For Landscape Contracting Jobs, Who Needs a License, and for What?

For all of the types of work listed below, a license from the Horticulture Commission of Louisiana, Department of Agriculture and Forestry is required as follows:

1. Landscaping:
   Landscape Horticulturist License
   Examples: Plant Installation, Grass Sodding, Bush Pruning, Mulching, Fertilizing

2. Lawn Irrigation:
   Landscape Irrigation Contractor License

3. Tree Surgery, Trimming, Pruning, Cutting Down, Removal:
   Arborist License

4. Grass Seeding, Hydro-Seeding
   Seed Dealers Permit

In addition, for the types of work above, a license from the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors is required as follows:

For Homes: None

Any project of $50,000 or more requires the following classification of licensure:

For Buildings, Apartment Complexes, Houses used primarily for Commercial Purposes, Parks, Campuses – any one or more of the below:

   Building Construction
   Landscaping, Grading, and Beautification
   Recreation & Sporting Facilities & Golf Courses (can only do landscaping, irrigation, arborist work for these types of facilities).
   Seeding, Sodding, Load & Soil Stabilization, Erosion Control, Sheet Piling (for grass seeding and sodding work)

For Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction- any one or more of the below:

   Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction
   Landscaping, Grading, and Beautification
   Seeding, Sodding, Load & Soil Stabilization, Erosion Control, Sheet Piling (for grass seeding and sodding work)
For Heavy Construction (i.e., Industrial Plants, Oilfields, Railroads, Waterways) – any one or more of the below

- Heavy Construction
- Landscaping, Grading, and Beautification
- Industrial Plants (for landscaping, irrigation, arborist work inside an industrial plant)
- Oil Refineries (for landscaping, irrigation, arborist work inside an oil refinery)
- Coastal Restoration and Habitat Enhancement (for landscaping, irrigation, arborist work related to such projects)
- Seeding, Sodding, Load & Soil Stabilization, Erosion Control, Sheet Piling (for grass seeding and sodding work)

For Municipal and Public Works Construction (Water, Gas, Sewer, Stormwater Distribution Pipelines and Treatment Plants) – any one or more of the below

- Municipal and Public Works Construction
- Landscaping, Grading, and Beautification
- Electrical Transmission Lines (for landscaping, irrigation, arborist work related to such projects)

-------------------------------------------------------------

**Please note:** Contractors holding Earthwork, Drainage, and Levees, or Clearing, Grubbing, and Snagging may clear trees and brush on properties without further licensure.

**Agency Contact Information**

- Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Horticulture Commission
  5825 Florida Boulevard
  Baton Rouge, LA 70806
  225-952-8100
  Email: horticulture@ldaf.state.la.us
  Website: www.ldaf.state.la.us

- Louisiana Licensing Board for Contractors
  2525 Quail Drive
  Baton Rouge, LA 70808
  225-765-2301
  Email: info@lslbc.louisiana.gov
  Website: www.lslbc.louisiana.gov

See Flowchart below for additional information
Landscaping work

Is this landscaping job for a home?

Yes

Contractor must hold a State Landscape Horticulturist License or hire a contractor who has one

NO

Over $50,000?

Yes

Contractor must have state contractor license with scope that includes Landscaping, Grading and Beautification and must:

(1) hold a Landscape Horticulturist License or
(2) Hire a Contractor who holds both licenses.

NO

Contractor must hold a State Landscape Horticulturist License or hire a contractor who has one