Arizona: contractor reciprocity & license-transfer checklist

Licensing board: Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC) · https://roc.az.gov/ · Checked November 20, 2026

> **Not legal advice.** General information only, not legal advice. Each fact is our plain-English summary of the linked official source on the date shown, and may be incomplete, out of date or wrong. Licensing rules change. Confirm with the official licensing board and a licensed professional (an attorney, and your CPA or broker for deal terms) before you act.

Moving here: reciprocity and exam waivers

- The ROC says “Arizona does not have direct reciprocity with any state.” Instead, an out-of-state applicant can ask for a waiver of the trade exam and experience if the qualifying party held a comparable license in another state within the past five years and got it by passing a trade exam.
  Applying for a License (Out of State Contractors), Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/applying-for-a-license
- You file the Out of State Waiver Request with the license application, in place of the trade exam. The ROC doesn't pre-approve waivers.
  Applying for a License (Out of State Contractors), Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/applying-for-a-license
- The Arizona Statutes and Rules Exam (SRE) can't be waived unless the proposed qualifying party has been the qualifying party on an Arizona license within the past five years.
  Applying for a License (Out of State Contractors), Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/applying-for-a-license
- California's CSLB lists Arizona as a reciprocal state for California licenses. That's California's program for people moving into California; it doesn't change Arizona's own waiver process.
  General Information on Reciprocity, Contractors State License Board (CSLB): https://www.cslb.ca.gov/Contractors/Applicants/Reciprocity/General_Reciprocity_Information.aspx; Applying for a License (Out of State Contractors), Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/applying-for-a-license

Buying or selling a licensed business

- By statute, an Arizona contractor license “is nontransferable.”
  A.R.S. 32-1124: License issuance; posting; suspension, Arizona State Legislature: https://www.azleg.gov/ars/32/01124.htm
- The ROC's FAQ: if ownership of a business changes, the license is not part of the business, “with the possible exception of a corporation or limited liability company.” If stock is sold and the Arizona Corporation Commission file number stays the same, the same license can be used if it is active and in good standing.
  Frequently Asked Questions, Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/faq
- The Registrar may suspend a license by operation of law when the licensed entity is dissolved, which the statute says includes the death of a sole owner, adding or removing a partner, the revocation or dissolution of corporate authority, or the dissolution of an LLC or LLP.
  A.R.S. 32-1124: License issuance; posting; suspension, Arizona State Legislature: https://www.azleg.gov/ars/32/01124.htm
- People listed on a license stay responsible for acts or omissions that happened while they were listed, even after they disassociate.
  Frequently Asked Questions, Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC): https://roc.az.gov/faq

When the qualifier leaves

- If the qualifying party stops being connected with the licensee, both the licensee and the qualifying party must notify the Registrar in writing within 15 days.
  A.R.S. 32-1127.01: Qualifying parties; disassociation, Arizona State Legislature: https://www.azleg.gov/ars/32/01127-01.htm
- The licensee must requalify through another person within 60 days of the disassociation, or the license is automatically suspended until it does.
  A.R.S. 32-1127.01: Qualifying parties; disassociation, Arizona State Legislature: https://www.azleg.gov/ars/32/01127-01.htm

Deadlines (calendar days from the event date; write in your dates)

Event	Period	What is due	Your date
Qualifying party leaves the licensee	15 days	Licensee and qualifying party each notify the Registrar in writing	_____
Qualifying party leaves the licensee	60 days	New qualifying party must be in place, or the license is automatically suspended	_____

> We found no official deadline for an ownership change on the ROC pages we checked.

Checklist

☐ Looked up the license on the ROC site: legal entity, number, classes, status, expiration, qualifier.

☐ Decided deal structure (asset purchase vs. buying the licensed entity) with counsel.

☐ Confirmed whether the qualifier stays after closing; calendared the notice and replacement dates above.

☐ Started the buyer's own license application, if needed, before closing.

☐ Checked exam waivers or endorsement for the buyer's qualifier on both boards' pages.

☐ Arranged bonds and insurance in the licensee's exact legal name.

☐ Confirmed every date with ROC and a licensed professional.

Notes

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