

VIRGINIA BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS
DIRECTORY

Information and forms are available over the internet at: www.dpor.virginia.gov

Please use these telephone numbers for the following actions:

To request an application form	(804) 367-8511
To make an inquiry on a pending application	(804) 367-8511
To make an inquiry regarding the Board or its regulations	(804) 367-8511
To file a complaint against a contractor	(804) 367-8504
To make an inquiry on the status of a filed complaint	(804) 367-8504
To obtain information on the Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund	(804) 367-1559

Please write to the Board for Contractors at the below address to request the following:

1. An interpretation of the Board's regulations;
2. A waiver from the Board's regulations regarding a specific entry requirement; (See 18 VAC 50-22-40, 18 VAC 50-22-50, and 18 VAC 50-22-60 of these regulations); or
3. Reciprocity for a required examination (See 18 VAC 50-22-70 of these regulations).

VIRGINIA BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS
Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
The Perimeter Center, Suite 400
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233

Please write to the Contractor's Licensing Section at the below address to request the following:

1. A change of name in which your firm operates (See 18 VAC 50-22-230 A of these regulations);
2. A change of your firm's address (See 18 VAC 50-22-230 B of these regulations); or
3. General information or an application form.

BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS' LICENSING SECTION
Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
The Perimeter Center, Suite 400
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233

NOTICE OF REGULATORY CHANGES

These regulations became effective April 1, 2010. The purpose of this amendment was to amend fees in order to ensure that the Board for Contractors remains in compliance with § 54.1-113 of the Code of Virginia.

18 VAC 50-22-100 – amend application fees

18 VAC 50-22-140 – amend renewal fees

18 VAC 50-22-170 – amend reinstatement fees

18 VAC 50-22-250 – amend change of Designated Employee, Qualified Individual and addition of classification or specialty fee

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This booklet contains information you will need to obtain your contractor's license. The law that governs your profession is found in the Code of Virginia, as amended, in Title 54.1, Chapter 11. That law permits the Board for Contractors, through the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, to issue regulations that tell you more about what is expected of you in your profession. This booklet contains a copy of the law and regulations that you will need to know and obey both to obtain and to keep your license.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO READ THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND CONDUCT. YOUR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE STANDARDS COULD RESULT IN A MONETARY PENALTY OR THE LOSS OF YOUR LICENSE.

The Virginia Board for Contractors and the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation wish to provide you with the information you need to comply with the law and regulations. If you have a question and cannot find the answer to it in this booklet, please contact us.

Our address is:

**VIRGINIA BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS
Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
The Perimeter Center, Suite 400
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233**

Our phone number is:

(804) 367-8511

Our email address is:

contractor@dpor.virginia.gov

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* This consumer information sheet or the information contained therein needs to be included in all residential contracts, as defined in 18 VAC 50-22-260-B-9 of the board’s regulations, when such contracts are the result of a door-to-door solicitation. For more information, see 18 VAC 50-22-260-B-9 of the board’s regulations found on page 26 of this booklet.

PART I
DEFINITIONS.

18 VAC 50-22-10. General definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is provided or is plainly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

"Affidavit" means a written statement of facts, made voluntarily, and confirmed by the oath or affirmation of the party making it, taken before a notary or other person having the authority to administer such oath or affirmation.

"Business entity" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or any other form of organization permitted by law.

"Controlling financial interest" means the direct or indirect ownership or control of more than 50% ownership of a firm.

"Firm" means any business entity recognized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"Formal vocational training" means courses in the trade administered at an accredited educational facility; or formal training, approved by the department, conducted by trade associations, businesses, military, correspondence schools or other similar training organizations.

"Full-time employee" means an employee who spends a minimum of 30 hours a week carrying out the work of the licensed contracting business.

"Helper" or "Laborer" means a person who assists a licensed tradesman and who is not an apprentice as defined in 18 VAC 50-30-10.

"Licensee" means a firm holding a license issued by the Board for Contractors to act as a contractor, as defined in § 54.1-1100 of the Code of Virginia.

"Net worth" means assets minus liabilities. For purposes of this chapter, assets shall not include any property owned as tenants by the entirety.

"Reciprocity" means an arrangement by which the licensees of two states are allowed to practice within each other's boundaries by mutual agreement.

"Reinstatement" means having a license restored to effectiveness after the expiration date has passed.

"Renewal" means continuing the effectiveness of a license for another period of time.

"Responsible management" means the following individuals:

1. The sole proprietor of a sole proprietorship;
2. The partners of a general partnership;
3. The managing partners of a limited partnership;
4. The officers of a corporation;

5. The managers of a limited liability company;
6. The officers or directors of an association or both; and
7. Individuals in other business entities recognized under the laws of the Commonwealth as having a fiduciary responsibility to the firm.

"Sole proprietor" means any individual, not a corporation, who is trading under his own name, or under an assumed or fictitious name pursuant to the provisions of § 59.1-69 through 59.1-76 of the Code of Virginia.

"Supervision" means providing guidance or direction of a delegated task or procedure by a tradesman licensed in accordance with Title 54.1, Chapter 11 of Code of Virginia, being accessible to the helper or laborer, and periodically observing and evaluating the the performance of the task or procedure.

"Supervisor" means the licensed master or journeyman tradesman who has the responsibility to ensure that the installation is in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and provides supervision to helpers and laborers as defined in this chapter.

"Tenants by the entirety" means a tenancy which is created between a husband and wife and by which together they hold title to the whole with right of survivorship so that, upon death of either, the other takes whole to exclusion of the deceased's remaining heirs.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §1.1, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006.

18 VAC 50-22-20. Definitions of license classifications.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is provided or is plainly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

"Building contractors" (Abbr: BLD) means those individuals whose contracts include construction on real property owned, controlled or leased by another person of commercial, industrial, institutional, governmental, residential (single-family, two-family or multifamily) and accessory use buildings or structures. This classification also provides for remodeling, repair, improvement or demolition of these buildings and structures. A holder of this license can do general contracting.

If the BLD contractor performs specialty services, all required specialty designations shall be obtained. The building classification includes but is not limited to the functions carried out by the following specialties:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Billboard/sign contracting | Landscape service contracting |
| Commercial improvement contracting | Marine facility contracting |
| Farm improvement contracting | Modular/manufactured building contracting |
| Home improvement contracting | Recreational facility contracting |

"Electrical contractors" (Abbr: ELE) means those individuals whose contracts include the construction, repair, maintenance, alteration, or removal of electrical systems under the National Electrical Code. This classification provides for all work covered by the National Electrical Code including electrical work covered by the alarm/security systems contracting (ALS), electronic/communication service contracting (ESC) and fire alarm systems contracting (FAS) specialties. A firm holding an electrical license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensing standards.

"Highway/heavy contractors" (Abbr: H/H) means those individuals whose contracts include construction, repair, improvement, or demolition of the following:

Bridges	Rail roads
Dams	Roads
Drainage systems	Runways
Foundations	Streets
Parking lots	Structural signs & lights
Public transit systems	Tanks

The functions carried out by these contractors include but are not limited to the following:

Building demolition	Nonwater well drilling
Clearing	Paving
Concrete work	Pile driving
Excavating	Road marking
Grading	Steel Erection

These contractors also install, maintain, or dismantle the following:

1. Power systems for the generation and primary and secondary distribution of electric current ahead of the customer's meter;
2. Pumping stations and treatment plants;
3. Telephone, telegraph or signal systems for public utilities; and
4. Water, gas, and sewer connections to residential, commercial, and industrial sites, subject to local ordinances.

This classification may also install backflow prevention devices incidental to work in this classification when the installer has received formal vocational training approved by the board that included instruction in the installation of backflow prevention devices.

"HVAC contractors" (Abbr: HVA) means those individuals whose work includes the installation, alteration, repair, or maintenance of heating systems, ventilating systems, cooling systems, steam and hot water heaters, heating systems, boilers, process piping, and mechanical refrigeration systems, including tanks incidental to the system. This classification does not provide for fire suppression installations, sprinkler system installations, or gas piping. A firm holding a HVAC license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards. This classification may install backflow prevention devices incidental to work in this classification.

"Plumbing contractors" (Abbr: PLB) means those individuals whose contracts include the installation, maintenance, extension, or alteration, or removal of all piping, fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with any of the following:

Backflow prevention devices	Public/private water supply systems within or adjacent to any building, structure or conveyance
Boilers	Sanitary or storm drainage facilities
Hot water baseboard heating systems	Steam heating systems
Hot water heaters	Storage tanks incidental to the installation of related systems
Hydronic systems	Venting systems related to plumbing
Limited area sprinklers (as defined by BOCA)	
Process piping	

These contractors also install, maintain, extend or alter the following:

Liquid waste systems
Sewerage systems

Storm water systems
Water supply systems

This classification does not provide for gas piping or the function of fire sprinkler contracting as noted above. A firm holding a plumbing license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards.

"Specialty contractors" means those individuals whose contracts are for specialty services which do not generally fall within the scope of any other classification within this chapter.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §1.2, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006.

18 VAC 50-22-30. Definitions of specialty services.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is provided or is plainly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

"Alternative energy system contracting" (Abbr: AES) means that service which provides for the installation, repair or improvement, from the customer's meter, of alternative energy generation systems, supplemental energy systems and associated equipment annexed to real property. No other classification or specialty service provides this function. This specialty does not provide for electrical, plumbing, gas fitting, or HVAC functions.

"Asbestos contracting" (Abbr: ASB) means that service which provides for the installation, removal, or encapsulation of asbestos containing materials annexed to real property. No other classification or specialty service provides for this function.

"Asphalt paving and sealcoating contracting" (Abbr: PAV) means that service which provides for the installation of asphalt paving and/or sealcoating on subdivision streets and adjacent intersections, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, running tracks, and play areas, using materials and accessories common to the industry. This includes height adjustment of existing sewer manholes, storm drains, water valves, sewer cleanouts and drain grates, and all necessary excavation and grading. The H/H classification also provides for this function.

"Billboard/sign contracting" (Abbr: BSC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or dismantling of any billboard or structural sign permanently annexed to real property. H/H and BLD are the only other classifications that can perform this work except that a contractor in this specialty may connect or disconnect signs to existing electrical circuits. No trade related plumbing, electrical, or HVAC work is included in this function.

"Blast/explosive contracting" (Abbr: BEC) means that service which provides for the use of explosive charges for the repair, improvement, alteration, or demolition of any real property or any structure annexed to real property.

"Commercial improvement contracting" (Abbr: CIC) means that service which provides for repair or improvement to nonresidential property and multifamily property as defined in the Virginia Uniform Statewide

Building Code. The BLD classification also provides for this function. The CIC classification does not provide for the construction of new buildings, accessory buildings, electrical, plumbing, HVAC or gas work.

"Concrete contracting" (Abbr: CEM) means that service which provides for all work in connection with the processing, proportioning, batching, mixing, conveying and placing of concrete composed of materials common to the concrete industry. This includes but is not limited to finishing, coloring, curing, repairing, testing, sawing, grinding, grouting, placing of film barriers, sealing and waterproofing. Construction and assembling of forms, molds, slipforms, pans, centering, and the use of rebar is also included. The BLD and H/H classifications also provide for this function.

"Electronic/communication service contracting" (Abbr: ESC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or removal of electronic or communications systems annexed to real property including telephone wiring, computer cabling, sound systems, data links, data and network installation, television and cable TV wiring, antenna wiring, and fiber optics installation, all of which operate at 50 volts or less. A firm holding an ESC license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards. The ELE classification also provides for this function.

"Elevator/escalator contracting" (Abbr: EEC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement or removal of elevators or escalators permanently annexed to real property. A firm holding an EEC license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards. No other classification or specialty service provides for this function.

"Environmental monitoring well contracting" (Abbr: EMW) means that service which provides for the construction of a well to monitor hazardous substances in the ground.

"Environmental specialties contracting" (Abbr: ENV) means that service which provides for installation, repair, removal, or improvement of pollution control and remediation devices. No other specialty provides for this function. This specialty does not provide for electrical, plumbing, gas fitting, or HVAC functions.

"Equipment/machinery contracting" (Abbr: EMC) means that service which provides for the installation or removal of equipment or machinery including but not limited to conveyors or heavy machinery. Boilers, exempted by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, but regulated by the Department of Labor and Industry are also included in this specialty. This specialty does not provide for any electrical, plumbing, process piping or HVAC functions.

"Farm improvement contracting" (Abbr: FIC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair or improvement of a nonresidential farm building or structure, or nonresidential farm accessory-use structure, or additions thereto. The BLD classification also provides for this function. The FIC specialty does not provide for any electrical, plumbing, HVAC, or gas fitting functions.

"Fire alarm systems contracting" (Abbr: FAS) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, or improvement of fire alarm systems which operate at 50 volts or less. The ELE classification also provides for this function. A firm with an FAS license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards.

"Fire sprinkler contracting" (Abbr: SPR) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, alteration, addition, testing, maintenance, inspection, improvement, or removal of sprinkler systems using water as a means of fire suppression when annexed to real property. This specialty does not provide for the installation, repair, or maintenance of other types of fire suppression systems. The PLB classification allows for the installation of limited area sprinklers as defined by BOCA. This specialty may engage in the installation of backflow prevention devices in the fire sprinkler supply main and sprinkler system when the installer has

received formal vocational training approved by the board that included instruction in the installation of backflow prevention devices.

"Fire suppression contracting" (Abbr: FSP) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or removal of fire suppression systems including but not limited to halon and other gas systems; dry chemical systems; and carbon dioxide systems annexed to real property. No other classification provides for this function. The FSP specialty does not provide for the installation, repair, or maintenance of water sprinkler systems.

"Gas fitting contracting" (Abbr: GFC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or removal of gas piping and appliances annexed to real property. A firm with a GFC license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards.

"Home improvement contracting" (Abbr: HIC) means that service which provides for repairs or improvements to one-family and two-family residential buildings or structures annexed to real property. The BLD classification also provides for this function. The HIC specialty does not provide for electrical, plumbing, HVAC, or gas fitting functions. It does not include high rise buildings, buildings with more than two dwelling units, or new construction functions beyond the existing building structure other than decks, patios, driveways and utility out buildings.

"Landscape irrigation contracting" (Abbr: ISC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or removal of irrigation sprinkler systems or outdoor sprinkler systems. The PLB and H/H classifications also provide for this function. This specialty may install backflow prevention devices incidental to work in this specialty when the installer has received formal vocational training approved by the board that included instruction in the installation of backflow prevention devices.

"Landscape service contracting" (Abbr: LSC) means that service which provides for the alteration or improvement of a land area not related to any other classification or service activity by means of excavation, clearing, grading, construction of retaining walls for landscaping purposes, or placement of landscaping timbers. The BLD classification also provides for this function.

"Lead abatement contracting" (Abbr: LAC) means that service which provides for the removal or encapsulation of lead-containing materials annexed to real property. No other classification or specialty service provides for this function, except that the PLB and HVA classifications may provide this service incidental to work in those classifications.

"Liquefied petroleum gas contracting" (Abbr: LPG) means that service which includes the installation, maintenance, extension, alteration, or removal of all piping, fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances used in transporting, storing or utilizing liquefied petroleum gas. This excludes hot water heaters, boilers, and central heating systems that require an HVA or PLB license. The GFC specialty also provides for this function. A firm holding a LPG license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards.

"Marine facility contracting" (Abbr: MCC) means that service which provides for the construction, repair, improvement, or removal of any structure the purpose of which is to provide access to, impede, or alter a body of surface water. The BLD and H/H classifications also provide for this function. The MCC specialty does not provide for the construction of accessory structures or electrical, HVAC or plumbing functions.

"Masonry contracting" (Abbr: BRK) means that service which includes the installation of brick, concrete block, stone, marble, slate or other units and products common to the masonry industry, including mortarless type masonry products. This includes installation of grout, caulking, tuck pointing, sand blasting, mortar washing, parging and cleaning and welding of reinforcement steel related to masonry construction. The BLD classification and HIC and CIC specialties also provide for this function.

"Modular/manufactured building contracting" (Abbr: MBC) means that service which provides for the installation or removal of a modular or manufactured building manufactured under ANSI standards. This classification does not cover foundation work; however, it does allow installation of piers covered under HUD regulations. It does allow a licensee to do internal tie ins of plumbing, gas and electrical or HVAC equipment. It does not allow for installing additional plumbing, electrical, or HVAC work such as installing the service meter, or installing the outside compressor for the HVAC system. The H/H and BLD classifications also provide for this function.

"Natural gas fitting provider contracting" (Abbr: NGF) means that service which provides for the incidental repair, testing, or removal of natural gas piping or fitting annexed to real property. This does not include new installation of gas piping for hot water heaters, boilers, central heating systems, or other natural gas equipment which requires an HVA or PLB license. The GFC specialty also provides for this function. A firm holding an NGF license is responsible for meeting all applicable tradesman licensure standards.

"Painting and wallcovering contracting" (Abbr: PTC) means that service which provides for the application of materials common to the painting and decorating industry for protective or decorative purposes, the installation of surface coverings such as vinyls, wall papers, and cloth fabrics. This includes surface preparation, caulking, sanding and cleaning preparatory to painting or coverings and includes both interior and exterior surfaces. The BLD classification and the HIC and CIC specialties also provide for this function.

"Radon mitigation contracting" (Abbr: RMC) means that service which provides for additions, repairs or improvements to buildings or structures, for the purpose of mitigating or preventing the effects of radon gas. This function can only be performed by a firm holding the BLD classification or CIC (for other than one-family and two-family dwellings), FIC (for nonresidential farm buildings) or HIC (for one-family and two-family dwellings) specialty services. No electrical, plumbing, gas fitting, or HVAC functions are provided by this specialty.

"Recreational facility contracting" (Abbr: RFC) means that service which provides for the construction, repair, or improvement of any recreational facility, excluding paving and the construction of buildings, plumbing, electrical, and HVAC functions. The BLD classification also provides for this function.

"Refrigeration contracting" (Abbr: REF) means that service which provides for installation, repair, or removal of any refrigeration equipment (excluding HVAC equipment). No electrical, plumbing, gas fitting, or HVAC functions are provided by this specialty. This specialty is intended for those contractors who repair or install coolers, refrigerated casework, ice-making machines, drinking fountains, cold room equipment, and similar hermetic refrigeration equipment. The HVAC classification also provides for this function.

"Roofing contracting" (Abbr: ROC) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, removal or improvement of materials common to the industry that form a watertight, weather resistant surface for roofs and decks. This includes roofing system components when installed in conjunction with a roofing project, application of dampproofing or waterproofing, and installation of roof insulation panels and other roof insulation systems above roof deck. The BLD classification and the HIC and CIC specialties also provide for this function.

"Sewage disposal systems contracting" (Abbr: SDS) means that service which provides for the installation, repair, improvement, or removal of septic tanks, septic systems, and other on-site sewage disposal systems annexed to real property.

"Swimming pool construction contracting" (Abbr: POL) means that service which provides for the construction, repair, improvement or removal of in-ground swimming pools. The BLD classification and the RFC specialty also provide for this function. No trade related plumbing, electrical, backflow or HVAC work is included in this specialty.

"Vessel construction contracting" (Abbr: VCC) means that service which provides for the construction, repair, improvement, or removal of nonresidential vessels, tanks, or piping that hold or convey fluids other than sanitary, storm, waste, or potable water supplies. The H/H classification also provides for this function.

"Water well/pump contracting" (Abbr: WWP) means that service which provides for the installation of a water well system, which includes construction of a water well to reach groundwater, as defined in § 62.1-255 of the Code of Virginia, and the installation of the well pump and tank, including pipe and wire, up to and including the point of connection to the plumbing and electrical systems. No other classification or specialty service provides for construction of water wells. This regulation shall not exclude PLB, ELE or HVAC from installation of pumps and tanks.

Note: Specialty contractors engaging in construction which involves the following activities or items or similar activities or items may fall under the CIC, HIC and/or FIC specialty services, or they may fall under the BLD classification.

Appliances	Fireplaces	Rubber Linings
Awnings	Fireproofing	Sandblasting
Blinds	Fixtures	Scaffolding
Bulkheads	Floor Coverings	Screens
Cabinetry	Flooring	Sheet Metal
Carpentry	Floors	Shutters
Carpeting	Glass	Siding
Casework	Glazing	Skylights
Ceilings	Grouting	Storage Bins and Lockers
Chimneys	Grubbing	Stucco
Chutes	Guttering	Temperature Controls
Conduit Rodding	Insulation	Terrazzo
Curtains	Interior Decorating	Tile
Curtain Walls	Lubrication	Vaults
Decks	Metal Work	Vinyl Flooring
Doors	Millwrighting	Wall Panels
Drapes	Mirrors	Wall Tile
Drywall	Miscellaneous Iron	Waterproofing
Epoxy	Ornamental Iron	Weatherstripping
Exterior Decoration	Partitions	Welding
Facings	Protective Coatings	Windows
Fences	Railings	Wood Floors
Fiberglass	Rigging	

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §1.3, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006.

PART II.

ENTRY.

18 VAC 50-22-40. Requirements for a Class C license.

- A. A firm applying for a Class C license must meet the requirements of this section.
- B. For every classification or specialty in which the firm seeks to be licensed, the firm shall name a qualified individual who meets the following requirements:
1. Is at least 18 years old;
 2. Has a minimum of two years experience in the classification or specialty for which he is the qualifier;
 3. Is a full-time employee of the firm as defined in this chapter or is a member of the responsible management of the firm;
 4. Where appropriate, has passed the trade-related examination or has completed an education and training program approved by the board and required for the specialties listed below:

Blast/explosive contracting	HVAC
Electrical	Plumbing
Fire Sprinkler	Radon mitigation
Gas fitting	Water well drilling
 5. Has obtained, pursuant to the tradesman regulations, a master tradesman license as required for those classifications and specialties listed in 18 VAC 50-22-20 and 18 VAC 50-22-30.
- C. The firm shall provide information for the past five years prior to application on any outstanding, past-due debts and judgments; outstanding tax obligations; defaults on bonds; or pending or past bankruptcies. The firm, its qualified individual or individuals, and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall submit information on any past-due debts and judgments or defaults on bonds directly related to the practice of contracting as defined in Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.
- D. The firm, the qualified individual, and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall disclose at the time of application any current or previous contractor licenses held in Virginia or in other jurisdictions and any disciplinary actions taken on these licenses. This includes but is not limited to any monetary penalties, fines, suspensions, revocations, surrender of a license in connection with a disciplinary action, or voluntary termination of a license in Virginia or in any other jurisdiction.
- E. In accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia, each applicant shall disclose the following information about the firm, all members of the responsible management, and the qualified individual or individuals for the firm:
1. All misdemeanor convictions within three years of the date of application; and
 2. All felony convictions during their lifetime.

Any plea of nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for purposes of this subsection. The record of a conviction received from a court shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of a conviction or finding of guilt. The board, in its discretion, may deny licensure to any applicant in accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia.

- F. A member of responsible management shall have successfully completed a board-approved basic business course.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.1, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001, Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008

18 VAC 50-22-50. Requirements for a Class B license.

- A. A firm applying for a Class B license must meet the requirements of this section.
- B. A firm shall name a designated employee who meets the following requirements:
 - 1. Is at least 18 years old;
 - 2. Is a full time employee of the firm as defined in this chapter, or is a member of responsible management as defined in this chapter;
 - 3. Has passed a board-approved examination as required by § 54.1-1108 of the Code of Virginia or has been exempted from the exam requirement in accordance with § 54.1-1108.1 of the Code of Virginia; and
 - 4. Has followed all rules established by the board or by the testing service acting on behalf of the board with regard to conduct at the examination. Such rules shall include any written instructions communicated prior to the examination date and any oral or written instructions given at the site on the date of the exam.
- C. For every classification or specialty in which the firm seeks to be licensed, the firm shall name a qualified individual who meets the following requirements:
 - 1. Is at least 18 years old;
 - 2. Has a minimum of three years experience in the classification or specialty for which he is the qualifier;
 - 3. Is a full-time employee of the firm as defined in this chapter or is a member of the responsible management of the firm;
 - 4. Where appropriate, has passed the trade-related examination or has completed an education and training program approved by the board and required for the classifications and specialties listed below:

Blast/explosive contracting	HVAC
Electrical	Plumbing
Fire Sprinkler	Radon mitigation
Gas fitting	Water well drilling

5. Has obtained, pursuant to the tradesman regulations, a master tradesman license as required for those classifications and specialties listed in 18 VAC 50-22-20 and 18 VAC 50-22-30.
 - D. Each firm shall submit information on its financial position. Excluding any property owned as tenants by the entirety, the firm shall state a net worth or equity of \$15,000 or more.
 - E. Each firm shall provide information for the five years prior to application on any outstanding, past-due debts and judgments; outstanding tax obligations; defaults on bonds; or pending or past bankruptcies. The firm, its designated employee, qualified individual or individuals, and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall submit information on any past-due debts and judgments or defaults on bonds directly related to the practice of contracting as defined in Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.
 - F. The firm, the designated employee, the qualified individual and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall disclose at the time of application any current or previous substantial identities of interest with any contractor licenses issued in Virginia or in other jurisdictions and any disciplinary actions taken on these licenses. This includes but is not limited to any monetary penalties, fines, suspension, revocation, or surrender of a license in connection with a disciplinary action. The board, in its discretion, may deny licensure to any applicant when any of the parties listed above have had a substantial identity of interest (as deemed in § 54.1-1110 of the Code of Virginia) with any firm that has had a license suspended, revoked, voluntarily terminated or surrendered in connection with a disciplinary action in Virginia or any other jurisdiction.
 - G. In accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia, each applicant shall disclose the following information about the firm, designated employee, all members of the responsible management, and the qualified individual or individuals for the firm:
 1. All misdemeanor convictions within three years of the date of application; and
 2. All felony convictions during their lifetime.
- Any plea of nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for purposes of this subsection. The record of a conviction received from a court shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of a conviction or finding of guilt. The board, in its discretion, may deny licensure to any applicant in accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia.
- H. The designated employee or a member of responsible management shall have successfully completed a board-approved basic business course.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.2, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001, Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006, Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18 VAC 50-22-60. Requirements for a Class A license.

- A. A firm applying for a Class A license shall meet all of the requirements of this section.
- B. A firm shall name a designated employee who meets the following requirements:
 - 1. Is at least 18 years old;
 - 2. Is a full-time employee of the firm as defined in this chapter or is a member of the responsible management of the firm as defined in this chapter;
 - 3. Has passed a board-approved examination as required by § 54.1-1106 of the Code of Virginia or has been exempted from the exam requirement in accordance with § 54.1-1108.1 of the Code of Virginia; and
 - 4. Has followed all rules established by the board or by the testing service acting on behalf of the board with regard to conduct at the examination. Such rules shall include any written instructions communicated prior to the examination date and any oral or written instructions given at the site on the day of the exam.
- C. For every classification or specialty in which the firm seeks to be licensed, the firm shall name a qualified individual who meets the following requirements:
 - 1. Is at least 18 years old;
 - 2. Has a minimum of five years of experience in the classification or specialty for which he is the qualifier;
 - 3. Is a full-time employee of the firm as defined in this chapter or is a member of the firm as defined in this chapter or is a member of the responsible management of the firm;
 - 4. Where appropriate, has passed the trade-related examination or has completed an education and training program approved by the board and required for the classifications and specialties listed below:

Blast/explosive contracting	HVAC
Electrical	Plumbing
Fire Sprinkler	Radon mitigation
Gas fitting	Water well drilling
 - 5. Has obtained, pursuant to the tradesman regulations, a master tradesman license as required for those classifications and specialties listed in 18 VAC 50-22-20 and 18 VAC 50-22-30.
- D. Each firm shall submit information on its financial position. Excluding any property owned as tenants by the entirety, the firm shall state a net worth or equity of \$45,000.
- E. The firm shall provide information for the five years prior to application on any outstanding, past-due debts and judgments; outstanding tax obligations; defaults on bonds; or pending or past bankruptcies. The firm, its designated employee, qualified individual or individuals, and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall submit information on any past-due debts and judgments or defaults on bonds directly related to the practice of contracting as defined in Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.
- F. The firm, the designated employee, the qualified individual, and all members of the responsible management of the firm shall disclose at the time of application any current or previous substantial

identities of interest with any contractor licenses issued in Virginia or in other jurisdictions and any disciplinary actions taken on these licenses. This includes but is not limited to, any monetary penalties, fines, suspensions, revocations, or surrender of a license in connection with a disciplinary action. The board, in its discretion, may deny licensure to any applicant when any of the parties listed above have had a substantial identity of interest (as deemed in § 54.1-1110 of the Code of Virginia) with any firm that has had a license suspended, revoked, voluntarily terminated, or surrendered in connection with a disciplinary action in Virginia or in any other jurisdiction.

G. In accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia, each applicant shall disclose the following information about the firm, all members of the responsible management, the designated employee and the qualified individual or individuals for the firm:

1. All misdemeanor convictions within three years of the date of application; and
2. All felony convictions during their lifetime.

Any plea of nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for purposes of this subsection. The record of a conviction received from a court shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of a conviction or finding of guilt. The board, in its discretion, may deny licensure to any applicant in accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia.

H. The designated employee or a member of responsible management shall have successfully completed a board-approved basic business course.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.3, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001, Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006, Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18 VAC 50-22-70. Qualifications for licensure by reciprocity.

Firms originally licensed in a state with which the board has a reciprocal agreement may obtain a Virginia contractor's license in accordance with the terms of that agreement.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.4, eff. March 31, 1995.

18 VAC 50-22-80. Examinations.

All examinations required for licensure shall be approved by the board and provided by the board or a testing service acting on behalf of the board, or another governmental agency or organization. The examination fee shall consist of the administration expenses of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation ensuing from the board's examination procedures and contract charges. Exam service contracts shall be established through competitive negotiation in compliance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 11-35 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). The current examination shall not exceed a cost of \$100 per element to the candidate.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.5, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-90. Past due recovery fund assessments.

No license shall be issued to an applicant whose previous license or certificate was suspended for nonpayment of a Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund assessment until all past-due assessments have been paid.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.6, eff. March 31, 1995.

18 VAC 50-22-100. Fees.

Each check or money order shall be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. All fees required by the board are nonrefundable. In the event that a check, money draft or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation is not honored by the bank or financial institution named, the applicant or regulant shall be required to remit fees sufficient to cover the original fee, plus an additional processing charge set by the Department:

Fee Type	When Due	Amount Due
Class C Initial License	with license application	\$210
Class B Initial License	with license application	\$345
Class A Initial License	with license application	\$360
Qualified Individual Exam Fee	with exam application	\$20
Class B Exam Fee	with exam application (\$20 per section)	\$40
Class A Exam Fee	with exam application (\$20 per section)	\$60

Note: A \$25 Recovery Fund assessment is also required with each initial license application. If the applicant does not meet all requirements and does not become licensed, this assessment will be refunded. The examination fees approved by the board but administered by another governmental agency or organization shall be determined by that agency or organization.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §2.7, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 13, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 1997; Virginia Register Volume 15, Issue 12, eff. May 1, 1999; Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 19, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2003; Virginia Register Volume 21, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2005; Virginia Register Volume 26, Issue 11, eff. April 1, 2010.

PART III.

RENEWAL.

18 VAC 50-22-110. Renewal required.

Licenses issued under this chapter shall expire two years from the last day of the month in which they were issued, as indicated on the license.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §3.1, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-120. Procedures for renewal.

The Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation will mail a notice of renewal to the licensee at the last known address of record. Failure to receive this notice shall not relieve the licensee of the obligation to renew. If the licensee does not receive the notice of renewal, a copy of the license may be substituted with the required fee.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §3.2, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-130. Qualifications for renewal.

- A. The license holder's completed renewal form and appropriate fees must be received within 30 days of the license expiration date in order to renew the license. Applications and fees received after the 30-day period will be processed in accordance with Part IV (18 VAC 50-22-160 et seq.) of this chapter.
- B. Applicants for renewal of a Class C license shall continue to meet all of the qualifications for licensure set forth in 18 VAC 50-22-40. Applicants for renewal of a Class B license shall continue to meet all of the qualifications for licensure set forth in 18 VAC 50-22-50. Applicants for renewal of a Class A license shall continue to meet all of the qualifications for licensure set forth in 18 VAC 50-22-60.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §3.3, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-140. Renewal fees.

Each check or money order should be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. All fees required by the board are nonrefundable.

In the event that a check, money draft, or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation is not honored by the bank or financial institution named, the applicant or regulant shall be required to remit fees sufficient to cover the original fee, plus an additional processing charge set by the Department:

Fee Type	When Due	Amount Due
Class C Renewal	with renewal application	\$ 195
Class B Renewal	with renewal application	\$ 225
Class A Renewal	with renewal application	\$ 240

The date on which the renewal fee is received by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or its agent shall determine whether the licensee is eligible for renewal or must apply for reinstatement.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §3.4, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 13, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 1997; Virginia Register Volume 15, Issue 12, eff. May 1, 1999; Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 19, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2003; Virginia Register Volume 21, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2005; Virginia Register Volume 26, Issue 11, eff. April 1, 2010.

18 VAC 50-22-150. Board discretion to deny renewal.

- A. The board may deny renewal of a license for the same reasons as it may refuse initial licensure or discipline a licensee. The licensee has a right to appeal any such action by the board under the Administrative Process Act (§ 9.6.14:1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia).
- B. Failure to timely pay any monetary penalty, reimbursement of cost, or other fee assessed by consent order or final order may result in delaying or withholding services provided by the department such as, but not limited to, renewal, reinstatement, processing a new application, or exam administration.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §3.5, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

PART IV.

REINSTATEMENT.

18 VAC 50-22-160. Reinstatement required.

Should the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation fail to receive a license holder's renewal form and appropriate fees within 30 days of the license expiration date, the licensee shall be required to reinstate the license. Applicants for reinstatement of a Class C license shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-130. Applicants for reinstatement of a Class B license shall continue to meet the qualifications for licensure set forth in 18 VAC 50-22-50. Applicants for reinstatement of a Class A license shall continue to meet all the qualifications for licensure set forth in 18 VAC 50-22-60.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §4.1, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-170. Reinstatement fees.

Each check or money order should be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. All fees required by the board are nonrefundable. In the event that a check, money draft, or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation is not honored by the bank or financial institution named, the applicant or regulant shall be required to remit fees sufficient to cover the original fee, plus an additional processing charge set by the Department:

Fee type	When Due	Amount Due
Class C Reinstatement	with reinstatement application	\$ 405*
Class B Reinstatement	with reinstatement application	\$ 460*
Class A Reinstatement	with reinstatement application	\$ 490*

* Includes renewal fee listed in 18 VAC 50-22-140.

The date on which the reinstatement fee is received by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or its agent shall determine whether the licensee is eligible for reinstatement or must apply for a new license and meet the entry requirements in place at the time of that application. In order to ensure that licensees are qualified to practice as contractors, no reinstatement will be permitted once one year from the expiration date of the license has passed.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §4.2, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 13, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 1997; Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 19, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2003; Virginia Register Volume 21, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2005; Virginia Register Volume 26, Issue 11, eff. April 1, 2010.

18 VAC 50-22-180. Status of licensee during the period prior to reinstatement.

- A. When a license is reinstated, the licensee shall continue to have the same license number and shall be assigned an expiration date two years from the previous expiration date of the license.
- B. A contractor who reinstates his license shall be regarded as having been continuously licensed without interruption. Therefore:
 - 1. The contractor shall remain under the disciplinary authority of the board during this entire period and may be held accountable for his activities during this period.
 - 2. A consumer who contracts with a contractor during the period between the expiration of the license and the reinstatement of the license shall not be prohibited from making a claim on the Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund.

A contractor who fails to reinstate his license shall be regarded as unlicensed from the expiration date of the license forward.

Nothing in this chapter shall divest the board of its authority to discipline a contractor for a violation of the law or regulations during the period of time for which the contractor was licensed.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §4.3, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-190. Board discretion to deny reinstatement.

- A. The board may deny reinstatement of a license for the same reasons as it may refuse initial licensure or discipline a licensee. The licensee has a right to appeal any such action by the board under the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia).
- B. Failure to timely pay any monetary penalty, reimbursement of cost or other fee assessed by consent order or final order shall result in delaying or withholding services provided by the department such as, but not limited to, renewal, reinstatement, processing of a new application, or exam administration.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §4.4, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

PART V.

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND CONDUCT.

18 VAC 50-22-200. Remedial education, revocation or suspension; fines.

The board may require remedial education, revoke or suspend a license or fine a licensee when a licensee has been found to have violated or cooperated with others in violating any provision of Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, or any regulation of the board.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.1, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-210. Change of business entity requires a new license.

Licenses are issued to firms as defined in this chapter and are not transferable. Whenever the legal business entity holding the license is dissolved or altered to form a new business entity, the firm shall apply for a new license, on a form provided by the board, within 30 days of the change in the business entity. Such changes include but are not limited to:

1. Death of a sole proprietor;
2. Death or withdrawal of a general partner in a general partnership or the managing partner in a limited partnership; and
3. Formation or dissolution of a corporation, a limited liability company, or an association or any other business entity recognized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.2, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-220. Change of responsible management, designated employee, or qualified individual.

- A. Any change in the officers of a corporation, managers of a limited liability company, or officers or directors of an association shall be reported to the board in writing within 90 days of the change.
- B. Any change of designated employee shall be reported on a form provided by the board within 90 days of the change. The new designated employee for a Class B licensee shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-50 B. The new designated employee for a Class A licensee shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-60 B.
- C. Any change of qualified individual shall be reported on a form provided by the board within 45 days of the change. The new qualified individual for a Class C licensee shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-40 B. The new qualified individual for a Class B licensee shall

meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-50 C. The new qualified individual for a Class A licensee shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-60 C.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.3, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-230. Change of name or address.

- A. A licensee must operate under the name in which the license is issued. Any name change shall be reported in writing to the board within 30 days of the change. The board shall not be responsible for the licensee's failure to receive notices or correspondence due to the licensee's not having reported a change of name.
- B. Any change of address shall be reported in writing to the board within 30 days of the change. The board shall not be responsible for the licensee's failure to receive notices or correspondence due to the licensee's not having reported a change of address.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.4, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-240. Deletion or addition of a classification or specialty.

- A. A licensee wishing to delete a classification or specialty from its license shall notify the board in writing. If a licensee has only one classification or specialty, deletion of that classification or specialty will result in termination of the license.
- B. A licensee wishing to add a classification or specialty to its license shall complete a form provided by the board. A Class C licensee seeking an additional classification or specialty shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-40 B for the new classification or specialty. A Class B licensee seeking an additional classification or specialty shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-50 C for the new classification or specialty. A Class A licensee seeking an additional classification or specialty shall meet the requirements of 18 VAC 50-22-60 C for the new classification or specialty.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.5, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001.

18 VAC 50-22-250. Fees.

Each check or money order should be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. All fees required by the board are nonrefundable. In the event that a check, money draft, or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation is not honored by the bank or financial institution named, the applicant or regulant shall be required to remit fees sufficient to cover the original fee, plus an additional processing charge set by the Department:

Fee Type	When Due	Amount Due
Change of Designated Employee	with change form	\$110
Change of Qualified Individual	with change form	\$110
Addition of Classification or Specialty	with addition application	\$110

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.6, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 13, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 1997; Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 19, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2003; Virginia Register Volume 21, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2005; Virginia Register Volume 26, Issue 11, eff. April 1, 2010.

18 VAC 50-22-260. Filing of charges; prohibited acts.

- A. All complaints against contractors may be filed with the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation at any time during business hours, pursuant to § 54.1-1114 of the Code of Virginia.
- B. The following are prohibited acts:
 - 1. Failure in any material way to comply with provisions of Chapter 1 (§ 54.1-100 et seq.) or Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia or the regulations of the board.
 - 2. Furnishing substantially inaccurate or incomplete information to the board in obtaining, renewing, reinstating, or maintaining a license.
 - 3. Failure of the responsible management, designated employee, or qualified individual to report to the board, in writing, the suspension or revocation of a contractor license by another state or conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction of a building code violation.
 - 4. Publishing or causing to be published any advertisement relating to contracting which contains an assertion, representation, or statement of fact that is false, deceptive, or misleading.
 - 5. Negligence and/or incompetence in the practice of contracting.
 - 6. Misconduct in the practice of contracting.

7. A finding of improper or dishonest conduct in the practice of contracting by a court of competent jurisdiction.
8. Failure of all those who engage in residential contracting, excluding subcontractors to the contracting parties and those who engage in routine maintenance or service contracts, to make use of a legible written contract clearly specifying the terms and conditions of the work to be performed. For the purposes of this chapter, residential contracting means construction, removal, repair, or improvements to single-family or multiple-family residential buildings, including accessory-use structures as defined in § 54.1-1100 of the Code of Virginia. Prior to commencement of work or acceptance of payments, the contract shall be signed by both the consumer and the licensee or his agent.
9. Failure of those engaged in residential contracting as defined in this chapter to comply with the terms of a written contract which contains the following minimum requirements:
 - a. When work is to begin and the estimated completion date;
 - b. A statement of the total cost of the contract and the amounts and schedule for progress payments including a specific statement on the amount of the down payment;
 - c. A listing of specified materials and work to be performed, which is specifically requested by the consumer;
 - d. A "plain-language" exculpatory clause concerning events beyond the control of the contractor and a statement explaining that delays caused by such events do not constitute abandonment and are not included in calculating time frames for payment or performance;
 - e. A statement of assurance that the contractor will comply with all local requirements for building permits, inspections, and zoning;
 - f. Disclosure of the cancellation rights of the parties;
 - g. For contracts resulting from a door-to-door solicitation, a signed acknowledgment by the consumer that he has been provided with and read the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation statement of protection available to him through the Board for Contractors;
 - h. Contractor's name, address, license number, class of license, and classifications or specialty services; and
 - i. Statement providing that any modification to the contract, which changes the cost, materials, work to be performed, or estimated completion date, must be in writing and signed by all parties.
10. Failure to make prompt delivery to the consumer before commencement of work of a fully executed copy of the contract as described in subdivisions 8 and 9 of this subsection for construction or contracting work.

11. Failure of the contractor to maintain for a period of five years from the date of contract a complete and legible copy of all documents relating to that contract, including, but not limited to, the contract and any addenda or change orders.
12. Refusing or failing, upon request, to produce to the board, or any of its agents, any document, book, record, or copy of it in the licensee's possession concerning a transaction covered by this chapter or for which the licensee is required to maintain records.
13. Failing to respond to an investigator or providing false, misleading or incomplete information to an investigator seeking information in the investigation of a complaint filed with the board against the contractor.
14. Abandonment (defined as the unjustified cessation of work under the contract for a period of 30 days or more).
15. The intentional and unjustified failure to complete work contracted for and/or to comply with the terms in the contract.
16. The retention or misapplication of funds paid, for which work is either not performed or performed only in part.
17. Making any misrepresentation or making a false promise that might influence, persuade, or induce.
18. Assisting another to violate any provision of Chapter 1 (§ 54.1-100 et seq.) or Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, or this chapter; or combining or conspiring with or acting as agent, partner, or associate for another.
19. Allowing a firm's license to be used by another.
20. Acting as or being an ostensible licensee for undisclosed persons who do or will control or direct, directly or indirectly, the operations of the licensee's business.
21. Action by the firm, responsible management as defined in this chapter, designated employee or qualified individual to offer, give, or promise anything of value or benefit to any federal, state, or local employee for the purpose of influencing that employee to circumvent, in the performance of his duties, any federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance governing the construction industry.
22. Where the firm, responsible management as defined in this chapter, designated employee or qualified individual has been convicted or found guilty, after initial licensure, regardless of adjudication, in any jurisdiction, of any felony or of any misdemeanor, there being no appeal pending therefrom or the time of appeal having lapsed. Any plea of guilty or nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for the purposes of this subdivision. The record of a conviction received from a court shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of a conviction or finding of guilt.
23. Failure to inform the board in writing, within 30 days, that the firm, a member of responsible management as defined in this chapter, its designated employee, or its qualified individual has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere or was convicted and found guilty of any felony or of a Class 1 misdemeanor or any misdemeanor conviction for activities carried out while engaged in the practice of contracting.

24. Having been disciplined by any county, city, town, or any state or federal governing body including action by the Virginia Department of Health, which action shall be reviewed by the board before it takes any disciplinary action of its own.
25. Failure to abate a violation of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, as amended.
26. Failure of a contractor to comply with the notification requirements of the Virginia Underground Utility Prevention Act, Chapter 10.3 (§ 56-265.14 et seq.) of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia (Miss Utility).
27. Practicing in a classification, specialty service, or class of license for which the contractor is not licensed.
28. Failure to satisfy any judgments.
29. Contracting with an unlicensed or improperly licensed contractor or subcontractor in the delivery of contracting services.
30. Failure to honor the terms and conditions of a warranty.
31. Failure to obtain written change orders, which are signed by both the consumer and the licensee or his agent, to an already existing contract.
32. Failure to ensure that supervision, as defined in this chapter, is provided to all helpers and laborers assisting licensed tradesman.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.7, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006.

18 VAC 50-22-270. Repealed

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR220-01-2:1 §5.8, eff. March 31, 1995; amended, Virginia Register Volume 17, Issue 21, eff. September 1, 2001; Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 8, eff. February 1, 2006.

PART VI.
PRELICENSE EDUCATION

18 VAC 50-22-300. Prelicense education courses.

All courses offered by prelicense education providers must be approved by the board prior to the initial offering of the course, and shall cover business principles related to the standards of conduct found in 18VAC50-22-260 B and other applicable requirements of continued licensure set forth in this chapter. Courses must be eight hours in length. Correspondence and other distance learning courses must include appropriate testing procedures to verify completion of the course.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18 VAC 50-22-310. Requirements for prelicense education providers.

- A. Each provider of a prelicense education course shall submit an application for course approval on a form provided by the board. The application shall include but is not limited to:
1. The name of the provider;
 2. Provider contact person, address and telephone number;
 3. Course contact hours;
 4. Schedule of courses, if established, including dates, time and locations;
 5. Instructor information, including name, license number(s) if applicable, and a list of other appropriate trade designations;
 6. Course and material fees; and
 7. Course syllabus.
- B. All providers must establish and maintain a record for each student. The record shall include: the student's name and address; social security number or DMV control number; the course name and clock hours attended; the course syllabus or outline; the name or names of the instructor; the date of successful completion; and the board's course code. Records shall be available for inspection during normal business hours by authorized representatives of the board. Providers must maintain class records for a minimum of five years.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18VAC50-22-320. Reporting of course completion.

All prelicense education providers shall electronically transmit course completion data to the board in an approved format within seven days of the completion of each individual course. The transmittal will include each student's name, social security number or DMV control number, the date of successful completion of the course and the board's course code.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008

18 VAC 50-22-330. Posting prelicense education course certificates of approval.

Copies of prelicense education course certificates of approval must be available at the location a course is taught.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18 VAC 50-22-340. Reporting of changes.

Any change in the information provided in 18VAC50-22-310 A must be reported to the board within 30 days of the change with the exception of changes in the schedule of courses, which must be reported within 10 days of the change. Failure to report the changes as required may result in the withdrawal of approval of a prelicense education provider by the board.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

18 VAC 50-22-350. Denial or withdrawal of approval.

The board may deny or withdraw approval of any prelicense education provider for the following reasons:

1. The courses being offered no longer meet the standards established by the board.
2. The provider, through an agent or otherwise, advertises its services in a fraudulent or deceptive way.
3. The provider, instructor, or designee of the provider falsifies any information relating to the application for approval, course information, student records or fails to produce records required by the Board for Contractors Tradesman Regulations.

Historical Notes:

Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008.

Code of Virginia.

Included in this booklet for your convenience are relevant excerpts from the Code of Virginia. Please note that the Virginia General Assembly, not the Board for Contractors, is responsible for creating and amending the statutes contained in the Code of Virginia. The version contained herein was approved during the 2009 session of the General Assembly and took effect on July 1, 2009. It is your responsibility to stay informed of revisions to the regulations and the statutes governing your profession or occupation. Please consult the General Assembly or your local library for annual changes.

Article 1. Regulation of Contractors.

§ 54.1-1100. **Definitions.** 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 \$7,500 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 \$7,500, 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.

"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.

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

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; and
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 (§ 22-228 et seq.) of Chapter 13 of Title 22.1 for the construction of portable classrooms or single family homes.

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 subdivisions 7, 10, 11, or 12 of subsection A 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 subdivisions 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 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 subsections B or C shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The third or any subsequent conviction of violating subsections B or C during a 36-month period shall constitute a Class 6 felony.

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

A. The Board for Contractors shall be composed of 14 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; and two members shall be citizen members. The terms of the Board members shall be four years.

The Board shall meet at least four times each year, once in January, April, July and October, 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. Seven 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.

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

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 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 § 62.1-255, 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 \$7,500, 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 \$7,500 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.) of this title 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 § 91-138 including but not limited to, low voltage cabling, network cabling and computer or systems integration.

§ 54.1-1104. Register of applicants. 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.

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

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

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. If the Board determines that sufficient questions or ambiguities exist in an individual applicant's presentation of his financial information, the Board may require the applicant to provide a balance sheet reviewed by a certified public accountant licensed in accordance with § 54.1-4409.1. 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.

B. 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.

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

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

§§ 54.1-1107, 54.1-1107.1. Repealed by Acts 1990, c. 911, effective January 1, 1991.

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

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. 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.

B. 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.

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

§ 54.1-1108.1. Waiver of examination; designated employee. 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.

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

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) building contractor, (ii) highway/heavy contractor, (iii) electrical contractor, (iv) plumbing contractor, (v) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning contractor, and (vi) specialty contractor.

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

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

§ 54.1-1110.1. Re-examination of designated employee. 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.

§ 54.1-1111. Prerequisites to obtaining building, etc., permit. Any person applying to the building inspector 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 inspector 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, supported by an affidavit, 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 inspector 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 inspector, or other such authority, violating the terms of this section shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

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

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

§ 54.1-1114. Filing and hearing of charges. 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.

§ 54.1-1115. Prohibited acts.

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 the violation involves a consumer transaction as defined in 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. No person shall be entitled to assert the lack of licensure or certification as required by this chapter as a defense to any action at law or suit in equity if the party who seeks to recover from such person gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and without 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.

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

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.

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

§ 54.1-1117. Licensing of certain contractors by cities, counties and towns; qualifications and procedure; registration of certain persons engaged in business of home improvement.

A. Except as to contractors currently licensed under the provisions of § 54.1-1106, the governing body of every city, county or town 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- or multi-family dwellings, in such city, county or town, to obtain a license from such city, county or town.

B. The governing body of every city, county or town 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 governing body 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. 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.

Article 2.
Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Act.

§ 54.1-1118. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Act" means the Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Act.

"Biennium" means a two-year period beginning on July 1 of an even-numbered year and continuing through June 30 of the next even-numbered year.

"Claimant" means any person with an unsatisfied judgment involving residential construction against a regulant, who has filed a verified claim under this Act.

"Fund" means the Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund.

"Improper or dishonest conduct" includes only the wrongful taking or conversion of money, property or other things of value which involves fraud, material misrepresentation or conduct constituting gross negligence, continued incompetence, or intentional violation of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ 36-97 et seq.). The term "improper or dishonest conduct" does not include mere breach of contract.

"Judgment" includes an order of a United States Bankruptcy Court (i) declaring a claim against a regulant who is in bankruptcy to be a "Debt Nondischargeable in Bankruptcy" or (ii) extinguishing a claim against a regulant who is in bankruptcy and for which claim no distribution was made from the regulant's bankruptcy estate but excluding any such claim disallowed by order of the bankruptcy court.

"Regulant" means any individual, person, firm, corporation, association, partnership, joint venture or any other legal entity licensed by the Board for Contractors. "Regulant" shall not include tradesmen or backflow prevention device workers licensed or certified in accordance with Article 3 (§ 54.1-1128 et seq.) of this chapter.

§ 54.1-1119. Assessments by Director; assignment to Fund; minimum balance; notice; penalties; costs of administration.

A. Each initial regulant, at the time of application, shall be assessed twenty-five dollars, which shall be specifically assigned to the Fund. Initial payments may be incorporated in any application fee payment and transferred to the Fund by the Director within thirty days.

All assessments, except initial assessments, for the Fund shall be deposited within three work days after their receipt by the Director, in one or more federally insured banks, savings and loan associations or savings banks located in the Commonwealth. Funds deposited in banks, savings institutions or savings banks, to the extent in excess of insurance afforded by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or other federal insurance agency, shall be secured under the Security for Public Deposits Act (§ 2.2-4400 et seq.). The deposit of these funds in federally insured banks, savings and loan associations or savings banks located in the Commonwealth shall not be considered investment of such funds for purposes of this section. Funds maintained by the Director may be invested in securities that are legal investments for fiduciaries under the provisions of § 26-40.01.

B. The minimum balance of the Fund shall be \$400,000. Whenever the Director determines that the balance of the Fund is or will be less than this minimum balance, the Director shall immediately inform the Board, which shall assess each regulant at the time of his license renewal a sum sufficient to bring the balance of the Fund to an amount of not less than \$400,000, when combined with similar assessments of other regulants. No regulant shall be assessed a total amount of more than fifty dollars during any biennium.

Notice to regulants of these assessments shall be by first-class mail, and payment of such assessments shall be made by first-class mail addressed to the Director within forty-five days after the mailing of the notice to regulants.

C. If any regulant fails to remit the required assessment mailed in accordance with subsection B within forty-five days of such mailing, the Director shall notify such regulant by first-class mail at the latest address of record filed with the Board. If no payment has been received by the Director within thirty days after mailing the second notice, the license of the regulant shall be automatically suspended and shall be restored only upon the actual receipt by the Director of the delinquent assessment.

Interest earned on the deposits constituting the Fund shall be used for administering the Fund. The remainder of this interest may be used for the purposes of providing educational programs about the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ 36-97 et seq.), for providing education on subjects of benefit to licensees or members of the public relating to contracting, or shall accrue to the Fund.

§ 54.1-1120. Recovery from Fund generally.

A. Whenever any person is awarded a judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Virginia against any individual or entity which involves improper or dishonest conduct occurring (i) during a period when such individual or entity was a regulant and (ii) in connection with a transaction involving contracting, the claimant may file a verified claim with the Director to obtain a directive ordering payment from the Fund of the amount unpaid upon the judgment, subject to the following conditions:

1. If any action is instituted against a regulant by any person, such person shall serve a copy of the process upon the Board in the manner prescribed by law. Included in such service shall be an affidavit stating all acts constituting improper or dishonest conduct. The provisions of § 8.01-288 shall not be applicable to the service of process required by this subdivision.
2. A copy of any pleading or document filed subsequent to the initial service of process in the action against a regulant shall be provided to the Board. The claimant shall submit such copies to the Board by certified mail, or the equivalent, upon his receipt of the pleading or document.
3. For judgments entered on or after July 1, 1996, a verified claim shall be filed with the Director no later than twelve months after the judgment became final. Such verified claim shall be accompanied by the copies of the order for the underlying judgment, and evidence of compliance with subdivisions 6 and 7 below.
4. The claimant shall be (i) an individual whose contract with the regulant involved contracting for the claimant's residence(s) located in the Commonwealth or (ii) a property owners' association as defined in § 55-509 whose contract with the regulant involved contracting for improvements to the common area owned by such association.
5. The claimant shall not himself be (i) an employee of such judgment debtor, (ii) a vendor of such judgment debtor, (iii) another licensee, (iv) the spouse or child of such judgment debtor nor the employee of such spouse or child, or (v) any financial or lending institution nor anyone whose business involves the construction or development of real property.
6. No directive ordering payment from the Fund shall be entered unless and until the claimant has filed with the Director a verified claim containing the following statements:
 - a. That the claimant has conducted debtor's interrogatories to determine whether the judgment debtor has any assets which may be sold or applied in satisfaction of the judgment.
 - b. A description of the assets disclosed by such interrogatories.
 - c. That all legally available actions have been taken for the sale, or application of the disclosed assets and the amount realized therefrom.
 - d. The balance remaining due the claimant after the sale or application of such assets.

7. A claimant shall not be denied recovery from the Fund due to the fact the order for the judgment filed with the verified claim does not contain a specific finding of "improper or dishonest conduct." Any language in the order which supports the conclusion that the court found that the conduct of the regulant involved improper or dishonest conduct may be used by the Board to determine eligibility for recovery from the Fund.

B. If the regulant has filed bankruptcy, the claimant shall file a claim with the proper bankruptcy court. If no distribution is made, the claimant may then file a claim with the Board. The Board shall determine (i) whether the conduct that gave rise to the claim was improper or dishonest and (ii) what amount, if any, such claimant is entitled to recover from the Fund.

§ 54.1-1121. Investigations. Upon receipt of the notice of proceedings against the regulant, the Board may cause its own investigation to be conducted.

§ 54.1-1122. Consideration of applications for payment.

A. The Department shall promptly consider the verified claim of the claimant administratively. If it appears that a prima facie case has been made for payment of the claim, the Department shall provide the regulant with a notice offering the opportunity to be heard at an informal fact-finding conference pursuant to § 2.2-4019 of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000, et seq.). Such notice shall state that if the regulant does not request an informal fact-finding conference within 30 days, with three days added in instances where the notice is sent by mail, the Department shall present the claim to the Board with a recommendation to pay the verified claim.

B. If the Board finds there has been compliance with the required conditions, the Board shall issue a directive ordering payment from the fund to the claimant the amount remaining unpaid on the judgment, subject to the limitations set forth in §54.1-1123. The claimant shall be notified in writing of the findings of the Board. The Board's findings shall be considered a "case decision" and judicial review of these findings shall be in accordance with § 2.2-4025 of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board shall have the right to appeal a decision of any court which is contrary to any distribution recommended or authorized by it.

§ 54.1-1123. Limitations upon recovery from Fund; certain actions not a bar to recovery.

A. The maximum claim of one claimant against the Fund based upon an unpaid judgment arising out of the improper or dishonest conduct of one regulant in connection with a single transaction involving contracting, is limited to \$20,000, regardless of the amount of the unpaid judgment of the claimant.

B. The aggregate of claims against the Fund based upon unpaid judgments arising out of the improper or dishonest conduct of any one regulant involving contracting, is limited by the Board to \$40,000 during any biennium. If a claim has been made against the Fund, and the Board has reason to believe there may be additional claims against the Fund from other transactions involving the same regulant, the Board may withhold any payment(s) from the Fund involving such regulant for a period of not more than one year from the date on which the claimant is awarded in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth the final judgment on which his claim against the Fund is based. After this one-year period, if the aggregate of claims against the regulant exceeds \$40,000, during a biennium, \$40,000 shall be prorated by the Board among the claimants and paid from the Fund in proportion to the amounts of their judgments against the regulant remaining unpaid.

C. Excluded from the amount of any unpaid judgment upon which a claim against the Fund is based shall be any sums representing interest, or punitive or exemplary damages, or any amounts that do not constitute actual monetary loss to the claimants. Such claim against the Fund may include court costs and attorneys' fees.

D. If, at any time, the amount of the Fund is insufficient to fully satisfy any claims or claim filed with the Board and authorized by this Act, the Board shall pay such claims, claim, or portion thereof to the claimants in the order that the claims were filed with the Board.

E. Failure of a claimant to comply with the provisions of subdivisions 1, 2, and 7 of § 54.1-1120 and the provisions of § 54.1-1124 shall not be a bar to recovery under this Act if the claimant is otherwise entitled to such recovery.

F. The Board shall have the authority to deny any claim which otherwise appears to meet the requirements of the Act if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that the claimant has presented false information or engaged in collusion to circumvent any of the requirements of the Act.

§ 54.1-1124. Participation by Board or Director in proceeding. Upon service of process as provided in subdivision 1 of § 54.1-1120, the Board, the Director, or duly authorized representatives of the Board shall then have the right to request leave of court to intervene.

§ 54.1-1125. Assignment of claimant's rights to Board; payment of claim. Subject to the provisions of § 54.1-1123 upon the claimant's execution and delivery to the Director of an assignment to the Board of his rights against the regulant, to the extent he received satisfaction from the Fund, the Director shall pay the claimant from the Fund the amount ordered by the Board.

§ 54.1-1126. Revocation of license upon payment from Fund. Upon payment by the Director to a claimant from the Fund as provided in § 54.1-1125, the Board shall immediately revoke the license of the regulant whose improper or dishonest conduct resulted in this payment. Any regulant whose license is revoked shall not be eligible to apply for a license as a contractor until the regulant has repaid in full the amount paid from the Fund on his account, plus interest at the judgment rate of interest from the date of payment.

§ 54.1-1127. No waiver by Board of disciplinary action against regulant. This article shall not limit the authority of the Board to take disciplinary action against any regulant for any violation of this title or the regulations of the Board. Full repayment of the amount paid from the Fund on a regulant's account shall not nullify or modify the effect of any disciplinary proceeding against that regulant for any violation.

Article 3.

Tradesmen, Backflow Prevention Device Workers, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Fitters.

§ 54.1-1128. Definitions.

"Backflow prevention device worker" means any individual who engages in, or offers to engage in, the maintenance, repair, testing, or periodic inspection of cross connection control devices, including but not limited to reduced pressure principle backflow preventors, double check-valve assemblies, double-detector check-valve assemblies, pressure type vacuum breaker assemblies, and other such devices designed, installed, and maintained in such a manner so as to prevent the contamination of the potable water supply by the introduction of nonpotable liquids, solids, or gases, thus ensuring that the potable water supply remains unaltered and free from impurities, odor, discoloration, bacteria, and other contaminants which would make the potable water supply unfit or unsafe for consumption and use.

"Board" means the Board for Contractors.

"Liquefied petroleum gas fitter" means any individual who engages in, or offers to engage in, work for the general public for compensation in work that includes the installation, repair, improvement, alterations or removal of piping, liquefied petroleum gas tanks and appliances (excluding hot water heaters, boilers and central heating systems which require a heating, ventilation and air conditioning or plumbing certification) annexed to real property.

"Natural gas fitter provider" means any individual who engages in or offers to engage in work for the general public for compensation in the incidental repair, testing, or removal of natural gas piping or fitting annexed to real property, excluding new installation of gas piping for hot water heaters, boilers, central heating systems, or other natural gas equipment which requires heating, ventilation and air conditioning or plumbing certification.

"Tradesman" means any individual who engages in, or offers to engage in, work for the general public for compensation in the trades of electrical, plumbing and heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

"Water well systems provider" means any individual who is certified by the Board in accordance with this article and who is engaged in drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of water wells, water well pumps, and other equipment associated with the construction, removal, or repair of water wells and water well systems.

§ 54.1-1129. Necessity for licensure.

A. Beginning July 1, 1995, no individual shall engage in, or offer to engage in, work as a tradesman as defined in § 54.1-1128 unless he has been licensed under the provisions of this article. Individuals shall not be subject to licensure as a tradesman when working under the supervision of a tradesman who is licensed in the specialty for which work is being performed. Individuals holding a license in one specialty shall not be required to have a tradesman license in another specialty when performing work which is incidental to work being performed under their own specialty license.

B. Beginning July 1, 1998, no individual shall present himself as a certified backflow prevention device worker as defined in § 54.1-1128 unless he has been certified under the provisions of this article. Individuals certified as backflow prevention device workers shall not be required to hold any other professional or occupational license or certification; however, nothing in this subsection shall prohibit an individual from holding more than one professional or occupational license or certification. The certification program set forth in this article concerning backflow prevention device workers shall be voluntary and shall not be construed to prevent or affect the practice of backflow prevention device workers by those not certified by the Board, so long as any requirements of the applicable local governing body's programs relating to backflow prevention device workers are met. All local governing bodies shall accept certification by the Board of backflow prevention device workers as proof of experience and training without requiring additional examination.

C. Beginning one year after the effective date of the Board's final regulations, no individual shall engage in, or offer to engage in, work as a liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider as defined in § 54.1-1128 unless he has been licensed under the provisions of this article.

D. Beginning July 1, 2007, no individual shall engage in the drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of a water well or water well system unless a certified water well systems provider is onsite at all times. Until June 30, 2012, any level of certification shall satisfy this requirement. Beginning July 1, 2012, only a certified individual shall engage in the drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of a water well or water well system and a then certified master water well systems provider shall be available at all times. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit licensed plumbing tradesman from (i) completing work contained in the applicable plumbing code, or (ii) performing normal maintenance and repair on large-diameter bored or hand-dug water table wells provided such wells are 100 feet or less in depth and the work is being performed for an entity granted tax-exempt status under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

§ 54.1-1129.1. Certification of water well systems providers; continuing education.

A. The Board shall establish three levels of certification as follows: (i) trainee, which shall require proof of at least one year of full-time practical experience in the drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of water wells or water well systems under the supervision of a certified master water well systems provider; (ii) journeyman, which shall require proof of at least three years of practical experience in the drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of water wells or water well systems under the supervision of a certified master water well systems provider; and (iii) master, which shall require proof of at least six years of practical experience in the drilling, installation, maintenance, or repair of water wells or water well systems, under the supervision of a certified master water well systems provider.

B. A certified water well systems provider, as a condition of renewal or reinstatement and as part of the renewal or reinstatement application, shall certify to the Board that the applicant has completed at least eight hours of continuing education, approved by the Board, in the specialty of technical aspects of water well construction, applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, and business practices related to water well construction. The Board may establish requirements for approval of training instructors, criteria for continuing education, and other regulations it deems necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare. In addition, the Board may require continuing education for renewal or reinstatement for any individual found to be in violation of the statutes or regulations governing the licensing or certification of water well system providers.

§ 54.1-1130. Application for licensure; fees; examinations; issuance; waiver of examination for water well systems providers.

A. Any individual desiring to be licensed as a tradesman, liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider, or certified as a backflow prevention device worker or water well systems provider shall file 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, at a minimum, the applicant's name, place of employment, and business address; and information on the knowledge, skills, abilities and education or training of the applicant.

If the application is satisfactory to the Board, the applicant shall be required by Board regulations to take an oral or written examination to determine his general knowledge of the trade in which he desires licensure or of backflow prevention devices if he desires voluntary certification unless he is exempt pursuant to § 54.1-1131. If the applicant successfully completes the examination, a license as a tradesman, liquefied petroleum gas fitter, or natural gas fitter provider, or a certificate as a backflow prevention device worker, shall be issued.

B. The Board shall require an applicant for certification as a water well systems provider, unless otherwise exempt, to take an oral or written examination to determine the applicant's general knowledge of water well systems, including relevant statutory and regulatory requirements. If the applicant successfully completes a required examination, a certificate shall be issued.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, unless an applicant is found by the Board to have engaged in any act that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action, the Board shall issue a certificate without examination to any applicant who provides satisfactory proof to the Board of having been actively and continuously engaged in water well construction activities immediately prior to July 1, 2007, as follows: (i) at least one year for trainee certification; (ii) at least three years for journeyman certification; and (iii) at least six years for master certification. This subsection shall apply only to individuals who have been employed by a properly licensed water well contractor during such period of active and continuous engagement in water well construction activities.

§ 54.1-1131. Exemptions.

A. An individual certified or licensed by any one of the following agencies shall not be required to fulfill the examination requirement specified in § 54.1-1130 for a tradesman license:

1. The Board of Housing and Community Development prior to July 1, 1995.
2. Any local governing body prior to July 1, 1978.
3. An apprenticeship program which is approved by the Virginia Apprenticeship Council.

Individuals applying for a tradesman license between July 1, 1995, and July 1, 1998, shall be deemed to have fulfilled the examination requirement if they are able to demonstrate that they have the required number of years of discipline-free experience set forth in Board regulations.

B. Upon satisfactory evidence to the Board, the following individuals shall not be required to fulfill the examination requirement specified in § 54.1-1130 to be certified as a backflow prevention device worker or licensed as a liquefied petroleum gas fitter:

1. Individuals approved, or recognized as having expertise, by a local governing body prior to July 1, 1998, to perform backflow prevention device work;
2. Individuals applying for certification as a backflow prevention device worker between July 1, 1998 and July 1, 1999, who are able to demonstrate that they have the required number of years of discipline-free experience and education or training set forth in Board regulations; or
3. Individuals applying for licensure as a liquefied petroleum gas fitter within one year of the effective date of the Board's final regulations, who are able to demonstrate that they have at least five years' experience as a liquefied petroleum gas fitter.

C. The provisions of this article shall not apply to any individual who is performing work on (i) any ship, boat, barge or other floating vessel or (ii) a single-family residence where the value of the work performed is less than \$250 and such individual does not hold himself out to the general public as a tradesman.

D. Individuals applying for a natural gas fitter provider license within one year of the effective date of the Board's final regulations, shall be deemed to have fulfilled the examination requirement if they are able to demonstrate that they have five years' prior experience as a natural gas fitter provider.

E. Individuals applying for a natural gas fitter provider license between July 1, 1999 and July 1, 2004, shall be deemed to have fulfilled the examination requirement if they are able to demonstrate that they have at least five years' experience in an apprenticeship capacity under the direct supervision of a gas fitter.

F. Individuals applying for licensure as a liquefied petroleum gas fitter between July 1, 2000 and July 1, 2005, shall be deemed to have fulfilled the examination requirements if they are able to demonstrate that they have at least five years' experience in an apprenticeship capacity under the direct supervision of a gas fitter.

§ 54.1-1132. Expiration and renewal of license or certificate. A license as a tradesman, liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider, or a certificate as a backflow prevention device worker, issued pursuant to this article shall expire as provided in Board regulations and shall become invalid on that date unless renewed, subject to approval of the Board. Application for renewal of any certificate or license issued pursuant to this article shall be made as provided by Board regulations and shall be accompanied by a fee set by the Board pursuant to § 54.1-201.

§ 54.1-1133. Continuing education. The Board may establish in the regulations requirements for continuing education as a prerequisite to renewal of any certificate or license issued under this article. The Board shall require evidence of knowledge of code changes as a prerequisite to renewal of any certificate or license issued under this article. In addition, the Board may require continuing education for any individual who is found to be in violation of the statutes or regulations governing the practice of licensed tradesmen or certificate holders issued under this article.

§ 54.1-1134. Grounds for denial or revocation of certification or license; reports of building officials and others. The Board shall have the power to require remedial education and to suspend, revoke or deny renewal of the certification or license of any individual who is found to be in violation of the statutes or regulations governing the practice of licensed tradesmen, liquefied petroleum gas fitters or natural gas fitter providers or certified backflow prevention device workers in the Commonwealth.

Any building official who finds that an individual is practicing as a tradesman, elevator mechanic, liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider without a license as required by this article shall file a report to such effect with the Board. Any water purveyor or building official who finds that an individual is practicing as a backflow prevention device worker without a certificate, if a certificate is required by the locality in which an individual is engaging in backflow prevention device worker activities, shall file a report to such effect with the Board.

Any building official who has reason to believe that (i) a tradesman, liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider is performing incompetently as demonstrated by an egregious or repeated violation of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ [36-97](#) et seq.) or (ii) a certified backflow prevention device worker is performing incompetently as demonstrated by an egregious or repeated violation of the standards adopted by the American Society of Sanitary Engineering referenced in the plumbing code adopted by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall file a report to such effect with the Board. Any water purveyor who has reason to believe that a certified backflow prevention device worker is performing incompetently as demonstrated by an egregious or repeated violation of the standards adopted by the American Society of Sanitary Engineering referenced in the plumbing code adopted by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall file a report to such effect with the Board and local building official.

§ 54.1-1135. Prohibited acts.

A. Practicing or attempting to practice as a tradesman, liquefied petroleum gas fitter or natural gas fitter provider in the Commonwealth, except as provided for in this article, is prohibited and shall constitute the commission of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

B. No person shall represent himself as a certified backflow prevention device worker unless he has been certified by the Board. Any person engaging or offering to engage in backflow prevention device worker activities within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead, represents himself as a certified backflow prevention device worker without holding such a certificate from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

C. No person shall be entitled to assert the lack of licensure as required by this article as a defense to any action at law or suit in equity if the party who seeks to recover from such person gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and without actual knowledge of the licensure requirements of this article.

D. In any locality which requires state certification to engage in backflow prevention device worker activities, no person shall be entitled to assert a lack of certification as a defense to any action at law or suit in equity if the party who seeks to recover from such person gives substantial performance within the terms of the contract in good faith and without actual knowledge of the locality's certification requirements.

Article 4.
Certification of Elevator Mechanics.

§ 54.1-1140. Definitions.

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

"Elevator mechanic" means an individual who is certified by the Board in accordance with this article to engage in erecting, constructing, installing, altering, servicing, repairing, testing or maintaining elevators, escalators, or related conveyances in accordance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code.

§ 54.1-1141. Certification required; exemption.

A. No person shall engage in, or offer to engage in, work as an elevator mechanic in the Commonwealth unless he has been certified under the provisions of this article. Individuals certified as elevator mechanics shall not be required to hold any other professional or occupational license or certification; however, nothing in this subsection shall prohibit an individual from holding more than one professional or occupational license or certification.

B. Any individual desiring to be certified as an elevator mechanic shall file 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, at a minimum, the applicant's name, place of employment, business address, and information on the knowledge, skills, abilities and education or training of the applicant.

C. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent a person who is not certified as an elevator mechanic from performing maintenance that is not related to the operating integrity of an elevator, escalator, or related conveyance.

§ 54.1-1142. Issuance of certification; emergency certification.

A. The Board shall issue a certificate to practice as an elevator mechanic in the Commonwealth to any applicant who has submitted satisfactory evidence that he has successfully:

1. Completed the educational requirements as required by the Board, which shall at a minimum include such requirements as the Board determines will establish minimum competency on the part of the applicant;
2. Completed the experience requirements as required by the Board, which shall at a minimum consist of at least three years in the elevator industry; and
3. Passed an examination offered or approved by the Board.

B. The Board may issue a certificate to practice as an elevator mechanic to any applicant who has a certification from an association approved by the Board that is equal to or exceeds the requirements established by the Board for all applicants.

§ 54.1-1142.1. Certifications in event of declared emergency.

A. Whenever the Governor declares a state of emergency in accordance with § [44-146.17](#) or in the event of a work stoppage by elevator mechanics and the Board determines that the number of elevator mechanics is insufficient to meet the demands of the emergency or work stoppage, the Board shall issue an emergency certificate to practice as an elevator mechanic under the following conditions:

1. A contractor licensed under the provisions of this chapter (a) attests to the Board, in a form prescribed by the Board, that an applicant has an acceptable combination of documented experience and education to perform work as an elevator mechanic without direct and immediate supervision of an elevator mechanic and (b) provides such proof thereof as required by the Board; and
2. The applicant attested to the Board by the licensed contractor applies to the Board for emergency certification as an elevator mechanic.

As used in this subsection, "direct and immediate supervision" means proper supervision but does not include line of sight supervision.

B. Each such certification shall be valid for a period of 45 days from the date of issuance and for such geographic areas or such elevators, escalators, or related conveyances as the Board may designate. Such certification shall entitle the certificate holder to engage in work as an elevator mechanic. The Board shall renew such certification as often as necessary to ensure that there is a sufficient number of elevator mechanics to meet the demands of the emergency. No fee shall be charged for application for such certification or any renewal thereof.

C. The Board may delegate to the Director of the Department the authority to issue such emergency certifications. The Director shall inform the Board of the issuance of any certifications.

§ 54.1-1142.2. Certifications in event of shortage of elevator mechanics.

A. Whenever a contractor licensed under the provisions of this chapter demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Board that there is a shortage of elevator mechanics, the Board shall issue temporary certifications under the following conditions:

1. The licensed contractor attests to the Board, in a form prescribed by the Board, that after due diligence, the licensed contractor is unable to find an elevator mechanic from the list of elevator mechanics maintained by the Board to perform elevator work;
2. The applicant has an acceptable combination of documented experience and education to perform work as an elevator mechanic without direct and immediate supervision of an elevator mechanic and provides such proof thereof as required by the Board;
3. The applicant applies for such temporary certification as an elevator mechanic; and
4. The applicant pays an application fee as set by the Board.

As used in this subsection, "direct and immediate supervision" means proper supervision but does not include line of sight supervision.

B. Each such temporary certification shall be valid for a period of up to 45 days from the date of issuance, provided the applicant continues at all times to be employed by the licensed contractor. The Board shall renew such certification as often as necessary to ensure that there is a sufficient number of elevator mechanics to meet the shortage.

C. The Board may delegate to the Director of the Department the authority to issue such temporary certifications or renewals thereof. The Director shall inform the Board of the issuance of any such certifications or renewals.

§ 54.1-1143. Continuing education.

A. The Board shall establish in the regulations requirements for continuing education as a prerequisite to renewal of any certificate issued under this article. The Board shall require evidence of knowledge of the Uniform Statewide Building Code changes as a prerequisite to renewal of any certificate issued under this article. In addition, the Board may require continuing education for any individual who is found to be in violation of law or regulations governing the practice of an elevator mechanic certified under this article.

B. An elevator mechanic, as a condition of recertification and as part of the recertification application, shall attest to the Board that he has completed at least eight hours of continuing education, approved by the Board, in the specialty of elevator/escalator contracting. The Board may establish such requirements for approval of training instructors, the criteria for the continuing education and such other regulations to ensure the protection of the public interest. Such criteria shall include approval of curriculum sponsored by national or state professional elevator industry associations approved by the Board.

C. The provisions of this section shall not apply to certifications issued by the Board under § [54.1-1142.1](#) or [54.1-1142.2](#).

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

STATEMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

THIS CONSUMER INFORMATION SHEET IS PROVIDED

THROUGH THE BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS AND MAY

BE REPRODUCED BUT NOT ALTERED

If you are about to engage the services of a contractor in the Commonwealth of Virginia, you should be aware of the state's program for the regulation of this occupation by licensing or certifying these businesses.

Any contractor who undertakes a project the total value of which is \$120,000 or more is required to have a valid Class A license issued by the Board for Contractors. Any contractor who undertakes a project the total value of which is over \$7,500 but less than \$120,000 must have a valid Class B license. A licensed contractor has met standards established by the Board for Contractors to ensure that the licensee possesses the character, knowledge, and skills necessary to practice without harm to the public.

Any contractor who undertakes a project the total value of which is more than \$1,000 but no more than \$7,500 is required to have a valid Class C license. Class C licensure requires that the contractor submit information to the Board for Contractors concerning the location, nature, and operation of the business, as well as evidence of experience and information on the applicant's credit history. **Contractors who work in the plumbing, electrical or heating/ventilation/air-conditioning trades must have either a Class A or Class B license, or a Class C license, according to project amount.**

Before signing any contract, you should ask to see the license or the pocket card issued with the license number and check to be sure that it has not expired and that the contractor is working within the limits of his licensure.

The authority of the Board for Contractors to discipline the licensed contractors is limited to specific violations of the law and/or regulations of the board, such as written citations from the local Building Inspectors for violations of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code or practices which constitute abandonment, gross negligence, continued incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of the profession. In such cases disciplinary action by the board is limited to fines and/or remedial education, revocation or suspension of the contractor's license and placing the licensee on probation. Such action can only be taken after a hearing or with the consent of the license holder and his agreement to waive his right to a hearing.

The board does not have the authority to order a license holder to make restitution to you for losses you may have incurred due to the contractor's poor performance; efforts to recover such funds must be made through the civil courts. If you are planning to take such action against the contractor, you should contact the Board for Contractors at (804) 367-1559 in order to receive information about the Virginia Contractors Transaction Recovery Fund and the procedures for applying to recover from the fund if you are unable to collect after judgment is awarded in court.

Issues involving cosmetic defects in workmanship must be resolved by negotiation between you and your contractor or civil action to enforce the terms of your contract if necessary. **You should be careful in reviewing the contract before signing it in order to be sure that the terms of the agreement are clear and acceptable to you.** You should know that, customarily, the initial down payment is no more than 30% of the total value of the contract and that, if you are dissatisfied with the work performed by the sub-contractors, you may hold the general contractor responsible. Finally, remember that, in accordance with the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act (Code of Virginia, Section 59.1-21.1 et seq.), you have a three-day right to cancel a contract which you have negotiated in your home. (For more precise information about the application of this law, see the Code of Virginia or seek legal advice.)

Should you have reason to believe that your contractor may not have complied with the rules and regulations of the Board for Contractors, you should notify the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation by calling (804) 367-8504 or write to the following address:

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
Compliance and Investigations Division
The Perimeter Center Suite 400
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233

The aforementioned information is not intended to be an exhaustive list of the remedies available to you through your local government or other agencies. If you need additional assistance, call the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Citizens Assistance number at (804) 786-2373, or write to the following address:

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
102 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219