



PINELLAS COUNTY

CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD

Applicants with Out-of-State Experience

The PCCLB licenses contractors under the authority of chapter 75-489, Laws of Florida, as amended (aka “The Special Act”).

The Special Act requires the PCCLB to investigate the financial responsibility, credit, education, construction experience, personal and business reputation of each applicant. The application process requires “Verification of Construction Experience” affidavits signed by State of Florida certified or locally licensed contractors to prove the required years’ experience for the desired trade.

Applicants who cannot meet the experience requirements with work in the State of Florida have several options:

1. Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB) reciprocity – The PCCLB will recognize the same state licenses recognized by the CILB and published online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb/documents/Reciprocity-06.pdf> as fulfilling the Verification of Construction Experience requirements. An applicant based on CILB reciprocity and meeting all other criteria of the Board would be required to take both the trade examination and the business law exam. To qualify for CILB reciprocity, an applicant must submit verification of licensure from the qualifying state and prove that the license:
 - a. has not been revoked, suspended, or placed on probation in the previous five (5) years;
 - b. is not subject to any pending disciplinary action; and
 - c. was obtained by examination.
2. Examination reciprocity – The PCCLB will recognize out-of-state applicants tested for licensure by examination by the same testing agency taking the equivalent exam required for PCCLB applicants. The applicant’s minimum exam score must meet or exceed the PCCLB minimum exam score required for licensure. Proof of exam reciprocity must be provided with the application. An applicant based on examination reciprocity must meet all other criteria of the Board. If tested within the past five years, the applicant may be considered exempt from taking the PCCLB trade examination. An applicant qualifying by exam reciprocity is required to take the business law exam.

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3. Apply to the State – Applicants who do not meet the Verification of Construction Experience requirements and do not qualify for reciprocity as noted above are encouraged to make their application for licensure directly with the State of Florida. More information can be found online:
 - a. For construction industry applicants – <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/construction-industry/>
 - b. For electrical contractor applicants – <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/electrical-contractors/>
4. Local Employment – Applicants who do not meet the Verification of Construction Experience requirements and choose not to apply to the state can qualify by working for a registered/licensed contractor in their chosen trade to meet the experience qualifications. A list of locally licensed/registered contractors can be found using the PCCLB Contractor Search feature online: <https://publicsecure.pinellascounty.org/clbsearch/index.jsp>

A license issued by the PCCLB allows you to work in a specific trade in Pinellas County only. You may be eligible to apply for licensure by reciprocity to work in other counties in the state.

If you apply at the PCCLB in certain trades also licensed by the State of Florida, you will be required to register with the state and meet all state requirements before you will be eligible to work in Pinellas County. Be certain that you meet all state criteria before proceeding with your local application.

Alternatively, you may wish to bypass the local licensing process and apply directly to the state.

Fees paid to the PCCLB are non-refundable.