



## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR HOME INSPECTORS

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### TRANSITION TO LICENSURE | Effective July 1, 2017

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Effective July 1, 2017, all home inspector certifications will transition to licenses. This means that the regulation of home inspections in Virginia will go from a *voluntary certification* program to a *mandatory licensure* program.

Because of the Independence Day holiday on July 4th, the **paper licenses will not be mailed until on or after July 5, 2017**. However, you can check DPOR License Lookup online (<http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/LicenseLookup/>) to verify your license status *after* July 1, 2017. As long as your home inspector certificate is current as of July 1, you will automatically be mailed a home inspector license and no further action should be needed on your part.

→ **FOR NEW APPLICANTS:**

Submit your application **as soon as possible** if you want to qualify for certification before the July 1, 2017, transition to licensure. Staff is making every attempt to review all applications on or before June 30, 2017; however, applications that arrive the last week in June *may not be able to be reviewed* before the July 1, 2017 transition date. This is especially true if additional information is needed to complete your application.

After July 1, 2017, regulations require that you complete training from a Board-approved pre-license education provider. **Avoid the rush: Submit your application as soon as possible!**

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### UPCOMING RENEWALS | Important Tips to Consider

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Home inspectors with certificate expiration dates at the end of May or June are encouraged to **renew now**. This will ensure your renewal will be processed before June 30, 2017, and your license can be issued after July 1, 2017.

Home inspector licenses will have the same expiration dates as previous home inspector certificates. For those expiring at the end of July, August, or September, this means your license automatically converted as a result of the new law will only be valid for one, two, or three months. **Be sure to check the expiration date on your license so that you renew on time!**

You will not be mailed a home inspector license if your certificate is already expired but still *eligible* for renewal (within two years from the date of expiration). Please contact the Board office to find out how to reinstate your license. **Be aware that a certificate cannot be reinstated if it has been expired more than two years.** In such cases, you will be required to meet all new entry qualifications to obtain a home inspector license.

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## NRS TRAINING MODULE | New Residential Structure Specialty

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Effective July 1, 2017, home inspections of **NEW Residential Structures** (NRS) should be performed only by *licensed* home inspectors with the NRS specialty designation. In order to obtain the NRS specialty, the licensed home inspector must first complete an 8-hour, Board-approved NRS training module on the Virginia Residential Code, and then apply to the Board to add the specialty to the license.

- ◆ **Board staff understands the difficulty home inspectors are experiencing in finding and taking a Board-approved NRS training module to satisfy the requirement.**
- ◆ We are actively working to encourage education providers to submit additional courses for review and approval, and expect more NRS training programs will be available in July and August.
- ◆ Stay tuned to the **Education & Exams tab** at <http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/ALHI/> for the latest updates.

Once the initial NRS training program is completed, four (4) hours of Board-approved NRS continuing professional education (CPE) will be required to maintain the NRS specialty. The four hours of NRS CPE can be applied to the overall 16-hour CPE requirement to maintain your home inspector license. However, unlike the CPE required to maintain home inspector licensure (which is only submitted if audited), **proof of completion** of the four-hour NRS CPE must be submitted as a condition of renewal.

The **Home Inspector License Application**, as well as forms to add the NRS Specialty Designation, will be posted to the Board's webpage during the **week of June 26th**.