

BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

9960 Mayland Drive
Board Room 2, 2nd Floor 8:00A.M.
Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Our mission is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by licensing qualified individuals and businesses and enforcing standards of professional conduct for professions and occupations as designated by statute.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Emergency Evacuation Procedures
- b. Determination of Quorum

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. Approval of Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes:
 - i. August 25, 2026, Board for Contractors Committee Meeting draft minutes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ***FIVE MINUTE PUBLIC COMMENT, PER PERSON***

IV. EDUCATION

- a. Education Provider Survey Responses

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Regulatory Update
- b. Petition for Rulemaking under § 2.2-4007(A) of the Code of Virginia – Amendment of 18VAC50-22-60, 18VAC50-22-50, and 18VAC50-22-40 (**Peyton J. Starr**)
- c. Reconsideration of Board for Contractors Renewal Notifications Amendment
- d. Water Well Abandonment Discussion
- e. Question regarding Tradesman License (**Rodney Cole**)
- f. North Carolina Contractor Reciprocity and Building Examination Requirements (**Paul Stiles**)
- g. Assistant Executive Director Report
- h. Financial Statement
- i. Recovery Fund Statement

VI. COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM AND TRAVEL VOUCHER.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2026**

- ❖ Agenda materials made available to the public do not include disciplinary case files or application files pursuant to §54.1-108 of the Code of Virginia.
- ❖ Five minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application file.
- ❖ Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-2785 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation.
- ❖ The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

DRAFT AGENDA Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion and are not to be construed as regulation or official Board position. DRAFT AGENDA

PERIMETER CENTER CONFERENCE CENTER
EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF BOARD AND TRAINING ROOMS
(Script to be read at the beginning of each meeting.)

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT EXITING THE PREMISES IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

In the event of a fire or other emergency requiring the evacuation of the building, alarms will sound. When the alarms sound, leave the room immediately. Follow any instructions given by Security staff.

Board Room 1

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. **(Point)** Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

Board Room 2

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. **(Point)** Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

You may also exit the room using the side door **(Point)**, turn **Right** out the door and make an immediate **Left**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

Board Rooms 3 and 4

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. **(Point)** Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

Training Room 1

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. **(Point)** Upon exiting the room, turn **LEFT**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

Training Room 2

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. **(Point)** Upon exiting the doors, turn **LEFT**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board for Contractors Committee met on **Tuesday, August 25, 2026**, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

Committee members present for the meeting:

Nathan Trice, Chair
Doug Lowe, Vice-Chair
Ralph Costen
Donald Groh
Francis “Butch” McGonegal
James Spencer

Committee members absent from the meeting:

Taylor Brannan
Jerry Heinline

Staff members present for all or part of the meeting:

Laura McClintock, Agency Director
Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD
Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director
Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director
Khang Le, Administrative Coordinator
Darnell Edwards, II, Regulatory and Compliance Analyst

I. Chair, Trice called the August 25, 2026, Board for Contractors Committee Meeting to order at 8:04 A.M.

**Call
To Order**

Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, reviewed the emergency egress procedures with the Committee and members of the public.

**Emergency
Egress**

Chair, Trice declared a quorum of Committee members to be in attendance.

**Determination of
Quorum**

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

**Administrative
Matters**

Mr. Spencer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Groh, to adopt the agenda of the August 25, 2026, Board for Contractors Committee meeting.

**Approval of
Agenda**

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mr. Spencer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the draft minutes of the June 23, 2026, Board for Contractors Committee meeting as presented.

**Approval of
Minutes**

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**Public Comment
Period**

Chair, Trice opened the public comment period of the meeting.

Richard Peterson brought attention to the limited availability of training for chairlift operations. Mr. Peterson stated that while some private education providers offer training, there appears to be a shortage of training opportunities available to individuals seeking to obtain an Accessibility Services Contractor license specifically to perform chairlift work.

With no one else wishing to come forward, **Chair, Trice** closed the public comment period of the meeting.

IV. EDUCATION

Education

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, supported Mr. Peterson's concerns and informed the Board that staff has received several inquiries regarding the limited availability of education providers for specialty industries that require professional education.

Mrs. Keuther requested the Committee's authorization for staff to contact education providers approved for the applicable specialties to determine whether their vocational education and continuing education courses are available to the general public or restricted to members of private organizations or associations. Staff would compile the information and report its findings to the Board for further consideration.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Spencer, to authorize staff to contact education providers and assess the availability of training opportunities for elevator mechanics and chairlift operations.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mrs. Keuther also informed the Board that staff is seeking clarification regarding the code editions that may be accepted for continuing education courses. Virginia's currently adopted code cycle utilizes the 2020 National Electrical Code for electrical and the applicable 2021 codes for the other trades. Staff has received inquiries from education providers seeking to offer continuing education courses based on newer code editions, including the 2023 code, as these newer editions and updates are already being taught and utilized within the industry.

Mrs. Keuther requested clarification regarding whether continuing education courses must be limited to Virginia's currently adopted code editions or whether courses covering newer code editions may also be accepted.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, to recommend the Board allow education providers to submit continuing education courses that reference newer code editions, provided the course continues to include and address Virginia's currently adopted code edition. Newer code editions may be referenced for purposes of identifying and explaining changes from the currently adopted code.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Education Provider Applications

Education Provider Applications

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, shared that staff recommends approval for:

Virginia Highlands Community College (VHCC) – One (1) classroom contractor 6-hour pre-license course.

**Virginia
Highlands
Community
College (VHCC)**

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, for approval.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mrs. Keuther shared that staff recommends approval for:

Savaria – Three (3) virtual continuing education courses for Certified Elevator Mechanics and Certified Accessibility Mechanics.

Savaria

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, for approval.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mrs. Keuther shared that staff recommends approval for:

Backflow Education and Resources LLC – One (1) classroom vocational education course for Certified Backflow Prevention Device Workers.

**Backflow
Education and
Resources LLC**

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, for approval.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mrs. Keuther shared that staff recommends approval for:

Aviation Institute of Maintenance – Eight (8) classroom vocational education courses for Electrical Tradesmen.

**Aviation
Institute of
Maintenance**

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, for approval.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Mrs. Keuther shared that staff recommends approval for:

GC Prep – One (1) classroom contractor 6-hour pre-license course.

GC Prep

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Groh, for approval.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

V. NEW BUSINESS

New Business

Examination Update

Examination Update

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, provided a progress report on the Board's examination reviews.

Mrs. Keuther further noted that Board staff is seeking subject matter experts to assist with the review of certain examinations.

Mrs. Keuther also presented examination statistics comparing in-person computer-based testing (CBT) with remotely proctored testing (RPT).

Underground Utility Damage Prevention Advisory Committee

Underground Utility Damage Prevention Advisory Committee

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, shared that Board staff are seeking a Board member to replace Board Member Caitlin King on the Underground Utility Damage Prevention Advisory Committee.

No further action was taken.

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors Seat

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors Seat

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, shared that Board staff are seeking a Board member to replace Board Member Ralph Costen on the Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors.

No further action was taken.

Regulatory Update

Regulatory Update

Darnell Edwards, II, Regulatory and Compliance Analyst, provided an update on the Board's pending regulatory actions.

Mr. Edwards reviewed the status and next steps for the Renewal Notifications Amendment – Fast-Track, the regulatory action concerning the Board's Regulatory and Disciplinary Powers, and the HB 1439/SB 823 Amendment addressing Solar Energy Systems Contracts.

Mr. Edwards also provided updates regarding the current stages, anticipated timelines, filing requirements, and effective dates associated with these regulatory actions.

Water Well Abandonment Discussion

Water Well Abandonment Discussion

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, shared that the Water Well Abandonment Committee met on Thursday, August 20, 2026.

Mrs. Keuther further stated that the Committee recommends that staff conduct an assessment of the impact that the repeal of Guidance Document #7260 would have on contractors currently performing work under the guidance and present findings to the Board for consideration prior to any action to repeal the guidance.

No further action was taken.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Report

Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, informed the Board of current and past statistical data related to Board license applications, processing times, calls received, and emails received.

Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD, reported that initial contractor applications requiring bonds are experiencing additional delays because the bonds require riders covering the two-year term and noted that these applications may remain unreviewed for several months, through no fault of the applicants, and that the delays are attributable to the Board's existing backlog.

Mr. Kirschner shared that staff recommends the Board waive the requirement for a rider to be obtained for the originally submitted bond.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Lowe, to recommend the Board waive the requirement for a rider to be obtained for the originally submitted bond.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Trice, Lowe, Costen, Groh, McGonegal, and Spencer. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brannan, Heinline.

Committee member Doug Lowe exited the meeting.

Committee
Member
Attendance

Financial Statement

Financial
Statement

Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD, presented the Board with the financial statement.

Recovery Fund Statement

Recovery Fund
Statement

Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD, presented recovery fund statements for the months ended May 31, 2026, and June 30, 2026.

VII. COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM AND TRAVEL VOUCHER

Complete
Conflict of
Interest Form
and Travel
Voucher

Chair, Groh reminded the Committee members to complete their Conflict-of-Interest Statements and Travel Reimbursement Forms.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Chair, Trice thanked the Committee and adjourned the meeting at 9:39 A.M.

The next Committee meeting will be **October 20, 2026**.

Nathan Trice, Chair

Date

Trade	Provider Name	Currently Offering Course	How Courses Are Offered	Website/Registration Link	Course Type	Method of Instruction	Location
Accessibility Mechanic	National Elevator Industry Education Program (NEIEP)- 2730000058	Yes	Members Only	www.neiep.org	CE	Classroom	VA/DC
Accessibility Mechanic	National Association Of Elevator Contractors -2730000061	Yes	General Public	Naec.org	CE	Classroom	NY
Accessibility Mechanic	VTEC-2730000493	Yes	General Public	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	LA,FL,TX, MO
Accessibility Mechanic	Inclinor Company Of America- 2730000340	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	N/A	VOC	Classroom	PA
Accessibility Mechanic	Bella Elevator LLC- 2730000437	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom/Online	
Accessibility Mechanic	Savaria- 2730000503	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	app.smartsheet.com/b/form/01992a8c05357442a5a1fe71ac33f4f0	CE	Online	
Elevator Mechanic	Qualified Elevator Industry Training Fund (QEITF)- 2730000435	Yes	General Public	qeitf.org/current-inspector/#classes	CE	Classroom	VA+multiple other states
Elevator Mechanic	National Association of Elevator Contractos- 2730000061	Yes	General Public	Naec.org	CE	Classroom	NY
Elevator Mechanic	Elevator World INC- 273000324	Yes	General Public	elevatorbooks.com/product-category/continuing-education/	CE	Online	
Elevator Mechanic	NAESA International -2730000325	Yes	General Public	naesai.org	VOC/CE	Classroom/Online	
Elevator Mechanic	ALPHA Elevator Control- 2730000486	Yes	General Public	alphaelevatortraining.com/alpha-elevator/training	CE	Classroom	VA
Elevator Mechanic	VTEC-2730000493	Yes	General Public	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	LA,FL,TX, MO
Elevator Mechanic	Savaria- 2730000503	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	app.smartsheet.com/b/form/01992a8c05357442a5a1fe71ac33f4f0	CE	Online	
Elevator Mechanic	Elevator Safety & Technical Services- 2730000328	Yes	General Public	elevatorsafetytraining.com	CE	Classroom/Online	
Elevator Mechanic	Bella Elevator LLC- 2730000437	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom/Online	
Elevator Mechanic	National Elevator Industry Education Program (NEIEP)- 2730000058	Yes	Members Only	www.neiep.org	CE	Classroom	VA/DC
Waterwell	Virginia Water Well Association - 2730000090	Yes	General Public	vawaterwellassociation.org	VOC/CE	Classroom/Online	
Waterwell	All Star Training- 273000171	Yes	General Public	allstarCE.com	VOC/CE	Online	
Waterwell	Franklin Electric CO INC- 273000174	No					
Waterwell	American Ground Water Trust- 2730000252	No					
Waterwell	Maryland Delaware Waterwell Association - 2730000274	Yes	General Public	mdwwa.org	VOC/CE	Classroom	MD

Waterwell	Baroid Industrial Drilling Products- 2730000283	Yes	General Public	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	VA +multiple other states
Waterwell	National Ground water Association- 2730000333	Yes	General Public	groundwaterweek.com (Classroom) / pathlms.com/ngwa (on-demand)	CE	Classroom/Online	
Waterwell	Drillers Service Incorporated (DSI)- 2730000443	Yes	General Public	dsidsi.com	VOC/CE	Classroom	VA
Waterwell	Milby Company- 2730000356	Yes	General Public	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	MD
Waterwell	DSI	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	VA
Waterwell	Codeupdate4u.com	Yes	General Public	N/A	CE	Online	
Waterwell	Loudoun County Health Department- 2730000487	Yes	General Public	N/A	CE	Classroom	VA
Waterwell	South Atlanti Jubilee- 2730000163	Yes	General Public	jubileewatershow.com	VOC/CE	Classroom	SC
Waterwell	Subsurface Technologies- 02730000183	No					
Waterwell	Water Systems Council- 2730000355	No					
Waterwell	INTERNATIONAL GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP ASSOCIATION-2730000382	No					
Waterwell	EMSI INC- 2730000312	No					
Waterwell	Goulds Water Technologies 2730000400	Yes	Private or Employer-sponsored (Milby Co)	N/A	VOC/CE	Classroom	MD

Unable to Contact:

Eichelbergers Inc. 2730000272

Drilling Consultants International 2730000238

Elevator Learning Center 2730000484

No Response:

ALBERMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES - 2730000290

Elevator Learning Center- 2730000484

Yadkin Well Co Inc. 2730000315

First Sales LL (Sterling Water Treatment) 2730000427

West Virginia Water Well Association 2730000439

Water Right 2730000445

Worldwide Drilling Resource Inc 2730000450

North Carolina Ground Water Association 2730000482

International School of Well Drilling Inc 2730000461

John Tyler (Brightpoint) 2730000005

Handicare Inc 2730000344

DRAFT AGENDA Material contained herein is for discussion and are not to be construed as regulation or official Board position. DRAFT AGENDA

Board for Contractors

Update on Regulatory Actions 18VAC50-22 (Board for Contractors Regulations) (as of October 06, 2026)

Action: HB 1439/SB 823 Amendment (Solar Energy Systems Contracts)

Current Stage: Exempt – Final.

- Board adopted exempt final regulation at 6/23/26 meeting.
- Submitted to the Registrar on 9/14/26 and awaiting publication (10/05/2026).

Next Steps:

- Will be published on 10/5/2026 and have a 30-day final adoption period.
- Will become effective on 1/1/27.

Action: New Guidance Document: Guidance on Addressing Potential Unknown Cost Related to Installation of Solar Energy Systems

Current Stage: Guidance Document

- Board adopted guidance document at 6/23/26 meeting.
- Guidance Document was filed on 9/14/2026 – currently at Registrar awaiting publication.

Next Steps:

- Will be published on 10/5/26 to begin 30-day public comment period.
- Comment period will conclude on 11/4/26.
- Will become effective on 1/1/27

Update on Regulatory Actions – 18VAC50-22 (Board for Contractors Regulations) & 18VAC50-30 (Individual License and Certification Regulations)
(as of October 6, 2026)

Board for Contractors

Action: Board for Contractors Renewal Notifications Amendment

Current Stage: Fast-Track

- Board adopted fast-track regulation on 4/29/25.
- Regulation filed for Executive Branch review on 6/26/26.
- This fast-track action is currently at the Governor's office for review.

Next Steps:

- Action will be re-considered by Board at 10/20/26 meeting to address DPB concerns.
- Completion of Executive Branch review.
- Submission to the Registrar for publication.

Action: HB 1305 Amendments (Board for Contractors Disciplinary Powers)

Current Stage: Exempt Final

- Board adopted exempt final regulation at 6/23/26 meeting.
- Submitted to Registrar on 8/11/26
- Published on 9/7/26

Next Steps:

- 30-day final adoption period concludes on 10/7/26.
- Becomes effective on 11/01/2026.

Action: Board for Contractors Standards of Practice and Conduct – Investigations Guidance Document.

Current Stage: Guidance Document

- Board amended guidance document at 4/28/26 meeting.
- Submission of guidance document to Registrar pending.

Next Steps:

- Submission to Registrar for publication.

Peyton J Starr

7371 Rokeby Dr

Manassas, VA 20109

backwalk@protonmail.com | (703) 300-5830

June 30th, 2026

Board for Contractors

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 400

Richmond, VA 23233

Contractors@dpor.virginia.gov

Petition for Rulemaking under § 2.2-4007(A) of the Code of Virginia — Amendment of 18VAC50-22-60, -50, and -40 (experience requirements for a Qualified Individual)

To the Board for Contractors:

Pursuant to § 2.2-4007(A) of the Code of Virginia, I respectfully submit this petition for rulemaking requesting that the Board amend the experience qualifications required of a contractor's Qualified Individual.

Substance and purpose of the requested action. I request that the Board amend 18VAC50-22-60(B)(2) — and, for consistency, the parallel provisions at 18VAC50-22-50(B)(2) and 18VAC50-22-40(B)(2) — to provide an alternative means of satisfying the experience requirement for a Qualified Individual. Specifically, I ask that the regulations be amended so that a Qualified Individual who passes the applicable Board-approved examination, or who holds a relevant postsecondary degree or credential, may substitute that demonstrated competency for some or all of the otherwise-required years of experience (currently five years for Class A, three for Class B, and one for Class C). This petition does not ask the Board to lower its competency standards; it asks the Board to recognize examination and education as an additional, equivalent way to prove competence.

Legal authority for the requested action. Chapter 11 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia empowers the Board for Contractors to promulgate the regulations governing licensure (see § 54.1-1102). Under § 54.1-201, a regulatory board may establish qualifications for licensure "provided that all qualifications shall be necessary to ensure either competence or integrity to engage in such profession or occupation." The amendment requested here falls squarely within that authority and advances its purpose by tying licensure more directly to demonstrated competence.

Rationale and justification. Under the current rules, the only license class large enough to serve as the general contractor on a typical new home or small multifamily building is the Class A license, and 18VAC50-22-60 conditions that license on the Qualified Individual having a minimum of five years of prior experience. For anyone with the capital and the commitment to begin building in Virginia, this leaves two options: spend several years working for an established firm before building independently, or take the project — and the resulting housing — out of state. Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina each allow a qualified newcomer to reach an equivalent licensing tier without a multi-year experience prerequisite, generally by examination.

A blanket multi-year experience requirement is a significant barrier to entry that favors firms already established in Virginia and discourages new entrants at precisely the moment the Commonwealth is working to expand housing supply and reduce housing costs. Because § 54.1-201 permits only those qualifications that are "necessary to ensure either competence or integrity," and because competence can be demonstrated through the Board's own examinations, a rule that recognizes no substitute for years of experience may impose more than is necessary to protect the public. An exam-or-education alternative would preserve consumer protection while removing an unnecessary obstacle to new homebuilders.

Requested action. I respectfully request that the Board initiate rulemaking to amend 18VAC50-22-40, -50, and -60 to allow a Board-approved examination and/or relevant education or credential to satisfy, in whole or in part, the experience requirement for a Qualified Individual.

Thank you for your consideration. I am available to provide additional information and to participate in any public comment process or advisory panel the Board convenes on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Peyton J Starr



Secretariat

Labor

Agency

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Board

Board for Contractors

[Edit Petition](#)

Petition 456

Petition Information

Petition Title	Petition Requesting the Board for Contractors to Establish an Alternative Means of Satisfying Required Experience
Date Filed	7/13/2026 [Transmittal Sheet]
Petitioner	Peyton J. Starr
Petitioner's Request	Petitioner requests the Board for Contractors ("the Board") to amend sections 18VAC50-22-40, 18VAC50-22-50, and 18VAC50-22-60 of the Board for Contractors Regulations (18VAC50-22). These sections of regulation provide for the entry requirements for Class C, Class B, and Class A contractor licenses, respectively. The entry requirements in these sections provide for the minimum experience qualifications for those who will be the Qualified Individual on the contractor license. For a Class C license, the minimum required experience is one (1) year in the classification or specialty service for which the individual is the qualifier. For a Class B license, the minimum required experience is three (3) years in the classification or specialty service for which the individual is the qualifier. For a Class A license, the minimum required experience is five (5) years in the classification or specialty service for which the individual is the qualifier. Petitioner requests the Board to consider amending these sections to provide an alternative means for satisfying the Qualified Individual experience requirement. Petitioner proposes that the regulation be amended so that a Qualified Individual who passes the applicable Board-approved examination, or who holds a relevant postsecondary degree or credential, may substitute that demonstrated competency for some or all of the required experience. Petitioner is not requesting the Board reduce its competency standards, but recognize examination and education as an additional, equivalent way to prove competence. Petitioner states that under the Board's current rules, the only license class large enough to serve as a general contractor on a typical new home or small multifamily building is the Class A license. Section 18VAC50-22-60 requires that the Qualified Individual have five (5) years of prior experience. For anyone with the capital and the commitment to begin building in Virginia, this leaves two options: (i) spend several years working for an established firm before building independently; or (ii) take the project, and the resulting housing, out of state. Petitioner notes that Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina each allow a qualified newcomer to reach an equivalent licensing tier without a multi-year experience prerequisite, generally by examination.

Petitioner contends that a blanket multi-year experience requirement is a significant barrier to entry that favors firms already established in Virginia and discourages new entrants at precisely the moment the Commonwealth is working to expand housing supply and reduce housing costs. Petitioner cites § 54.1-201(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia, and the provision that all qualifications for licensure or certification established by a regulatory board be necessary to ensure either competence or integrity to engage in the profession or occupation. Petitioner contends that competence can be demonstrated through the Board's examinations, and that a rule which does not recognize a substitute for years of experience may impose more than is necessary to protect the public. Petitioner states an exam-or-education alternative would preserve consumer protection while removing an unnecessary obstacle to new homebuilders.

A copy of the petition is available from the agency.

Agency's Plan

The petition for rulemaking will be published in the Virginia Register of Regulations on August 10, 2026 (Volume 42, Issue 26). The petition will also be published on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall (www.townhall.virginia.gov). Public comment on the petition will be received from August 10, 2026, to August 31, 2026. Upon conclusion of the public comment period, the Board will consider all public comments received on the petition and make a decision to either grant or deny the petitioner's request at the Board's next available meeting, which is expected to be October 20, 2026. The petitioner will be notified in writing of the Board's decision.

Comment Period

Began 8/10/2026 Ended 8/31/2026

[1 comments](#)

Virginia Register Announcement

Submitted on 7/13/2026

[The Virginia Register of Regulations](#)

Published on: 8/10/2026 Volume: 42 Issue: 26

Agency Decision

Pending

Contact Information

Name / Title: Joe Haughwout / *Regulatory Affairs Manager*

Address: Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 400
Richmond, 23233

Email Address: Joseph.Haughwout@dpwr.virginia.gov

Telephone: (804)367-8566 FAX: (804)527-4403 TDD: (-)

This petition was created by Joe Haughwout on 07/13/2026 at 2:28pm

[Export to PDF](#)[Export to Excel](#)**Agency****Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation****Board****Board for Contractors****Chapter****Board for Contractors Regulations [18 VAC 50 - 22]**

1 comments

All good comments for this forum**Show Only Flagged****[Back to List of Comments](#)****Commenter:** Robbie McCarty (RWMcCarty LLC)

8/22/26 7:19 pm

Contractor License Alternative

I respectfully think this is a flawed proposal for the following reasons.

I understand the petitioners argument and often wonder whether we need to regulate who can do work as much as we do.

At the same time college courses do not provide for practical building experience in most cases. I do think a consideration for structural or civil engineering degrees may be fair, and maybe building construction degrees at a lesser extent. Passing an open book contractor test alone is just not equal to building experience and being able to understand contracts or accounting isn't either.

Regardless of the trade, contractor license is not really issued to build homes or fix a flip property as an investor; it is issued to be able to build homes on a contract basis for members of the general public, and there is just a higher standard for that. The same goes for being a trade contractor.

If you want to build a spec home to sell it you don't need a license to do that you can build as the owner. But I think if you are going to market yourself as a home builder to the general public it is reasonable to think you have real field time under your belt.

If you want to gain that field time by building or renovating properties on your own account as the owner then I think that's reasonable and people can decide if they like your product or not. But to learn on a clients dollar just isn't the right way.

CommentID: **240841**



TO: Board for Contractors
FROM: Darnell Edwards, Regulatory Analyst
SUBJECT: Class III-C Well Abandonment Survey
DATE: October 20, 2026

The Board requested information about how many highway and heavy (H/H) contractors perform Class III-C well abandonment in Virginia, the approximate number of wells abandoned each year, and the localities where this work occurs. The study was intended to help the Board understand the potential effect on H/H contractors if Class III-C well abandonment were removed from the H/H classification.

Staff received 277 survey responses. Ten respondents (3.6%) selected “Yes” to performing Class III-C well abandonment; 267 (96.4%) selected “No.” Two of the ten who selected “Yes” explained that their companies have not yet performed this work. The ten affirmative responses therefore should not be interpreted as ten companies currently performing abandonments.

The annual volume question received 12 answers: 11 selected one to five wells and one selected six to ten in a typical year. Three of those 12 respondents had answered “No” to performing the work. One “Yes” respondent who reported a volume also stated that its company had not yet performed an abandonment. The locality question received 18 written responses, including entries from respondents who answered “No.” The survey cannot reliably establish a statewide annual total or identify a locality where this activity is concentrated.

Comments reflected differing views. One respondent reported using a licensed water well systems provider for all abandonments and raised groundwater protection concerns. Others supported retaining H/H authority and suggested statewide procedures and training. Additional comments addressed planning, reporting of violations, and the infrequency of this work. The comments are reproduced in the appendix for the Board’s consideration.

Appendix A Written survey comments

*Comments are reproduced as submitted. "Yes" and "No" reflect the answer to whether the company performs Class III-C well abandonment in Virginia.

United Unlimited construction Inc. | Yes |

Simplify scope of work

CDM Constructors Inc. | No

n/a

Ramirez Contracting LLC | No |

None

Jones Road & Bridge Inc. | No |

none

Borea Construction USA, LLC | No |

not our work scope and have no insight to provide.

SydnorHydro LLC | Yes |

We only use a Licensed Water Well Systems Provider to perform all well abandonments. We have found that non-licensed contractors do not properly abandon wells or understand the importance of protecting the groundwater resource..

Wager Corp. / National Tool & Drilling | No |

None

Lewis welding and construction works Inc | Yes |

The standard method works as it should

Matrix Construction of Hampton Roads, Inc. | Yes |

Although our company has not yet performed any Class IIIC well-abandonment projects, we believe H/H contractors should retain this authority. We recommend clear statewide procedures, appropriate training, coordination with local health departments, and compliance with all Virginia Department of Health requirements. The fact that a contractor has not previously performed this work should not result in the loss or restriction of this authority under the H/H classification.

Cornerstone Construction Services Llc | No |

I believe this type of work should remain with HH licensees.

Jaranda Enterprises LLC (DBA - Arch Construction) | Yes |

We have not performed any Class III-C Abandonments Under this company but if contracted to do so we can. I spent 25 Years as a Construction Manager and State Program manager for VDOT and over saw many well abandonments in that role. My main advice would be consult a geotechnical engineer or soils scientist and have them investigate the well and provide a detailed plan for the abandonment Then follow that plan to a T. also consult the local health department for assistance and approval of the plan. Well abandonment is super simple but can vary widely dependent upon the type and age and condition of the well the soils surrounding the well the water table.

Wendell Mark Rohrer | No |

None

James Jones & Associates | Yes |

I know policing is nearly impossible, but we need better or anonymous reporting of violators.

Fraley's Inc. | No |

None

Jr Clark ent. LLC | No |

Don't do that kind of work

Carolina Power & Signalization, LLC | No |

N/A

Paul Barton Well & Pump Service | Yes |

Complete well abandonments at average of less than one per year.

Wright Brothers Construction Co., Inc. | No |

None at this time

United Welding llc | No |

None for us, thanks

National Electric Coil, Inc. | No |

We are a Class A Contractor

Custom Tower LLC | No |

n/a

DRAFT AGENDA Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion and are not to be construed as regulation or official Board position. DRAFT AGENDA

Board Of Contractors Town Hall: Question?

Hello I am writing regarding some questions that came up a few months ago and there seems to be some confusion in the wording of DPOR laws that I feel needs to be reworded or corrected.

"Question" Does Plumbing, Electrical and HVAC work need to be performed by a Licensed Tradesman.

"Question" Does a Licensed Tradesman need to be present on the worksite while work is being performed by a Helper or an Apprentice.

"Plumber" means a tradesman who performs the construction, repair, maintenance, alteration, or removal of plumbing systems regulated under the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

"HVAC tradesman" means an individual who performs the construction, repair, maintenance, alteration, or removal of HVAC systems regulated under the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

"Electrician" means a tradesman who performs the construction, repair, maintenance, alteration or removal of electrical systems regulated under the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (13VAC5-63).

Performs: To carry out, Execute, accomplish a task, Duty or function

"Tradesman" means any individual who engages in, or offers to engage in, work for the general public for compensation in the trades of electrical, plumbing and heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

Engage In: task, to participate, involve, take an active part, execute

Beginning July 1, 1995, no individual shall engage in, or offer to engage in, work as a tradesman as defined in § 54.1-1128 unless he has been licensed under the provisions of this article. Individuals shall not be subject to licensure as a tradesman when working under the supervision of a tradesman who is licensed in the specialty for which work is being performed. Individuals holding a license

Board Of Contractors Town Hall: Question?

in one specialty shall not be required to have a tradesman license in another specialty when performing work which is incidental to work being performed

54.1-1101 Supervision of Helpers and Laborers

(12/05)

The definition of “supervision” states that a licensed tradesman must “periodically” observe and evaluate the performance of helpers and laborers performing trade-related tasks. **That definition does not mean that a licensed tradesman is required to always be on the job site, but that the helpers and laborers are observed and evaluated periodically at a reasonable time frame for the qualifications of the person completing the work and the risk associated with the work being performed.**

Periodically: Time to time, Occasionally

Periodically does not mean engaged in or performing.

“Question” How could a contractor send out a Helper / Apprentice to **perform/engage in** work without a licensed Tradesman present at all times. If the Licensed Tradesman is only checking in Periodically that means the unlicensed Helper is **performing** the work and the Licensed tradesman is not engaged at all, therefore the Helper/Apprentice is performing and engaged in work that they are not certified to perform buy themselves.

This doesn't make any sense.

Hello Mr. Stiles,

Thank you for contacting the Board regarding reciprocal agreements and the building examinations.

[18VAC50-22-70](#) states that firms originally licensed in a state with which the Board has a reciprocal agreement, or whose eligibility criteria are substantially equivalent, may obtain a Virginia contractor license in accordance with the terms of that agreement. This provision addresses licensure of a **firm**. A change to the qualified individual of an existing Virginia licensee is addressed separately under [18VAC50-22-220\(C\)](#). Whether a particular examination waiver applies to an individual must be determined under the terms of that agreement.

Regarding the Building examination, the Board determined in 2016 that an individual who had passed that examination could continue to qualify for the Residential Building Contractor (RBC) classification, but the examination would no longer be accepted to qualify for the Commercial Building Contractor (CBC) classification on a new application or change. Firms that already held RBC and CBC based on the building examination could retain those classifications on their existing licenses. A new qualified individual or a new license applicant must meet the applicable current requirements.

Staff administers the Board's regulations and decisions. If you would like the Board to consider your concerns, you may provide public comment at a Board meeting or submit your comments by email for the Board's consideration.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Thank you,

Stephanie Keuther
Assistant Executive Director
Board for Contractors
Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors
Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System
Professionals
Polygraph Advisory Board
Board for Waste Management Facility Operators



Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 400
Richmond, Virginia 23233
804-367-2785

I understand your concern. As the agreement is currently written, the North Carolina Commercial Building examination cannot be used through reciprocity to change the qualified individual on an existing Virginia contractor license. I believe this is an issue worth bringing to the Board for consideration.

The agreement between Virginia and North Carolina provides for issuance of a Virginia Commercial Building Contractor license to a firm. It does not provide a pathway for changing the qualified individual on an existing license. I have attached a copy of the agreement for your reference.

I will provide your email to the Board as written public comment for its upcoming meeting on October 20, 2026.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to our attention.

Thank you,

Stephanie Keuther
Assistant Executive Director
Board for Contractors
Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors
Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System Professionals
Polygraph Advisory Board
Board for Waste Management Facility Operators



Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 400
Richmond, Virginia 23233
804-367-2785

From: Paul Stiles <pstiles@thebellcompany.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 6:08 PM
To: Keuther, Stephanie (DPOR) <Stephanie.Keuther@dpor.virginia.gov>
Subject: RE: Contractor Reciprocity and Building Examination Requirements

Dear Ms. Keuther,

Thank you for your thoughtful response and for explaining the distinction between licensure of a firm and a change in qualified individual on an existing license. I understand that staff must administer the Board's current requirements.

My concern is the practical result in my case. I passed Virginia's Building examination in 2006 and previously served for approximately five years as a qualified individual for a Virginia Class A contractor. I have since qualified as a Commercial Building Contractor in North Carolina and

South Carolina, and I have been an officer of Bell BCI Company for approximately 5 years. Yet my prior Virginia examination and qualifications do not appear to provide a path to serve as a CBC qualified individual for Bell without satisfying a new examination requirement.

I would appreciate clarification on two points so I can determine the correct next step:

1. Will the Board accept my North Carolina CBC examination, or another examination I have already passed, in satisfaction of the current Virginia CBC examination requirement for a change of qualified individual? If not, which examination must I take?
2. What experience documentation must accompany Bell's application, and is there any procedure for the Board to consider my prior Virginia qualification and subsequent experience as part of that review?

I would also like the Board to consider the broader policy question: whether someone who previously qualified for CBC in Virginia, and who has remained active in construction leadership and qualified in other states, should have a reasonable way to qualify for an existing Virginia firm. Also, that I did follow the obligation of notifying the Board within the 30 days (in 2011) of leaving my previous company, and the new company I was employed with. Yet, VDPOR never notified me, less than 5 years later, that the regulations had changed for CBC qualification.

Please let me know whether I may submit this correspondence as public comment, or whether a separate submission would be preferable.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Very respectfully,

Paul W. Stiles



Paul W. Stiles, PE, PMP



Vice President

The Bell Company

c: (804) 363-3401

o: (804) 266-4117

[**BELL is hiring.....explore here**](#)

Paul Stiles **From:** Keuther, Stephanie (DPOR) <Stephanie.Keuther@dpor.virginia.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 8:45 AM

To: Paul Stiles <pstiles@thebellcompany.com>

Subject: Contractor Reciprocity and Building Examination Requirements

AN AGREEMENT

Between

The Virginia Board for Contractors and the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors

Waiver of Examination for Eligible Licensees

Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in each state, the Virginia Board for Contractors and the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors do hereby enter into the following agreement:

1. The *Virginia Board for Contractors* agrees to waive the required residential building contracting written examination and issue a Virginia residential building contracting license to any applicant, provided:
 - (a) The applicant holds a valid residential contractor license issued by the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors; and
 - (b) The applicant did not obtain the residential contractor license through any agreement between the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors and any other state; and
 - (c) The applicant has completed all administrative and regulatory requirements and paid all required fees as determined by the Virginia Board for Contractors for the issuance of a residential building contracting license.
2. The *Virginia Board for Contractors* agrees to waive the required commercial building contractor written examination and issue a Virginia commercial building contracting license to any applicant, provided:
 - (a) The applicant holds a valid building contractor license issued by the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors; and
 - (b) The applicant did not obtain the building contractor license through any agreement between the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors and any other state; and

AGREEMENT

Page 2 of 2

- (c) The applicant has completed all administrative and regulatory requirements, and paid all required fees as determined by the Virginia Board for Contractors for the issuance of commercial building contractor license.
3. The *North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors* agrees to waive the required written examination and issue a North Carolina residential contractor license to any applicant, provided:
- (a) The applicant holds a valid residential building contracting license issued by the Virginia Board for Contractors; and
 - (b) The applicant did not obtain a residential building contracting license through any agreement between the Virginia Board for Contractors and any other state; and
 - (c) The applicant has completed all administrative and regulatory requirements, and paid all required fees as determined by the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors for the issuance of a residential contractor license.
4. The *North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors* agrees to waive the required written examination and issue a North Carolina building contractor license to any applicant, provided:
- (a) The applicant holds a valid commercial building contracting license issued by the Virginia Board for Contractors; and
 - (b) The applicant did not obtain a commercial building contracting license through any agreement between the Virginia Board for Contractors and any other state; and
 - (c) The applicant has completed all administrative and regulatory requirements, and paid all required fees as determined by the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors for the issuance of a building contractor.

AGREEMENT

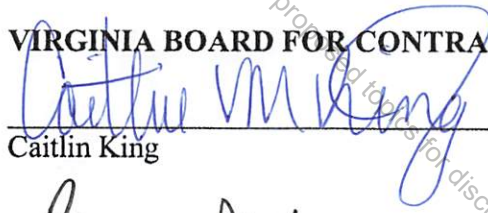
Page 3 of 3

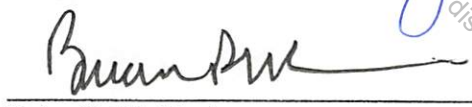
5.

The provisions of this agreement shall become effective March 11, 2025 and shall remain in effect until such time as either the Virginia Board for Contractors or the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors advises the other state agency through written notice of its intention to terminate the same. Such written notice must be filed with the other agency at least ninety days prior to the date the respective state agency intends to terminate this agreement.

ATTESTED:

VIRGINIA BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS

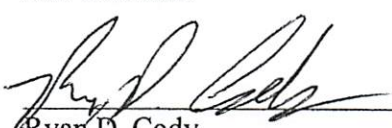

_____, Chairman
Caitlin King


_____, Secretary
Brian P. Wolford

ATTESTED:

NORTH CAROLINA LICENSING BOARD FOR GENERAL CONTRACTORS


_____, Chairman
Eric Reichard


_____, Secretary-Treasurer
Ryan D. Cody