



Industry Bulletin

CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

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Contractor Classifications Authorized to Perform Solar Projects

SACRAMENTO – The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) has issued an updated fact sheet on the contractor license categories that are authorized to perform work on solar energy projects.

As the popularity of alternative energy projects heats up, CSLB hopes to avoid any confusion among contractors seeking to venture into these emerging technologies. The following *Fast Facts* sheet is available on the CSLB website at www.cslb.ca.gov in the “Educational Materials” section for contractors.

Only contractors with the license classification listed below are authorized to perform solar construction or installation. Those without any of these license classifications are not authorized to perform this type of work.

“A” – General Engineering contractors are authorized to install solar energy systems.

“B” – General Building contractors are authorized to install solar energy systems within the definition of B&P Code Section 7057, since an solar energy system constitutes the use of two unrelated building trades or crafts as required by Section 7057.*

Specialty Classifications

C-4 – Boiler, Hot-Water Heating and Steam Fitting contractors are authorized to perform projects including solar heating equipment associated with systems authorized by this classification.

C-10 – Electrical contractors are authorized to perform any solar projects which generate, transmit, transform or utilize electrical energy in any form for any purpose.

C-36 – Plumbing contractors are authorized to perform any project using solar equipment to heat water or fluids to a suitable temperature.

C-46 – Solar contractors install, modify, maintain, and repair thermal and photovoltaic solar energy systems. A licensee in this classification shall not undertake or perform building or construction trades, crafts or skills, *except when required to install a thermal or photovoltaic solar energy system.*

C-53 – Swimming Pool contractors are authorized to include the installation of solar heating in swimming pool projects.

* § 7057 General Building Contractor

(a) *Except as provided in this section, a general building contractor is a contractor whose principal contracting business is in connection with any structure built, being built, or to be built, for the support, shelter, and enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or movable property of any kind, requiring in its construction the use of at least two unrelated building trades or crafts, or to do or superintend the whole or any part thereof.*

Please visit the CSLB website at either www.cslb.ca.gov or www.CheckTheLicenseFirst.com or call the automated toll-free number: 1.800.321.CSLB (2752) for more information. Additional solar information is available through the California Energy Commission at www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov.

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