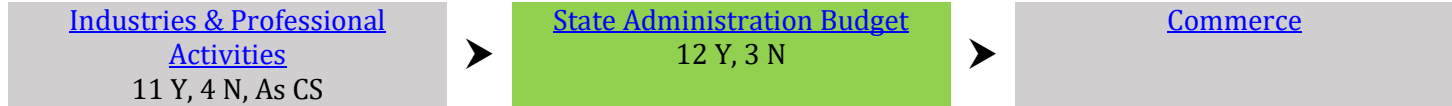


FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: CS/HB 1461	COMPANION BILL: SB 1452 (Truenow)
TITLE: Industries and Professional Activities	LINKED BILLS: None
SPONSOR(S): Yarkosky, Esposito	RELATED BILLS: None

Committee References



SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill repeals continuing education requirements for certain licensed professionals. The bill repeals certain boards, councils, and commissions from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). The bill repeals certain secondary licenses for private investigators, private security officers, and recovery agents. The bill increases the pathways to licensure for certain licensed professionals. The bill requires DBPR and DACS to conduct certain studies.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill may have a positive economic and fiscal impact for the licensed professionals who do not have to complete continuing education. The bill may have a positive fiscal impact for the state due to reduced operational and administrative costs associated with maintaining the repealed boards, councils, and commissions.

JUMP TO	SUMMARY	ANALYSIS	RELEVANT INFORMATION	BILL HISTORY
-------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill repeals the following boards, commissions, and councils within the [Department of Business and Professional Regulation \(DBPR\)](#) and shifts the authority for such boards, commissions, and councils to DBPR:

- [Board of Pilot Commissioners \(Harbor Pilots\).](#)
- [Florida Board of Auctioneers.](#)
- [Regulatory Council of Community Association Managers.](#)
- [Board of Employee Leasing Companies.](#)
- [Florida Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board \(Building Officials\).](#)
- [Board of Professional Engineers.](#)
- [Board of Veterinary Medicine.](#)
- [Board of Accountancy.](#)
- [Florida Real Estate Commission.](#)
- [Barbers' Board.](#)
- [Board of Cosmetology.](#)
- [Board of Architecture and Interior Design.](#)
- [Board of Landscape Architecture.](#)
- [Construction Industry Licensing Board.](#)
- [Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board.](#)
- [Board of Professional Geologists.](#)
- [Drug Wholesale Distributor Advisory Council.](#) (Section 2)

STORAGE NAME: h1461b.SAB

DATE: 4/15/2025

The bill repeals the following boards and councils within the [Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services \(DACS\)](#) and shifts the authority for such boards and councils to DACS:

- [Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers.](#)
- [Pest Control Enforcement Advisory Council.](#)
- [Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council.](#)
- [Agricultural Economic Development Project Review Committee.](#)
- [Babcock Ranch Advisory Group.](#) (Section [2](#) and Section [266](#))

[Continuing Education](#)

The bill repeals provisions requiring continuing education for the following professions and occupations licensed by DBPR and DACS:

- Barbers. (Section [2](#))
- Cosmetology. (Section [2](#), [143](#), and [145](#))
- Home Inspectors. (Section [2](#))
- Mold-Related Services. (Section [2](#))
- Contractors. (Section [183](#), [185](#), and [186](#))
- Electrical contractors. (Section [214](#), [215](#), [216](#), and [217](#))
- Engineers. (Section [87](#))
- Landscape architects. (Section [170](#) and [171](#))
- Accountants. (Section [2](#))
- Asbestos contractors (Section [79](#), [80](#), and [81](#))
- Architects. (Section [156](#) and [157](#))
- Community Association Managers. (Section [2](#))
- Building officials. (Section [71](#))
- Harbor Pilots. (Section [15](#))
- Veterinarians. (Section [119](#))
- Surveyors and Mappers. (Section [2](#))

[Private Investigator, Security Officers, and Recovery Agents Secondary Licenses](#)

The bill removes licensure requirements for secondary license types for the following licenses issued by DACS, while maintaining the main license type:

- Private Investigator Interns.
- Private Investigative Agencies.
- Private Investigative Agency Branch Offices.
- Private Investigative Agency Managers.
- Private Investigative/Security Agency Managers.
- Security Agencies.
- Security Agency Branch Offices.
- Security Managers.
- Security Agency/Private Investigative Agency Branch Offices.
- Recovery Agent Interns.
- Recovery Agencies.
- Recovery Agency Branch Offices.
- Recovery Agency Managers. (Section [245](#), [248](#), and [253](#))

The bill **does not** repeal the licensure requirement for private investigators, security officers, and recovery agents.

[Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco \(ABT\) within DBPR](#)

The bill expands the jurisdiction of ABT's law enforcement bureau to include the investigation, enforcement, and prosecution of crimes related to a business or profession regulated by DBPR including unlicensed activity of a business or profession. (Section [1](#))

The bill allows ABT to discipline a retail tobacco products dealer or retail nicotine products dealer's permit for any violation of the laws of this state or any state or territory of the United States. (Section [287](#) and [288](#))

The bill authorizes ABT to assist DACS in enforcing the distribution and retail sale of consumable hemp in Florida, including entering any public or private premises during regular business hours in the performance of its duties relating to the retail sale of consumable hemp. (Section [289](#))

[Division of Hotels and Restaurants](#)

The bill allows DBPR's Division of Hotel and Restaurants to discipline a public food service establishment or public lodging establishment for violation of Florida's hemp laws. (Section [284](#))

[Licensure of Engineers and Architects by Endorsements](#)

The bill allows DBPR to approve engineers and architects licensed outside the country for licensure by endorsement. (Section [273](#) and [279](#))

Applicants for endorsement as an engineer must hold a valid license from a foreign jurisdiction and hold an active Council Record with the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveying. Applicants seeking licensure as an architect must hold a valid license from a foreign jurisdiction, pass the licensure examination for architects, and hold a valid certificate issued by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. (Section [273](#) and [279](#))

[Barbers](#)

The bill provides for the licensure, operation, and inspection of mobile barbershops, as follows:

- Requires DBPR to adopt rules governing the licensure, operation, and inspection of mobile barbershops, including their facilities, personnel, and safety and sanitary requirements.
- Requires mobile barbershops to comply with all licensure and operating requirements specified in the chapter of law governing barbershops, DBPR's general statutes, or DBPR rules that apply to barbershops at fixed locations.
- Requires mobile barbershops to maintain a permanent business address, located in the inspection area of the local department office, at which records of appointments, itineraries, license numbers of employees, and vehicle identification numbers of the licenseholder's mobile barbershop must be kept and made available for verification purposes by department personnel, and where correspondence from the department can be received.
- To facilitate periodic inspections, the bill requires before the beginning of each month, each mobile barbershop license holder to file with DBPR a written monthly itinerary listing the locations where and the dates and hours when the mobile barbershop will be operating.
- Requires the license holder to comply with all local laws and ordinances regulating business establishments, with all applicable requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act relating to accommodations for persons with disabilities, and with all applicable requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.
- Pursuant to DBPR rules, authorizes the practice of barbering to be performed in a location other than a licensed barbershop when performed in connection with a special event and by a person who holds the proper license.
 - Barbers are already allowed to shampoo, cut, or arrange hair in locations outside of barbershops. (Section [277](#))

[Certified Public Accountants](#)

The bill revises the requirements for the licensure of Certified Public Accountants (CPAs), as follows:

- Revises the requirements for licensure of CPAs, including licensure by endorsement and of international applicants, by providing four separate pathways to qualify for a license based on education and work experience criteria. Effective January 1, 2026, a person may qualify for a CPA license if he or she:
 - Completes at least 150 semester hours of college education, including a baccalaureate or higher degree conferred by an accredited college or university, with a concentration in accounting and business as prescribed by the department, and have one year of work experience;
 - Holds a master's degree in accounting or finance conferred by an accredited college or university with a concentration in accounting and business as prescribed by the department, and have one year of work experience;
 - Holds a baccalaureate degree in accounting or finance conferred by an accredited college or university with a concentration in accounting and business as prescribed by the department, and have two years of work experience; or
 - Holds a baccalaureate degree in any major course of study conferred by an accredited college or university, have completed coursework required for a concentration in accounting and business as prescribed by the department, and have two years of work experience. (Section [274](#) and [275](#))

The bill requires the department to prescribe the coursework required for a concentration in accounting and business. Under the bill, an applicant may satisfy the coursework requirement if the applicant receives a baccalaureate or higher degree in accounting or finance conferred by an accredited college or university in a state or territory of the United States. If the applicant has received a baccalaureate or higher degree with a major course of study other than accounting or finance, the applicant must complete the coursework required for a concentration in accounting and business as prescribed by the department. (Section [274](#))

The bill revises the licensure by endorsement requirements for applicants who are licensed in any state or territory of the United States. Under the bill, a person holding a license in another state or a territory of the United States may qualify for licensure by endorsement if they have maintained good moral character and, at the time of licensure by the other state or territory, were required to show evidence of having obtained at least a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university and having passed the Uniform CPA Examination. (Section [274](#))

The bill revises the requirements for the licensure of international applicants. The bill requires international applicants for licensure as a certified public accountant in this state to meet the requirements for education, work experience, and good moral character under [s. 473.308, F.S.](#) (Section [275](#))

Effective January 1, 2026, the bill permits, a person who holds an active CPA license in good standing in another state or territory to provide accountancy services without obtaining a state license if at the time of licensure by the other state or territory, the individual was required to show evidence of having obtained at least a baccalaureate degree and having passed the Uniform CPA Examination. (Section [276](#))

[Florida Drug and Cosmetic Act](#)

The bill removes the requirement that every prescription drug wholesale distributor must have at least one designated representative, who must be certified by the department. (Section [281](#))

The bill provides that a permitted entity applying for a new permit from the Division of Drugs, Devices, and Cosmetics because of a sale or transfer of ownership in the permitted entity must apply within 30 days of the sale or transfer instead of before the sale or transfer. (Section [281](#))

DBPR Information on Professions

The bill requires DBPR to e-mail and post information on their website at the end of each legislative session explaining new laws related to each profession. (Section [1](#))

[Auctioneer Fees](#)

Effective July 1, 2026, requires all fees established by DBPR related to auctioneers to be reduced by 50 percent. (Section [271](#))

[Building Permits](#)

Home Repairs During States of Emergency

The bill prohibits local governments from requiring a permit for repairs and renovations completed within one year after the issuance of a state of emergency for single family homes as long as the damage being repaired does not include more than 50 percent of such home and there are no changes to the footprint of the home. (Section [285](#))

Landscaping Violations During States of Emergency

The bill prohibits local governments from denying a certificate of occupancy based on noncompliance with a Florida-friendly landscaping ordinance for residential or commercial properties issued a permit within one year of a state of emergency for the county in which the property is located. (Section [285](#))

Building Permits for Playgrounds, Fences, or Landscape Irrigation

The bill prohibits local enforcement agencies from requiring a building permit for the construction of playground equipment, a fence, or a landscape irrigation system on single-family residential property. (Section [268](#) and [285](#))

Uniform Permit Applications

Requires DBPR to recommend a uniform permit application form for most routine types of building permits, and inspections for common building permits and recommend a uniform process for video inspections. (Section [3](#))

[Elevator Accessibility](#)

The bill revises elevator accessibility requirements to align with the Florida Building Code. (Section [267](#))

[DBPR Licensure Fingerprint Requirements](#)

The bill eliminates the current fingerprint requirement for active duty military personnel, as well as their spouses, who seek licensure in those professions that do not otherwise require fingerprinting for initial licensure. (Section [269](#))

Effective date

Except as otherwise expressly provided, the bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2025. (Section [290](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill may have a positive fiscal impact for DBPR and DACS due to the following:

- Reduced operational and administrative costs associated with maintaining the repealed boards, commissions, and councils.
- Decreased continuing education (CE) oversight expenses needed to administer, monitor, or enforce CE requirements.

While the state may lose some fee revenue (e.g., CE-related or certain secondary license fees), this is likely offset by lower enforcement and processing expenses.

DACS estimates an annual revenue decrease of \$1,152,033 associated with the repeal of new and renewal intern licenses, agency licenses (including branch agencies) and agency manager licenses. This estimated reduction is based on actual FY 2023-24 revenue collections and final license counts. This revenue decrease does not contemplate decreases at FDLE for applicant background screenings.¹

DBPR may incur short-term costs related to reorganizing oversight functions, updating rules, systems, and internal processes that may be absorbed by current resources.

The bill requires DBPR and DACS to conduct studies on uniform permitting processes and licensure pathways based on experience. The cost of these studies may likely be absorbed in existing budgets.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The bill may have a negative fiscal impact on local governments due to reduced permit fee revenue from small building permits prohibited in the bill. However, these changes may reduce local enforcement burdens and administrative costs, especially after natural disasters.

PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill may have a positive impact on the private sector by lowering costs for professionals. Eliminating required continuing education saves professionals time and money. Private investigators and security firms may experience lower overhead costs through the elimination of secondary licenses.

Easier licensure may increase competition in some professions, which could affect wages or business volume for existing licensees.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

[Continuing Education](#)

Continuing education includes any additional required education undertaken by a professional after receiving licensure. Below is a chart of the continuing education requirements for licensed professionals in Florida:²

Profession	Continuing Education Requirements
Community Association Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 hours of CE annually • 15 classroom hours of CE to reinstate an inactive license

¹ Email from Thomas Poucher, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Info Request (April 11, 2025).

² See Ss. [310.081](#), [455.2228](#), [468.4337](#), [468.4338](#), [468.627](#), [468.8316](#), [468.8317](#), [468.8416](#), [471.017](#), [471.019](#), [472.018](#), [472.019](#), [473.312](#), [473.313](#), [474.211](#), [475.182](#), [475.183](#), [477.019](#), [477.0212](#), [481.215](#), [481.217](#), [481.313](#), [481.315](#), [482.111](#), [489.115](#), [489.116](#), [489.517](#), [489.519](#), F.S.; Rules [61E14-4.004](#), [61-30.403](#), [61G3-16.0091](#), [61G10-13.003](#), [61G10-18.001](#), and [61H1-33.003](#) F.A.C.

Profession	Continuing Education Requirements
Building Code Officials, Inspectors, and Plans Examiners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 classroom hours biannually
Home Inspectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 hours of CE biannually • 14 hours of CE to reinstate an inactive license
Mold-Related Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 hours of CE biannually
Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 hours of CE biannually • Up to 9 hours of CE for every year the license was inactive to reinstate an inactive license
Public Accountancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 hours biannually • Up to 120 hours to reinstate inactive license
Veterinary Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 30 hours of CE biannually
Cosmetologists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 10 hours of CE biannually • Up to 10 hours of CE to reinstate inactive license.
Barbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours of CE biannually
Architects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 hours of CE biannually • Up to 20 hours of CE to reinstate inactive license
Landscape Architects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 hours of CE biannually • Up to 16 hours of CE to reinstate an inactive license.
Construction contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 classroom hours of CE biannually • Up to 14 classroom hours of CE to reinstate an inactive license.
Electrical Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 classroom hours of CE biannually if the person is fire alarm system agent. • 6 classroom hours of CE biannually if the person is burglar alarm system agent. • 7 classroom hours of CE biannually if the licensee is an alarm system or specialty contractor. • 11 classroom hours of CE biannually if the licensee is an electrical contractor. • Up to 11 classroom hours of CE to reinstate an inactive license.
Harbor Pilots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board approved seminar biannually
Asbestos Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-day course of CE biannually for asbestos contractor. • Two-day course of CE biannually for asbestos consultant. • One-day course of CE annually for onsite supervisor.
Land Surveyors and Mappers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hours of CE biannually • Up to 12 classroom hours of CE for each inactive year to reinstate an active license.

[Department of Business and Professional Regulation](#)

The Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) regulates and licenses various businesses and professionals in Florida.³

The Division of Professions licenses and regulates more than 542,000 professionals through the following professional boards and programs:⁴

- Board of Architecture and Interior Design,
- Asbestos Licensing Unit,
- Athlete Agents,
- Board of Auctioneers,
- Barbers' Board,
- Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board,
- Regulatory Council of Community Association Managers,
- Construction Industry Licensing Board,
- Board of Cosmetology,
- Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board,
- Board of Employee Leasing Companies,
- Home Inspectors,
- Board of Landscape Architecture,
- Mold-Related Services,
- Board of Pilot Commissioners,
- Board of Professional Geologists,
- Talent Agencies,
- Board of Veterinary Medicine, and
- Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

The Division of Alcoholic Beverages (ABT)

[ABT](#) regulates the manufacture, distribution, sale, and service of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products in Florida, including:

- receipt and processing of license applications;
- collection and auditing of taxes, surcharges, and fees paid by licensees; and
- enforcement of the laws and regulations governing the sale of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.⁵

ABT's Bureau of Law Enforcement is an accredited law enforcement agency with law enforcement officers who have the authority to make arrests, carry firearms, serve court process, and seize contraband and the proceeds of illegal activities.⁶

The Bureau's law enforcement officers are responsible for enforcing the Beverage Law and the laws relating to distribution and sale of tobacco and nicotine products. They do not have authority to enforce any other state laws unless it is incidental to enforcing the Beverage Law or the laws relating to the distribution and sale of tobacco and nicotine products.⁷

³ S. [20.165, F.S.](#)

⁴ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Division of Professions*, <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/division-of-professions/> (last visited April 3, 2025).

⁵ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco*, <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/alcoholic-beverages-and-tobacco/> (last visited April 3, 2025).

⁶ S. [20.165\(9\), F.S.](#); Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco – Law Enforcement*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/alcoholic-beverages-and-tobacco/law-enforcement/> (last visited April 3, 2025).

⁷ *Id.*

The Division may discipline an alcoholic beverage license for any violation of the laws of this state or any state or territory of the United States.⁸ However, the Division may only discipline a tobacco retailer or nicotine product retailer’s permit for violating any of the provisions relating to the retail sale of such products. Such discipline includes administrative fines up to \$1,000 and suspension or revocation of a permit.⁹

[Board of Auctioneers](#)

The Board of Auctioneers is responsible for licensing and regulating auctioneers. The board generally meets four times a year to consider applications for licensure, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes, administers the Auctioneer Recovery Fund, and conducts other general business, as necessary.¹⁰

The board consists of five members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Two of the members must be licensed auctioneers with at least five years of experience, two members must be laypersons, and one must be an auction company. Members serve for terms of four years.¹¹

[Auctioneer Fees](#)

The Board of Auctioneers may establish application, examination, licensure, renewal, and other reasonable and necessary fees, based upon the department’s estimate of the costs to regulate licensed auctioneers. Below is a table of the applicable fees for licensed auctioneers:¹²

Type of Fee	Fee amount
Application Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50 for license by exam • \$75 for license by endorsement or reciprocity • \$50 apprentice license • \$50 auction business
Exam Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$250
Initial Licensure Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150
Unlicensed Activities Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5 upon initial license and each renewal
Renewal Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150
Reactivation Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50
Examination Review Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50
Auctioneer Recovery Fund Surcharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 at the time of renewal
Change of Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50
Delinquent License Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25
Reinstatement of a Void License Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150 application • \$150 - \$300 renewal fee for each biennium when timely renewal was missed. • \$105.00 – \$210.00 Unlicensed Activity fee for each biennium when timely renewal was missed.

⁸ S. [561.29, F.S.](#)

⁹ Ss. [569.006](#) and [569.35, F.S.](#)

¹⁰ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Auctioneers*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/auctioneers/> (last visited April 3, 2025).

¹¹ S. [468.384, F.S.](#)

¹² S. [468.386, F.S.](#); R. 61G2-3.001, F.A.C.

[Florida Real Estate Commission](#)

The Florida Real Estate Commission (FREC) is responsible for licensing and regulating real estate sales associates and brokers. The FREC meets for two days every month. The FREC also engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes.¹³

The commission consists of seven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Four members must be licensed brokers with at least five years of experience, one member must be a licensed broker or a licensed sales associate with at least two years of experience, and two members must be laypersons. At least one member must be 60 years of age or older. Members serve for terms of four years.¹⁴

The Division of Real Estate (DRE) is responsible for supporting the Florida Real Estate Commission and the Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board in the regulation of real estate sales associates, brokers, and appraisers, in conjunction with the.¹⁵ DRE's offices are located in Orlando.¹⁶

[Division of Certified Public Accounting](#)

The Division of Certified Public Accounting (Division of CPA) within DBPR is responsible for the regulation of certified public accountants (CPAs) and accounting firms. The Division of CPA processes applications to sit for the CPA exam, original Florida licensure applications, licensure by endorsement applications, reactivation of a delinquent or inactive CPA license, temporary permit applications, accountancy firm licensure, and continuing education reporting forms. The Division of CPA also provides administrative support to the [Board of Accountancy](#).¹⁷

The offices for the Division of CPA are located in Gainesville.¹⁸

The Board of Accountancy is responsible for licensing and regulating CPAs. The board meets 10 times a year to consider applications, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board also engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.

The board consists of nine members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Seven of the members must be licensed CPAs with at least five years of experience and two must be laypersons. At least one member must be over 60 years old.¹⁹

In order to obtain licensure as a CPA, an applicant must:²⁰

- have at least 150 semester hours of college education, including a baccalaureate or higher degree conferred by an accredited college or university, with a concentration in accounting and business.
- Have one year of experience.
- Have good moral character.
- Pass an examination.

¹³ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Real Estate Commission – Commission Information*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/real-estate-commission/commission-information/#1493754459693-55f707f3-f1ea> (last visited April 3, 2025).

¹⁴ S. [475.02, F.S.](#)

¹⁵ S. [475.021, F.S.](#)

¹⁶ S. [20.165\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹⁷ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Certified Public Accounting*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/certified-public-accounting/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

¹⁸ S. [20.165\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹⁹ S. [473.303, F.S.](#)

²⁰ Ss. [473.306](#), and [473.308, F.S.](#)

An applicant is also eligible for licensure by endorsement if the applicant has good moral character and meets one of the following requirements:²¹

- Is not licensed, but has otherwise met the licensing requirements and has passed a licensing examination that is substantially equivalent to the Florida examination;
- Holds a valid license to practice public accounting issued by another state or territory of the United States, if the criteria for issuance of such license are substantially equivalent to a Florida license or is otherwise permitted; or
- Holds a valid license to practice public accounting issued by another state or territory of the United States for at least 10 years before the date of application and has passed a licensing examination that is substantially equivalent to the Florida examination.

[Barbers' Board](#)

The Barbers' Board is responsible for licensing and regulating barbers. The board meets regularly, which is generally six times a year, to consider applications for licensure, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board also engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.²²

The board consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be licensed barbers with at least five years of experience, and two members must be laypersons. No member may be connected with the manufacture, rental, or wholesale distribution of barber equipment and supplies. Members serve for terms of four years.²³

[Board of Cosmetology](#)

The Board of Cosmetology is responsible for licensing and regulating cosmetology. The board meets approximately four times a year to consider applications for licensure, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.²⁴

The board consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be licensed cosmetologists who have practiced cosmetology in Florida for at least five years and two members must be laypersons.²⁵

[Barbers and Mobile Cosmetology Salons](#)

Current law requires licensed cosmetologists to only practice in licensed cosmetology salons unless expressly allowed to practice elsewhere. Current law also allows for mobile cosmetology salons, which must meet the following requirements:²⁶

- Must comply with all licensure and operating requirements for fixed cosmetology salons.
- Must maintain a permanent business address located in the inspection area of the local department office. The mobile salon's records must be kept at the permanent address.
- Must file a written monthly itinerary with the Board of Cosmetology.
- Must pay a fee, which may not be more than the fee for a fixed cosmetology salon.
- Must comply with all local laws and ordinances regulating business establishments, the applicable Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and the applicable OSHA requirements.

²¹ [473.308, F.S.](#); Rule [61H1-29.003](#), F.A.C

²² Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Barbers*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/barbers/> (last visited April 3, 2025)

²³ S. [476.054, F.S.](#)

²⁴ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Cosmetology*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/cosmetology/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

²⁵ S. [477.015, F.S.](#)

²⁶ SS. [477.025\(10\)](#), and [477.0263, F.S.](#)

Licensed barbers are also required to practice only in licensed barbershops unless expressly allowed to practice elsewhere. However, current law does not provide for mobile barbershops.²⁷

[Construction Industry Licensing Board](#)

The Construction Industry Licensing Board is responsible for licensing and regulating the construction industry. The board meets regularly, which is generally eleven times a year, to consider applications for licensure, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.²⁸

The board consists of 18 members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The board must consist of four general contractors, three building or residential contractors (with at least one building contractor and one residential contractor), one sheet metal contractor, one pool contractor, one plumbing contractor, two building officials of a municipality or county, one roofing contractor, one air conditioning contractor, one mechanical contractor, one underground utility and excavation contractor, and two consumer members.²⁹

[Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board](#)

The Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board is responsible for licensing and regulating electrical contractors. The board meets regularly, which is generally six times a year, to consider applications for licensure, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.³⁰

The board consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Seven members must be certified electrical contractors, two must be consumer members, and 2 must be certified alarm system contractors.³¹

[Regulatory Council of Community Association Managers](#)

The Regulatory Council of Community Association Managers duties relate to licensure examination, continuing education requirements, continuing education providers, fees and professional practice standards relative to the Community Association Manager profession.³² The Council holds quarterly meetings and engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.³³

The Council consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be licensed community association managers and two members must be residents of Florida who must not be or ever have been connected with the business of community association management.³⁴

²⁷ S. 476.188, F.S.

²⁸ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Construction Industry*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/construction-industry/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

²⁹ S. 489.107, F.S.

³⁰ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Electrical Contractors*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/electrical-contractors/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

³¹ S. 489.507(1), F.S.

³² A community association manager or community association management firm manages community associations with more than 10 residential units or budgets greater than \$100,000 for compensation. Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Community Association Managers and Firms – Council Information*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/community-association-managers-and-firms/council-information/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

³³ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Community Association Managers and Firms*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/community-association-managers-and-firms/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

³⁴ S. 468.4315, F.S.

[Drug Wholesale Distributor Advisory Council](#)

The Drug Wholesale Distributor Advisory Council of the [Division of Drugs, Devices, and Cosmetics \(DDC\)](#) reviews the Florida Drug and Cosmetic Act (Act) and the rules adopted thereunder, provides input to DBPR regarding all proposed rules to administer the Act, makes recommendations to DBPR to improve the protection of prescription drugs and public health, makes recommendations to improve coordination with other states' regulatory agencies and the federal government concerning the wholesale distribution of drugs, and makes recommendations to minimize the impact of regulation of the wholesale distribution industry while ensuring protection of the public health.³⁵

The Council generally meets three times a year and consists of 12 members. The Council must consist of the Secretary of DBPR (or his or her designee), the Secretary of Health Care Administration (or her or his designee), and 10 DBPR appointees. The DBPR appointees must consist of three employees of different prescription drug wholesale distributors which operate nationally, one employee of a prescription drug wholesale distributor, one employee of a retail pharmacy chain located in Florida, one licensed pharmacist who is a member of the Board of Pharmacy, one licensed physician, one employee of a licensed hospital who is a licensed pharmacist, one employee of a permitted medical gas manufacturer or medical gas wholesale distributor who has been recommended by the Compressed Gas Association,³⁶ and one employee of a pharmaceutical manufacturer.³⁷

[Drug Wholesale Distributor Designated Representative](#)

Each establishment that is issued a permit as a prescription drug wholesale distributor or an out-of-state prescription drug wholesale distributor must designate in writing to DBPR at least one natural person to serve as the designated representative of the wholesale distributor. Such person must have an active certification as a designated representative from DBPR.³⁸

A designated representative:³⁹

- Must be actively involved in and aware of the actual daily operation of the wholesale distributor.
- Must be employed full time in a managerial position by the wholesale distributor.
- Must be physically present at the establishment during normal business hours, except for time periods when absent due to illness, family illness or death, scheduled vacation, or other authorized absence.
- May serve as a designated representative for only one wholesale distributor at any one time.

To be certified as a designated representative, a natural person must:⁴⁰

- Submit an application and pay the appropriate fees.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Have at least 2 years of verifiable full-time:
 - Work experience in a pharmacy licensed in Florida or another state, where the person's responsibilities included, but were not limited to, recordkeeping for prescription drugs;
 - Managerial experience with a prescription drug wholesale distributor licensed in Florida or in another state;
 - Managerial experience with the United States Armed Forces, where the person's responsibilities included, but were not limited to, recordkeeping, warehousing, distributing, or other logistics services pertaining to prescription drugs;

³⁵ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Division of Drugs, Devices and Cosmetics – Council Information*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/drugs-devices-and-cosmetics/council-information/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

³⁶ The Compressed Gas Association is an American trade association that develops and promotes safety standards and safe practices for the industrial, medical, and food gases industry. International Society of Beverage Technologists, *Resources*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/landscape-architecture/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

³⁷ S. 499.01211, F.S.

³⁸ S. 499.012(15), F.S.

³⁹ *Id.*

⁴⁰ *Id.*

- Managerial experience with a state or federal organization responsible for regulating or permitting establishments involved in the distribution of prescription drugs, whether in an administrative or a sworn law enforcement capacity; or
- Work experience as a drug inspector or investigator with a state or federal organization, whether in an administrative or a sworn law enforcement capacity, where the person's responsibilities related primarily to compliance with state or federal requirements pertaining to the distribution of prescription drugs.
- Pass the required examination.
- Provide DBPR with a personal information statement and fingerprints.

Transfer of Ownership or Controlling Interest

If an entity, which has received a permit from DDC, changes a majority of the ownership or the controlling interest, then it must apply for a new permit from DDC **before** the change of ownership or controlling interest.⁴¹

[Board of Landscape Architecture](#)

The Board of Landscape Architecture is responsible for licensing and regulating landscape architects. The board generally meets four times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁴²

The board consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be registered landscape architects and two members must be laypersons who are not and have never been registered landscape architects or members of any closely related profession.⁴³

[Board of Architecture and Interior Design](#)

The Board of Architecture and Interior Design is responsible for licensing and regulating architects and interior designers. The board generally meets four times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁴⁴

The board consists of eleven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members but be registered architects who have been engaged in the practice of architecture for at least five years, three members must be registered interior designers who have been offering interior design services for at least 5 years and who are not also registered architects, and three members must be laypersons who are not, and have never been, architects, interior designers, or members of any closely related profession or occupation. At least one member of the board must be 60 years of age or older.⁴⁵

[Board of Pilot Commissioners](#)

The Board of Pilot Commissioners is responsible for licensing and regulating state pilots and deputy pilots.⁴⁶ The board meets approximately four times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and

⁴¹ S. [499.012\(6\), F.S.](#)

⁴² Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Cosmetology, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/cosmetology/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁴³ S. [481.305, F.S.](#)

⁴⁴ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Architecture and Interior Design*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/architecture-and-interior-design/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁴⁵ S. [481.205\(1\), F.S.](#)

⁴⁶ State and deputy pilots navigate vessels within channels, waters, harbors, and ports.

conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁴⁷

The board consists of 10 members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The board consists of five licensed and active state pilots, two members who are actively involved in a professional or business capacity in the maritime industry, one CPA who has at least five years of experience in financial management, and two citizens of Florida. The latter three board members may not be involved in, or have any financial interest in, the piloting profession, the maritime industry, the marine shipping industry, or the commercial passenger cruise industry.⁴⁸

[Board of Veterinary Medicine](#)

The Board of Veterinary Medicine is responsible for licensing and regulating veterinarians. The board meets approximately four times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁴⁹

The board consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be licensed veterinarians and two members must be laypersons who have no connection to the veterinary profession.⁵⁰

[Board of Professional Geologists](#)

The Board of Professional Geologists is responsible for licensing and regulating the practice of professional geology. The board meets approximately four times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.

The board is comprised of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and one ex officio member. Five members must be professional geologists and two must be laypersons who have no connection to the geology profession. The chief of the Bureau of Geology in the Department of Environmental Protection (or his or her designee) must serve as an ex officio member of the board.⁵¹

Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board

The Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board is responsible for licensing and regulating building code administrators, building code inspectors, and building code plans examiners. The board meets approximately six times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁵²

The board is comprised of nine members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The board must consist of one member who is either a licensed architect, engineer, or contractor, two members serving as building code administrators, two members serving as building code inspectors, one member serving as a plans examiner, one member who is a representative of a city or county, and two consumer members who are not, and

⁴⁷ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Harbor Pilots*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/harbor-pilots/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁴⁸ S. [310.011, F.S.](#)

⁴⁹ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Veterinary Medicine*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/veterinary-medicine/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁵⁰ S. [474.204, F.S.](#)

⁵¹ S. [492.103, F.S.](#)

⁵² Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Building Code Administrators & Inspectors*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/building-code-administrators-and-inspectors/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

have never been, members of such related professions. One of the consumer members must be a person with a disability or a representative of an organization which represents persons with disabilities.⁵³

[Board of Employee Leasing Companies](#)

The Board of Employee Leasing Companies is responsible for licensing and regulating employee leasing companies.⁵⁴ The board meets approximately six times a year to consider applications for licensure, review disciplinary cases, and conduct informal hearings relating to licensure and discipline. The board engages in rulemaking to implement the provisions set forth in its statutes and conducts other general business, as necessary.⁵⁵

The board is comprised of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Five members must be engaged in the employee leasing industry and be Florida-licensed, where one of the licensed members is part of an employee leasing company that has an annual gross Florida payroll for its leased employees which is among the smallest 20 percent of licensed employee leasing companies in the state at the time of the member's appointment and each reappointment. The remaining two board members must be Florida residents who must not be, or ever have been, connected with the business of employee leasing.⁵⁶

[Florida Board of Professional Engineers](#)

The practice of engineering is regulated by the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) under the DBPR. FBPE is responsible for reviewing applications, administering exams, licensing qualified applicants, and regulating and enforcing the proper practice of engineering in the state. The administrative, investigative, and prosecutorial services for FBPE are administered by the Florida Engineers Management Corporation (FEMC). FEMC is a non-profit, single purpose corporation that operates through a contract with DBPR.⁵⁷

Under current law, FBPE is required to certify as qualified for a license by endorsement an applicant who:

- Qualifies to take the fundamentals examination and the principles and practice examination under state law;
- Has passed a United States national, regional, state, or territorial licensing examination that is substantially equivalent to the fundamentals examination and principles and practice examination under state law and has satisfied certain experience requirements; or
- Holds a valid license to practice engineering issued by another state or territory of the United States, if the criteria for issuance of the license were substantially the same as the licensure criteria that existed in Florida at the time the license was issued.

FBPE must deem that an applicant who seeks licensure by endorsement has passed an examination substantially equivalent to the fundamentals examination when such applicant has held a valid professional engineer's license in another state for 10 years. FBPE must deem that an applicant who seeks licensure by endorsement has passed an examination substantially equivalent to the fundamentals examination and the principles and practices examination when such applicant has held a valid professional engineer's license in another state for 15 years.⁵⁸

FBPE meets six times a year and consists of 11 members who are appointed by the Governor for terms of four years each. Nine members must be licensed engineers and two must be laypersons who are not and have never been engineers or members of any closely related profession or occupation. A member of the board who is a licensed engineer must be selected and appointed based on his or her qualifications to provide expertise and

⁵³ S. [468.605, F.S.](#)

⁵⁴ "Employee leasing" is an arrangement where a leasing company assigns its employees to a client and allocates the direction of and control over the leased employees between the leasing company and the client. S. [468.520\(4\), F.S.](#)

⁵⁵ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Employee Leasing Companies*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/employee-leasing-companies/> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁵⁶ S. [468.521, F.S.](#)

⁵⁷ Ss. [20.165\(4\)\(a\)](#), and [471.038\(3\), F.S.](#)

⁵⁸ S. [471.015, F.S.](#)

experience to the board at all times in civil engineering, structural engineering, electrical or electronic engineering, mechanical engineering, or engineering education.⁵⁹

The board is made up of 11 members appointed by the Governor. Nine members must be licensed engineers and two members must be laypersons. Members are appointed to four-year terms. The board generally meets every month.⁶⁰

[Licensure by Endorsement for Engineers and Architects](#)

Current law allows persons licensed as engineers or architects in other states or U.S. territories to receive a licensure by endorsement if the person meets one of the following:⁶¹

- Holds a valid license to practice engineering or architecture issued by another state or territory of the United States.
 - The criteria for issuance of the license in the other state or territory must be substantially the same as the licensure criteria that existed in Florida at the time the license was issued.
- Qualifies for and passes the licensure exam to be an engineer or architect and meets the experience requirement to be an engineer or architect.
- Holds a valid certificate issued by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, and holds a valid license to practice architecture issued by another state or jurisdiction of the United State (This option only applies to licensure as an architect).

Current law does not provide an option for licensure by endorsement for persons licensed as an engineer or architect in a foreign jurisdiction.

[Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers](#)

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) licenses and regulates professional surveyors and mappers in Florida through the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers.

The Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers encourages the entry of qualified individuals into the profession by approving individuals and businesses applying for licensure as professional surveyors and mappers. In addition, the board protects the public by disciplining licensees who violate professional practice standards.⁶²

The board must meet at least once a year and consists of nine members who are appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and confirmed by the Senate. Seven members must be registered surveyors and mappers who are primarily engaged in the practice of surveying and mapping and two must be laypersons who are not and have never been surveyors and mappers or members of any closely related profession or occupation. Members serve four-year staggered terms.⁶³

⁵⁹ S. [471.007, F.S.](#)

⁶⁰ S. [471.007, F.S.](#); Florida Board of Professional Engineers, *Agenda, Minutes, & Meetings*, <https://fbpe.org/meetings-info/agendas-minutes-meetings/agenda-and-minutes-2024/#october> (last visited April 7, 2025).

⁶¹ Ss. [471.015\(3\)](#) and [481.213\(3\), F.S.](#)

⁶² Professional surveyors and mappers make exact measurements and determine property boundaries. They provide data relevant to the shape, contour, gravitation, location, elevation, or dimension of land or land features on or near the earth's surface for engineering, mapmaking, mining, land evaluation, construction and other purposes. Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *Professional Surveyors and Mappers*, <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Surveyors-and-Mappers> (last visited April 8, 2025).

⁶³ S. [472.007, F.S.](#)

[Division of Hotels and Restaurants](#)

The Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the DBPR licenses, inspects and regulates public lodging and food service establishments in Florida. The division also licenses and regulates elevators, escalators and other vertical conveyance devices.⁶⁴

The division is authorized to revoke or suspend licenses, or issue fines, for public lodging or public food service establishments found to be operating in violation of ch. 509, F.S.⁶⁵

[Fingerprint Military Spouse Licensure](#)

Under certain circumstances, DBPR is required to issue professional licenses to applicants who are a spouse or surviving spouse of active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces. To be eligible for such licensure, the spouse must provide the following to the department:⁶⁶

- Proof that the applicant is or was married to a member of the U.S. Armed Forces serving on active duty.
- Proof that the applicant holds a valid license for the profession issued by another state, the District of Columbia, any possession or territory of the United States, or any foreign jurisdiction.
- Proof that the applicant, where required by the specific practice act, has complied with insurance or bonding requirements.
- A complete set of the applicant's fingerprints to the Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for a statewide criminal history check.

FDLE must forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history check. DBPR must, and the board may, review the results of the criminal history checks, and determine whether the applicant meets the licensure requirements.⁶⁷

The costs of fingerprint processing are borne by the applicant. If the applicant's fingerprints are submitted through an authorized agency or vendor, the agency or vendor shall collect the required processing fees and remit the fees to the Department of Law Enforcement.⁶⁸

[Elevator Regulation](#)

The Elevator Safety Act, located in ch. 399, F.S., establishes the minimum standards for elevator personnel in order "to provide for the safety of life and limb and to promote public safety awareness".⁶⁹

The Elevator Safety Act requires buildings more than three stories high, or buildings in which the vertical distance between the bottom terminal landing and the top terminal landing exceeds 25 feet, to contain at least one passenger elevator that will accommodate an ambulance stretcher 76 inches long and 24 inches wide in the horizontal position.⁷⁰

[Building Permits](#)

Chapter 553, part IV, F.S., is known as the "Florida Building Codes Act" (Act). The purpose and intent of the Act is to provide a mechanism for the uniform adoption, updating, interpretation, and enforcement of a single, unified state

⁶⁴ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Division of Hotels and Restaurants*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants/> (last visited April 8, 2025).

⁶⁵ S. [509.261, F.S.](#)

⁶⁶ S. [455.02\(3\), F.S.](#)

⁶⁷ *Id.*

⁶⁸ *Id.*

⁶⁹ S. [399.001, F.S.](#)

⁷⁰ S. [399.035\(2\), F.S.](#)

building code. The Florida Building Code must be applied, administered, and enforced uniformly and consistently throughout the state.⁷¹

It is the intent of the Legislature that local governments have the power to inspect all buildings, structures, and facilities within their jurisdiction in protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare.⁷² Every local government must enforce the Florida Building Code and issue building permits.⁷³

A building permit is an official document or certificate issued by the local building official that authorizes performance of a specific activity.⁷⁴ It is unlawful for a person, firm, or corporation to construct, erect, alter, repair, secure, or demolish any building without first obtaining a building permit from the local enforcement agency or from such persons as may, by resolution or regulation, be directed to issue such permit.⁷⁵

Local governments may not require an owner of a residence to obtain a permit to paint such residence.⁷⁶

Current law requires local governments to post their building permit applications, including a list of all required attachments, drawings, and documents for each application, on its website. However, other than fire alarm building permit applications, local governments are not required to have uniform building permit applications, and they are free to create their own applications with their own requirements.⁷⁷

Any construction work that requires a building permit also requires plans and inspections to ensure the work complies with the Florida Building Code. The Florida Building Code requires certain building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and gas inspections. Construction work may not be done beyond a certain point until it passes an inspection. Generally speaking, a permit for construction work that passes the required inspections is considered completed or closed.⁷⁸

Consumptive Water Use Permitting

A person must apply for and obtain a consumptive use permit (CUP) from the applicable water management district (WMD) before using surface or groundwater of the state, unless the person is solely using the water for domestic use.⁷⁹ To obtain a CUP, an applicant must satisfy three requirements, commonly referred to as the "the three-prong test." To satisfy the test, an applicant must establish that the proposed use of water:

- Is for a "reasonable-beneficial use," meaning the use of water in such quantity as is necessary for economic and efficient utilization for a purpose and in a manner, which is both reasonable and consistent with the public interest;⁸⁰
- Will not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water; and
- Is consistent with the public interest.⁸¹

[Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#)

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) supports and promotes Florida agriculture, protects the environment, safeguards consumers, and ensures the safety and wholesomeness of food.⁸² The Division of Licensing (Division) within DACS administers Florida's concealed weapon licensing program⁸³ and oversees

⁷¹ [553.72\(1\), F.S.](#)

⁷² [S. 553.72, F.S.](#)

⁷³ [Ss. 125.01\(1\)\(bb\), 125.56\(1\), and 553.80\(1\), F.S.](#)

⁷⁴ [S. 468.603, F.S.](#); [S. 202 of the Eighth edition of the Florida Building Code \(Building\)](#).

⁷⁵ [Ss. 125.56\(4\)\(a\) and 553.79\(1\), F.S.](#)

⁷⁶ [Ss. 125.571, and 166.0483, F.S.](#)

⁷⁷ [Ss. 553.79\(1\), and 553.7921, F.S.](#)

⁷⁸ [Section 110 of Eighth Edition of the Florida Building Code \(Building\)](#).

⁷⁹ [S. 373.219, F.S.](#)

⁸⁰ [S. 373.019\(16\), F.S.](#)

⁸¹ [S. 373.223, F.S.](#)

⁸² Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *About*, <https://www.fdacs.gov/About-Us> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁸³ [S. 790.06, F.S.](#)

Florida's private investigative, private security, and recovery services industries.⁸⁴ The Division's regulatory oversight of those services includes licensing, enforcing compliance standards, and ensuring public protection from unethical business practices and unlicensed activity.⁸⁵

[Private Investigative, Private Security, and Recovery Services Industries](#)

Private Investigative, Security Services, and Recovery Services

Currently, the Division offers 22 different types of private investigative, private security, and recovery services licenses and four different types of concealed weapon or firearm licenses. As of March 31, 2025, the Division had issued a total of 213,977 private investigative, private security, and recovery services licenses. The following chart provides a breakdown of the total number of each license type.⁸⁶

License Type	License Title	Total
C	Private Investigators	6,884
CC	Private Investigator Interns	1,380
A	Private Investigative Agencies	2,555
AA	Private Investigative Agency Branch Offices	18
MA	Private Investigative Agency Managers	82
M	Private Investigative/Security Agency Managers	438
D	Security Officers	167,488
B	Security Agencies	2,108
BB	Security Agency Branch Offices	178
MB	Security Managers	1,549
AB	Security Agency/Private Investigative Agency Branch Offices	10
DS	Security Officer Schools	483
DI	Security Officer Instructors	1,788
G	Statewide Firearm Licenses	26,790
K	Firearms Instructors	654
E	Recovery Agents	799
EE	Recovery Agent Interns	417
R	Recovery Agencies	293
RR	Recovery Agency Branch Offices	43
MR	Recovery Agency Managers	4
RS	Recovery Agent Schools	8
RI	Recovery Agent Instructors	8
Total of Private Investigative, Private Security, and Recovery Services Licenses		213,977

In order to receive a license for private investigative, private security, and recovery services industries from DACS, a person must meet the following in addition to any other specific requirements for each license:⁸⁷

- Be at least 18 years old;
- Be one of the following:
 - A United States citizen,

⁸⁴ Ch. 493, F.S.

⁸⁵ Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, Government Program Summaries, *Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Licensing*, <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Licensing> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁸⁶ The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *Division of Licensing Statistical Reports*, <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Licensing/Statistical-Reports> (last visited April 4, 2025).

⁸⁷ Ss. 493.6105 and 493.6106, F.S.

- A permanent legal resident, or
- A holder of a work visa from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service;
- Have no disqualifying criminal history;
- Be of good moral character;
- Have no history of:
 - Mental illness,
 - Alcohol abuse, or
 - Substance abuse;
- Submit an application with certain identifying information.

Private Investigators

A private investigator is any individual who, for consideration, advertises as providing or performs private investigations.⁸⁸ Any individual who performs the services of a private investigator must have a private investigator Class “C” license. In order to obtain a license a person must:⁸⁹

- have two years of lawfully gained, verifiable, full-time experience to qualify for the license. This experience can be acquired through a combination of:
 - Private investigative work or related fields of work that provided equivalent experience or training;
 - College coursework related to criminal justice, criminology or law enforcement administration, or successful completion of any law enforcement-related training which may count for one year; or
 - A Class “CC” licensed private investigator intern.
- pay a fee of \$75
- pass an examination.

A private investigator intern is a person interning under a private investigator. Any person who wants to intern with a private investigator must have private investigator intern Class “CC” license. In order to obtain a license a person must:⁹⁰

- Pay a fee of \$60
- Complete 40 hours of professional training pertaining to general investigative techniques.

Any person, firm, company, partnership or corporation that engages in business as a private investigative agency must have a Class “A” license for its main location. A Class “A” license is valid for only one location. In order to obtain a Class “A” license a person must pay a fee of \$450.⁹¹

A Class “A” license is valid for only one location. Any satellite or additional locations within a private investigative agency must obtain a Class “AA” license. In order to obtain a Class “AA” license a person must:⁹²

- Have a Class “A” license for the main location.
- Pay a fee of \$125.

Every location with a Class “A” license or branch location with a Class “AA” license must have a licensed manager. A manager may supervise up to three locations within a 150-mile radius. A private investigator with a Class “C” license may act as a manager; however, any person who wants to be a licensed manager must have a Class “MA” license. In order to obtain such license a person must:

- Have two years of experience in the private investigative work or related fields of work that provided equivalent experience or training;
- Pass an exam; and
- Pay a fee of \$75.

⁸⁸ S. [493.6101\(17\), F.S.](#)

⁸⁹ Ss. [493.6202](#), and [493.6203, F.S.](#)

⁹⁰ *Id.*

⁹¹ *Id.*

⁹² *Id.*

Security Officers

A security officer is any individual who, for consideration, advertises or performs the following:⁹³

- Providing bodyguard protection.
- Guarding property.
- Transporting prisoners.
- Providing armored car services.
- Assisting in prevention of theft.
- Assisting in prevention of the misappropriation or concealment of articles of value or assisting in the return of such articles.

In order to be a security officer, an individual must have security officer Class “D” license from DACS.⁹⁴

Any person, firm, company, partnership or corporation that engages in business as a security agency must have a security agency Class “B” license for its main location. A Class “B” license is valid for only one location. In order to obtain a Class “B” license a person must pay a fee of \$450.⁹⁵

A Class “B” license is valid for only one location. Any satellite or additional locations within a security must obtain a security agency branch office Class “BB” license. In order to obtain a Class “BB” license a person must:⁹⁶

- Have a Class “B” license for a different location.
- Pay a fee of \$125.

Every location with a Class “B” license or branch location with a Class “BB” license must have a licensed manager or a licensed security officer with at least two years of experience. Any person who wants to be a licensed manager must have a manager of a security agency Class “MB” license. In order to obtain such license a person must:⁹⁷

- Have two years of experience in security work or related fields of work that provided equivalent experience or training (College coursework, law enforcement-related training, or managerial experience may count towards one year of experience); and
- Pay a fee of \$75.

Dual Private Investigator and Security Agency licenses

If a person, firm, company, partnership or corporation holds both a private investigative agency Class “A” and security agency Class “B” license, each additional or branch office must have a Class “AB” license. In order to obtain a Class “AB” license a person must:⁹⁸

- Have a Class “A” and Class “B” license for the main location.
- Pay a fee of \$125.

A person who qualifies as manager for a private investigative agency and a security agency may obtain a manager Class “M” license, which allows the person to be a manager for both types of agencies. In order to obtain a Class “M” license a person must:⁹⁹

- Qualify for a private investigator manager Class “MA” license;
- Qualify for a security agency manager Class “MB” license;
- Pass an exam; and
- Pay a fee of \$75.

⁹³ S. [493.6101\(19\), F.S.](#)

⁹⁴ S. [493.6301, F.S.](#)

⁹⁵ Ss. [493.6301](#), and [493.6302, F.S.](#)

⁹⁶ *Id.*

⁹⁷ *Id.*

⁹⁸ Ss. [493.6201](#), and [493.6202, F.S.](#)

⁹⁹ Ss. [493.6203](#), and [493.6303, F.S.](#)

Repossession Services

Repossession means the recovery of a motor vehicle, a mobile home, a motorboat, an aircraft, a personal watercraft, an all-terrain vehicle, farm equipment, or industrial equipment, by an individual who is authorized by the legal owner, lienholder, or lessor to recover that which has been sold or leased under a security agreement that contains a repossession clause.¹⁰⁰

Any individual who performs repossession services must be licensed as a recovery agent and have a recovery agent Class “E” license issued by DACs. In order to obtain a license a person must:¹⁰¹

- Have one year of lawfully gained, verifiable, full-time experience to qualify for the license. This experience can be acquired through a combination of:
 - Repossession work; or
 - Completing a repossession internship
- Complete 40 hours of professional training
- Pay a fee of \$75.

A recovery agent intern is a person interning under a licensed recovery agent. Any person who wants to enter the internship must have Class “EE” license issued by DACS. In order to obtain a license a person must:¹⁰²

- Pay a fee of \$60
- Complete 40 hours of professional training pertaining to general investigative techniques.

Any person, firm, company, partnership or corporation that engages in business as a recovery must have a recovery agency main office Class “R” license for their main office. A Class “R” license is valid for only one location. In order to obtain a Class “R” license a person must:¹⁰³

- Pay a fee of \$450.

Any satellite or additional locations within a recovery agency must obtain a recovery agent intern Class “RR” license. In order to obtain a Class “RR” license a person must:¹⁰⁴

- Have a Class “R” license for the main location.
- Pay a fee of \$125.

Every location with a Class “R” license or branch location with a Class “RR” license must have a licensed manager. However, a licensed recovery agent may also act as a manager. A licensed manager must have a manager of a recovery agency Class “MR” license. In order to obtain such license a person must:¹⁰⁵

- Have one year of experience as a licensed recovery agent; and
- Pay a fee of \$75.

[Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council](#)

The Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council advises and assists DACS in carrying out and reviewing the rules relating to the Florida Motor Vehicle Repair Act. The council also advises DACS on matters relating to educational grants, advancements in industry standards and practices, and other issues that require technical expertise and consultation or that promise better consumer protection in the motor vehicle repair industry.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁰ S. [493.6101\(22\), F.S.](#)

¹⁰¹ Ss. [493.6402](#), and [493.6403, F.S.](#)

¹⁰² *Id.*

¹⁰³ *Id.*

¹⁰⁴ *Id.*

¹⁰⁵ *Id.*

¹⁰⁶ S. [559.9221, F.S.](#)

The council is made up of nine members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. One person must be a motor vehicle mechanic, two persons must be laymen, and six members from the motor vehicle repair business including one from each of the below categories:¹⁰⁷

- Independent automotive mechanics shop.
- Franchise or company-owned automotive mechanics shop.
- Automotive collision shop.
- Tire dealer.
- Independent motor vehicle dealer.
- Franchise motor vehicle dealer.

[Pest Control Enforcement Advisory Council](#)

The Pest Control Enforcement Advisory Council advises the Commissioner of Agriculture regarding the regulation of pest control practices. The council also advises government agencies with respect to those activities related to their responsibilities regarding pest control. The council shall serve as the statewide forum for the coordination of pest control related activities to eliminate duplication of effort and maximize protection of the public.¹⁰⁸

The council shall consist of 11 members appointed to 4-year terms by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The 11 members must include the following:¹⁰⁹

- A representative of DACS.
- A citizen not involved in the conduct of pest control;
- A state university urban entomologist.
- Two pest control operators actively involved in termite control.
- Two pest control operators actively involved in general household pest control.
- Two pest control operators actively involved in structural fumigation.
- Two pest control operators actively involved in lawn and landscape pest control.

[Babcock Ranch Advisory Group](#)

The Babcock Ranch Advisory Group assists DACS by providing guidance and advice concerning the management and stewardship of the Babcock Ranch Preserve.¹¹⁰

The Advisory Group is composed of nine members appointed to 5-year terms. Members are appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture based on recommendations from the Governor and Cabinet, and the governing boards of Charlotte County and Lee County. The nine members must include:¹¹¹

- One member with experience in sustainable management of forest lands for commodity purposes.
- One member with experience in financial management, budget and program analysis, and small business operations.
- One member with experience in management of game and nongame wildlife and fish populations, including hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.
- One member with experience in domesticated livestock management, production, and marketing, including range management and livestock business management.
- One member with experience in agriculture operations or forestry management.
- One member with experience in hunting, fishing, nongame species management, or wildlife habitat management, restoration, and conservation.

¹⁰⁷ *Id.*

¹⁰⁸ S. [482.243, F.S.](#)

¹⁰⁹ *Id.*

¹¹⁰ S. [259.1053\(4\), F.S.](#); The “Babcock Ranch Preserve constitutes a unique land mass that has significant scientific, cultural, historical, recreational, ecological, wildlife, fisheries, and productive values. The property is part of a potential greenway of undeveloped land extending from Lake Okeechobee to the east and Charlotte Harbor to the west. The natural beauty and abundant resources of the ranch provide numerous public recreational opportunities such as hiking, fishing, camping, horseback riding, and hunting. Ss. [259.1052](#), and [259.1053, F.S.](#)

¹¹¹ S. [259.1053\(4\), F.S.](#)

- One member with experience in public outreach and education.
- One member who is a resident of Lee County, to be designated by the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County.
- One member who is a resident of Charlotte County, to be designated by the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County.

Agriculture Economic Development Project Review Committee

In 1991, the Legislature created the Agriculture Economic Development Program within DACS to promote and coordinate efficient and beneficial agricultural economic development within agriculturally depressed areas of the state.¹¹²

The program is administered by the Division of Marketing and Development within DACS. At that time, an Agriculture Economic Development Project Review Committee was created within DACS to facilitate the project selection process and to make recommendations to the Commissioner regarding project prioritization and selection.¹¹³

[The Agricultural Economic Development Project Review Committee](#) includes five members appointed by the commissioner and should include: The commissioner; One representative from the Farm Credit Service; One representative from the Department of Commerce; One representative from the Florida Farm Bureau Federation; One agricultural economist from the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences or from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The committee reviews each application for assistance that meets the basic program criteria and makes recommendations to the commissioner regarding all aspects of each eligible application, including the acceptance or rejection of each application. It also prioritizes the applications recommended for assistance and forwards all written comments and recommendations to the commissioner, which shall be included in the annual report of the department. If the commissioner does not accept the recommendations or priorities of the review committee, the annual report of the department shall include justification for any or all rejections.¹¹⁴

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee	11 Y, 4 N, As CS	4/9/2025	Anstead	Brackett
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised the prescription drug permit application timeframe in current law for a change in ownership, to be made within 30 days after the date of the sale, transfer, assignment, or lease. • Removed the continuing legal education requirement for professional mangrove trimmers, which was established by the Board of Landscape Architecture. 			
State Administration Budget Subcommittee Commerce Committee	12 Y, 3 N		Topp	Mullins

THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

¹¹² Ch. 91-268, Laws of Florida

¹¹³ S. [570.248, F.S.](#)

¹¹⁴ *Id.*

