Louisiana: contractor reciprocity & license-transfer checklist

Licensing board: Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) · https://lslbc.louisiana.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 Each fact is our plain-English summary of the linked official source on the date shown, and may be incomplete, out of date or wrong.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

- In a letter dated October 23, 2024, LSLBC said that if an applicant holds a classification that requires a test in another state and passed that test, with no waivers, exemptions or grandfathering, LSLBC will accept the passing exam for reciprocity in the classification LSLBC chooses. All other licensing requirements still apply.
  Louisiana Examination Reciprocity (letter dated October 23, 2024), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2024-Reciprocity-Change.pdf
- The same letter says the change “renders any previous agreements null and void.”
  Louisiana Examination Reciprocity (letter dated October 23, 2024), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2024-Reciprocity-Change.pdf
- To use it, you fill in Section A of LSLBC's Reciprocity Request form and send it to the board where you are licensed; that board completes the verification. New applicants and existing licensees adding a qualifier or classification can use it.
  Reciprocity Request form (revised 9/09/2025), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Reciprocity_Request-1.pdf
- California's CSLB still lists Louisiana as a reciprocal state for its own B General Building class (with a NASCLA exam requirement). That describes California's side, not Louisiana's.
  Reciprocal Classifications List, Contractors State License Board (CSLB): https://www.cslb.ca.gov/Contractors/Applicants/Reciprocity/Reciprocal_Classifications_List.aspx

Buying or selling a licensed business

- LSLBC's FAQ: “You cannot transfer a license from an individual to a company or from one company to another.”
  FAQ, Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/faq/
- The license belongs to the licensee (the corporation, partnership, LLC or individual) regardless of the status of its qualifying party.
  FAQ, Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/faq/
- When only assets (and not liabilities) are sold, LSLBC's form says the license can't be transferred to the buyer; the seller remains the license holder, and a buyer who wants to contract must apply for its own license.
  Name and/or Structure Change Form (revised 07/15/2026), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Name-andor-Structure-Change.pdf
- If a licensed entity merges and the surviving entity is unlicensed, the surviving entity must submit a new application, and the non-surviving entity's license is terminated. Changing from a sole proprietorship to a business entity also requires a new application.

Name and/or Structure Change Form (revised 07/15/2026), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Name-andor-Structure-Change.pdf

- Ownership changes, mergers, conversions, FEIN changes and state-of-incorporation changes are reported on the Name and/or Structure Change Form ($100 fee, per the form), after reporting them to the Louisiana Secretary of State.
  Name and/or Structure Change Form (revised 07/15/2026), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Name-andor-Structure-Change.pdf; FAQ, Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/faq/
- There's no temporary license, and you need the license or registration before you bid, contract or perform work.
  FAQ, Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/faq/

When the qualifier leaves

- Citing La. R.S. 37:2156.1(D)(1), LSLBC says that when the qualifying party leaves, the licensee must notify the board in writing within 30 days, and another party must qualify within 60 days of the disassociation.
  FAQ, Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC): https://lslbc.louisiana.gov/faq/

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

Event	Period	What is due	Your date
Qualifying party leaves the licensee	30 days	Written notice to LSLBC (Disassociation of a Qualifying Party form)	_____
Qualifying party leaves the licensee	60 days	Another party must qualify	_____

> LSLBC's pages we checked give no deadline for filing the Name and/or Structure Change Form.

Checklist

☐ Looked up the license on the LSLBC 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 LSLBC and a licensed professional.

Notes

Free from Contractor Reciprocity (https://contractor-reciprocity.pages.dev), run by Diamond Ray Inc, support@liteflow.app. Facts checked November 20, 2026. 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. Not affiliated with, endorsed by or sponsored by any state licensing board, government agency or NASCLA. Board names are used only to identify the official sources we cite.