

Chapter 18

**BUSINESSES\***

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\***Cross references**—Alcoholic beverages, ch. 6; construction industry board of licensing, adjustments and appeals, § 14-31 et seq.; community development, ch. 21; planning, ch. 40; solid waste, ch. 44; taxation, ch. 48; traffic and vehicles, ch. 52; land development regulations, appendix A.



**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Secs. 18-1—18-25. Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II. LICENSING****DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

**Secs. 18-26—18-35. Reserved.**

**DIVISION 2. CONTRACTORS\*****Sec 18-36. Regulated.**

Any person desiring to engage in the business of building, gas, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, roofing, sign, or swimming pool contracting or manufactured or mobile home installation within the unincorporated portions of the county shall first make application for and obtain the proper permits from the county building official.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.1; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.1)

**Sec. 18-37. State-licensed contractors.**

Any contractor required to be licensed by the state construction industry licensing board need only to show proof of current licensing by said board, complete the prescribed application for registration in the county and pay the appropriate fee as prescribed registration in section 14-5 of this Code.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.2; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.2)

**Sec. 18-38. Non state-licensed contractors.**

Any contractor not required to be licensed by the state construction industry licensing board shall be licensed by the county after completing the prescribed application, demonstrating proof of competency by one of the methods in section 18-39, and paying the appropriate fee as prescribed in section 14-5 of this Code.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.3; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.3)

**Sec. 18-39. Proof of competency.**

(a) Anyone requesting licensing prior to July 1, 1991, shall provide proof by affidavit, from persons whom they have done construction work within the past five years, of the type for which application is being made, that said work was done in a satisfactory manner. Three such affidavits relating to different projects shall be required or proof of a current license from a governmental body which licenses through competency testing procedures.

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\***Cross reference**—Buildings and building regulations, ch. 14.

(b) Anyone requesting licensing prior to July 1, 1991, who is currently licensed by a governmental body which licenses by means of competency testing procedures shall only be required to file with the building official a certificate from the authorities of the governmental body wherein they are licensed, stating that they passed the required test and are licensed to engage in the type of work for which they are applying.

(c) Anyone requesting licensing after June 30, 1991, shall be required to pass the appropriate competency examination as prescribed by the county construction industry board of licensing, adjustments and appeals, in addition to two affidavits as required in section 18-39(a).

(d) Anyone requesting licensing after June 30, 1991, who is licensed by any other governmental body wherein the standards for licensing contractors are comparable to the standards of the county shall only be required to file with the building official a certificate from the authorities of the governmental body wherein they are licensed, stating that they passed the required test and are licensed to engage in the type of work for which they are applying. (Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.4; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.4)

**State law reference**—Registration of nonresident contractors, O.C.G.A. § 48-13-31.

#### **Sec. 18-40. Exemptions.**

The provisions of the article requiring applicants for building permits to be properly licensed or registered by the county shall not apply to the following persons:

- (1) *Persons working on their own premises.* Any individual doing construction work on premises owned by himself shall be issued a permit by the county building official upon making affidavit that they are doing the work on premises owned by them and upon meeting the requirements of section 103.1.4 of the Standard Building Code, except this section does not apply to work being done to electrical, gas, mechanical, or plumbing except when the premises in question is one's own residence owned by him.
- (2) *Maintenance staff of a facility owned by the state or by a county or municipality or other political subdivision.* Maintenance staff of a facility owned by the state or by a county or municipality or other political subdivision installing, altering, or repairing plumbing, plumbing fixtures, air conditioning and heating fixtures, or electrical or low-voltage wiring services when such work is an integral part of the maintenance requirements of the facility; provided however, that all such work must be done in conformity with all other provisions of this Code.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.5; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.5)

#### **Sec. 18-41. Classification of licenses.**

All licenses shall be in the following classifications.

- (1) *Residential contractor:* Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain building permits and construct, alter, add to, or repair single family detached dwellings and duplex dwellings and accessory structures thereto only.

- (2) *Commercial contractor*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain building permits and construct, alter, add to, or repair any type of building or structure.
- (3) *Electrical contractor class I*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain electrical permits and do electrical work involving single-phase electrical installations which do not exceed 200 amperes or as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (4) *Electrical contractor class II*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain electrical permits and to be unrestricted as to the type electrical work that can be done as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (5) *Master plumber class I*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain plumbing permits and do plumbing work involving single family dwellings and one-level dwellings designed for not more than two families and commercial structures not to exceed 10,000 square feet in area as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (6) *Master plumber class II*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain plumbing permits and to be unrestricted as to the type plumbing work that can be done as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (7) *Conditioned air contractor class I*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain mechanical permits and do mechanical work involving conditioned air systems or equipment not exceeding 175,000 BTU (net) of heating and five tons (60,000 BTU) of cooling or as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (8) *Conditioned air contractor class II*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain mechanical permits and to be unrestricted as to the type mechanical work that can be done as allowed per requirements of the state construction industry licensing board.
- (9) *LP gas contractor*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain gas permits and do gas work involving liquefied petroleum gas.
- (10) *Natural gas contractor*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain gas permits and do gas work involving natural gas.
- (11) *Gas contractor*: Shall be a contractor allowed to obtain gas permits and whose work is unrestricted with regard to gas.
- (12) *Mobile home installers*: Shall be a contractor allowed to install mobile homes as defined by O.C.G.A. § 8-2-160.
- (13) *Specialty contractor*: Shall be a contractor whose work is not listed in the previous classifications and is specific to a particular type of work that requires a permit. Specialty Contractors shall only be allowed to obtain permits for work for which they hold a specialty license.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.6; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.6)

**Sec. 18-42. Prerequisites to starting work.**

- (a) *Restrictions on contractor*: No building permit shall be issued or work commenced by any contractor unless such contractor is qualified under this article.

(b) *Signing of permits.* The individual who obtains the required license must sign each permit obtained from the building department for which his license is required, except that he may authorize by letter of authorization an agent to sign the permit. The letter shall list the name of the contractor, the contractor's license number, the name of the person who is authorized to sign the permit and how long the authorization is valid.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.7; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.7)

**Sec. 18-43. Fees.**

No license or registration required by this article shall be issued or renewed until the appropriate fee has been paid to the county as reflected in section 14-5.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.8; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.8)

**Sec. 18-44. Renewal.**

Each license or registration required by this article shall expire on January 30, of each year and can be renewed at any time after January 1 of each year prior to receiving any permits.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.9; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.9)

**Sec. 18-45. Reserved.**

**Editor's note**—An ordinance adopted Dec. 5, 1994, repealed provisions formerly set out as § 18-45 of the Code, which pertained to expiration and derived from § 6.10 of an ordinance adopted Jan. 22, 1991.

**Sec. 18-46. Discipline.**

The board shall promulgate rules concerning discipline of contractors licensed under this article.

(Ord. of 1-22-91, § 6.11; Ord. of 12-5-94, § 6.10)