expenses, of ten thousand dollars or more shall be performed only by a contractor or subcontractor who holds the classification to perform Electrical Work.

D. Any work performed to connect piping or equipment for any solar thermal system wherein the system is of a value, including labor, materials, rentals, and all direct and indirect project expenses, of ten thousand dollars or more shall be performed only by a contractor or subcontractor who holds the classification to perform Mechanical Work or who may perform mechanical work.

E. The provisions of this Section shall be applicable to entities engaging in the business of selling, leasing, installing, servicing, or monitoring solar energy equipment. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to impose civil or criminal liability on homeowners or on any third party whose involvement is financing to the homeowner, financing for installation, or purchasing the tax credits described in this Section from any homeowner or contractor. Entities engaged in the business of arranging agreements for the lease or sale of solar energy systems or acquiring customers for financing entities shall not be exempt from the provisions of this Section.

Solar Energy Equipment is a **closed book** examination with 100 multiple-choice questions covering the basics of this trade. You will have **four hours** to complete this examination.

Listed below is only a sample of the many good references available on this subject which may be helpful in studying for this examination. This is not a comprehensive listing. Please note that it is not necessary to read all of the books in order to pass the examination. Rather, this list is intended to suggest what types of books might be useful in helping to acquire the basic knowledge needed to perform this type of work.

We try to keep this list current with books in print, but some books go out of print from time to time. These books may be available in your local library's collection or through your local library by using the services of Inter-Library Loan.

If still in print, these books may also be available through your local bookstore or by contacting the publisher.

All references available via the internet are followed by the appropriate website address for obtaining the reference. From time to time, website addresses may change and no longer be available. In such cases, please search for the appropriate new website address or contact the publisher or a library to obtain a copy.

Content Outline

Solar Thermal Systems	11%	General Knowledge	
Piping Interconnections		and Photovoltaic Theory	15%
and Components	7%	Permitting, Interconnections	
Electrical Interconnections		of Utilities and Inspection	8%
and Components	15%	Safety	10%
Estimating and Project Design	10%	Service and Maintenance	8%
Design and Calculations	16%		

2012 Solar Electricity Handbook, Boxwell, Michael; Greenstream Publishing; UK; 2012.

2012 Uniform Solar Energy Code, IAPMO/ANSI USEC1-2012; International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials; Ontario, CA, 2012.

2014 National Electrical Code; National Fire Protection Association; Quincy, MA; 2014.

Photovoltaic Systems; Second Edition; Dunlop, James; American Technical Publishers, Inc.; Orland Park, IL; 2010.

NCCER Solar Photovoltaic Systems Installer, Trainee Guide; National Center for Construction Education and Research; Pearson; New York; 2011.

Standard for Installing and Maintaining Photovoltaic (PV) Power Systems, NECA 412-2012; National Electrical Contractors Association; Bethesda, MD; 2012.

References Continued

Solar Water Heating Systems: Fundamentals and Installation; International Pipe Trades Joint Training Committee, Inc.; American Technical Publishers, Inc.; Orland Park, IL; 2013.

Safety and Health Regulations for Construction; Code of Federal Regulations, Title 29, Part 1926; U. S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Washington, D.C.
<https://www.osha.gov/>

Introduction to Solar Principles; Kissell, Thomas E.; Prentice Hall; Boston; 2012.

Solar Electric Handbook; Second Edition; Solar Energy International; Pearsons Learning Solutions; Boston, MA 2013.

Solar Energy Photovoltaics and Domestic Hot Water; Plante, Russell H.; Academic Press; Waldham, MA; 2014.