

Appendix E: Alabama Licensing Board for General Contractors Licensing Law

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 34-8-1 Definitions.

- (a) For the purpose of this chapter, a “general contractor” is defined to be one who, for a fixed price, commission, fee, or wage undertakes to construct or superintend or engage in the construction, alteration, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, remediation, reclamation, or demolition of any building, highway, sewer, structure, site work, grading, paving or project or any improvement in the State of Alabama where the cost of the undertaking is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more, shall be deemed and held to have engaged in the business of general contracting in the State of Alabama.
- (b) For the purpose of this chapter, a “general contractor” is defined to include one who, for a fixed price, commission, fee, or wage exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), undertakes to construct, superintend the construction of, repair, or renovate, any swimming pool, and anyone who shall engage in the construction, superintending of the construction, repair, or renovation of any swimming pool in the State of Alabama, where the cost of the undertaking exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000), shall be deemed and held to have engaged in the business of general contracting in the State of Alabama and shall be subject to this chapter.
- (c) For the purpose of this chapter a “subcontractor” is defined to be one who constructs, superintends, or engages in the construction, alteration, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, remediation, reclamation, or demolition of any building, highway, sewer, structure, site work, grading, paving, or project or any improvement in the State of Alabama where the cost of the undertaking is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more under contract to general contractor as defined in subsection (a) or another subcontractor.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §1; Code 1940, T. 46, §65; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1989, No. 89-648, p. 1278, §1; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Acts 1997, No. 97-270, p. 486, §1; Act 2003-142, p. 441, §3; Act 2009-725, p. 2168, §1.)

Section 34-8-2 Licensure and classification of contractors.

- (a) Any person desiring to be licensed or desiring a renewal of an existing license as a general contractor in this state shall be a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government, and shall make and file with the board, not less than 30 days prior to any regular meeting thereof, a written application on a form as prescribed for examination by the board and the application shall be accompanied by three hundred dollars (\$300) for a new application or two hundred dollars (\$200) in case of a renewal. If a licensee fails to renew his or her license within 90 days following expiration of the previous license, a late penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) shall be collected, upon renewal, in addition to the renewal fee. The applicant shall apply for a license covering the type or types of contracts on which he or she wishes to perform, and shall provide proof of liability insurance. The board shall classify contractors according to the type or types of contracts on which they may perform, within maximum bid limits, on the following basis: The applicant’s request, his or her last annual financial statement prepared by a certified public accountant (C.P.A.) or by any independent licensed public accountant approved by the Licensing Board for General Contractors, his or her previous experience, equipment, and the facts in each case. An applicant shall not be so classified as to permit him or her to bid on or to perform a type of work not included in his or her request for a license. If the application is satisfactory

to the board, then the applicant may be required to take an examination to determine his or her qualifications. If the result of the examination of the applicant is satisfactory to the board, the board shall then issue to the applicant a certificate to engage in general contracting in the State of Alabama, stipulating in each license issued the type or types of work the contractor is permitted to bid on or to perform under his or her license and also setting out a letter symbol indicating the maximum limits on which he or she is permitted to bid or to perform in a single contract. The maximum bid limits shall be set by the formula of not more than 10 times either the net worth or working capital, whichever is the lesser amount, as shown by the applicant's latest financial statement and designated in the classification set out herein that is the closest to this amount. Should the financial statement of the applicant fail to substantiate the limits requested, further consideration may be given to either of the following:

- (1) the present market value in lieu of book value of listed assets when properly supported with substantiating evidence, including a combined statement of the applicant that includes other wholly owned or substantially owned interests, or
- (2) the applicant may furnish a bond acceptable to the board equal in the amount of the applicant's negative working capital or net worth plus the amount of such net worth and working capital to satisfy the requested bid limit. When an applicant's statement qualifies for an amount in excess of classification "E", the limits shall then be set as classification Unlimited or "U". The following letter symbols indicate the maximum amount bid limits allowed a licensee on any one single contract undertaking:

A - Not to exceed	\$ 100,000.00
B - Not to exceed	250,000.00
C - Not to exceed	500,000.00
D - Not to exceed	1,000,000.00
E - Not to exceed	3,000,000.00
U - Unlimited	

- (b) Any person failing to pass the examination may be reexamined at any regular or called meeting of the board. The certificate of authority to engage in the business of general contracting in the State of Alabama shall expire 12 months following its issuance or renewal and shall become invalid on that date unless renewed. The board may provide for a transitional period following May 19, 1999, during which licenses may be renewed for less than 12 months, or more than 12 months, in order to implement a staggered license renewal schedule in which licenses would be renewed each month throughout the year. Once the transitional period is completed, each license shall be renewed for a 12-month period. The board may promulgate rules and regulations relating to the procedures for renewal of licenses. Upon the renewal of a license, the board shall reclassify or confirm the license both as to the types of work and bid limits as specified in this section. A licensee may apply for and, on proof satisfactory to the board, may receive an increase in the amount of his or her bid limit, change his or her classification, or verify his or her license with a reciprocating state for fees not greater than seventy-five dollars (\$75) as set by the board. Application for renewal of a license, together with the payment of a fee of two hundred dollars (\$200), received by the board at least 30 days prior to expiration, shall serve to extend the current license until the board either renews the license or denies the application. A licensee may apply for inactive status by notifying the board in writing at least 30 days before the expiration of his or her license. The fee for inactive status is two hundred dollars (\$200). The board shall provide by rule for the activities that may be engaged in by an inactive status licensee and for a procedure for reinstatement as an active license holder. At the discretion of the board, a limited license may be issued for a particular project.
- (c) The sum or fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) accompanying original applications and sum or fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) accompanying applications for renewals under this section are for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and shall not be refunded to the applicant.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §9; Code 1940, T. 46, §73; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1961, Ex. Sess., No. 150, p. 2093, §1; Acts 1975, No. 485, p. 1115, §1; Acts 1982, No. 82-400, p. 603, §4; Acts 1986, No. 86-557, p. 1133, §3; Acts 1991, No. 91-197, p. 361, §3; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 99-199, p. 251, §3; Act 2008-134, p. 199, §3; Act 2009-725, p. 2168, §1; Act 2011-165, §3.)

Section 34-8-3 Method of examination.

When the board conducts an examination of an applicant for a license, as much as three days may be devoted to written or oral examination, within the discretion of the board, to ascertain the ability of the applicant to make a practical application of his or her knowledge of the profession of general contracting; and the board shall investigate thoroughly the financial responsibility and past record of all applicants, which will include an effort towards ascertaining the qualifications of an applicant in reading plans and specifications, estimating costs, construction ethics, and other similar matters. The board shall take all applicants under consideration after having examined them and go thoroughly into the records, oral, and written examinations prior to granting any certificate of license. If an applicant is an individual, examination may be taken by his or her personal appearance for examination, or by the appearance for examination of one or more of his or her responsible managing employees, and if a copartnership or corporation, or any other combination or organization, by the examination of one or more of the responsible managing officers or members of the executive staff of the applicant's firm according to its own designation.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §9 1/2; Code 1940, T. 46, §74; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-4 Fines; revocation of licenses.

- (a) The board may levy and collect an administrative fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for any violation of any provision of this chapter or the rules and regulations of the board.
- (b) The board may also revoke the certificate of license of any general contractor licensed hereunder who is found guilty of any fraud or deceit in obtaining a license or gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the conduct of business. Any person may prefer charges of the fraud, deceit, negligence, or misconduct against any general contractor licensed hereunder. The charges shall be in writing and sworn to by the complainant and submitted to the board. The charges, unless dismissed without hearing by the board as unfounded or trivial, shall be heard and determined by the board within 90 days after the date on which they were preferred. The hearing shall be held at the office of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors in Montgomery, Alabama. A copy of the charges, together with the notice of the time and place of hearing, shall be legally served on the accused by the secretary of the board, any sheriff in the state or by registered or certified mail, at least 10 days before the fixed date for the hearing. In the event that the service cannot be effected 10 days before the hearing, then the date of hearing and determination shall be postponed as may be necessary to permit the carrying out of the aforementioned condition. At the hearing the accused shall have the right to appear personally and by counsel and to cross-examine witnesses against him, her, or them and to produce evidence of witnesses in his, her, or their defense. If, after the hearing, the board votes in favor of finding the accused guilty, the board shall revoke the license of the accused. The board may reissue a license to any person, firm, or corporation whose license has been revoked. The board shall immediately notify the Secretary of State and the clerk of each incorporated city, town, or county in the state of its findings in the case of the revocation or of the reissuance of a revoked license. A certificate of license to replace any certificate lost, destroyed, or mutilated may be issued subject to the rules and regulations of the board.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §10; Code 1940, T. 46, §75; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1982, No. 82-400, p. 603, §4; Acts 1991, No. 91-197, p. 361, §3; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 99-199, p. 251, §3.)

Section 34-8-5 Effect of issuance of certificate of license.

The issuance of a certificate by the board shall be evidence that the person, firm, or corporation named therein is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a licensed general contractor to perform work of the types and amounts specified in the license issued to him, her, or it while the license remains unrevoked or unexpired.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §11; Code 1940, T. 46, §76; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-6 Prohibited act; penalties; cease and desist orders.

- (a) Any person, firm, or corporation not being duly authorized who shall engage in the business of general contracting in this state, except as provided for in this chapter, and any person, firm, or corporation presenting or attempting to file as its own the license certificate of another, or who shall give false or forged evidence of any kind to the board, or to any member thereof, in obtaining a certificate of license, or who falsely shall impersonate another, or who shall use an expired or revoked certificate of license shall be deemed guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and for each offense for which he or she is convicted shall be punished as provided by law. Furthermore, any person including an owner, architect, engineer, construction manager, or private awarding authority who considers a bid from anyone not properly licensed under this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and shall for each offense of which he or she is convicted be punished as provided by law.
- (b) Every person, firm, or corporation licensed pursuant to this chapter shall include his or her license number in all construction contracts, subcontracts, bids, and proposals. Any person, firm, or corporation violating this provision shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and shall for each offense of which he or she is convicted be punished as provided by law.
- (c) In addition to or in lieu of the criminal penalties and administrative sanctions provided in this chapter, the board may issue an order to any person, firm, or corporation engaged in any activity, conduct, or practice constituting a violation of this chapter, directing the person, firm, or corporation to forthwith cease and desist from the activity, conduct, practice, or the performance of any work then being done or about to be commenced. The order shall be issued in the name of the State of Alabama under the official seal of the board. If the person, firm, or corporation to whom the board directs a cease and desist order does not cease or desist the proscribed activity, conduct, practice, or performance of work immediately, the board shall cause to issue in any court of competent jurisdiction and proper venue, a writ of injunction enjoining the person, firm, or corporation from engaging in any activity, conduct, practice, or performance of work as prohibited by this chapter. Upon showing by the board that the person, firm, or corporation has engaged or is engaged in any activity, conduct, practice, or performance of work prohibited by this chapter, the courts shall issue a temporary restraining order restraining the person, firm, or corporation from engaging in such unlawful activity, conduct, practice, or performance of work pending the hearing on a preliminary injunction, and in due course a permanent injunction shall issue after the hearing, commanding the cessation of the unlawful activity, conduct, practice, or performance of work complained of, all without the necessity of the board having to give bond. A temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction issued pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to being released on bond. In the suit for an injunction, the board may demand of the defendant a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) plus costs and attorney fees for each offense. A judgment for penalty, attorney fees, and costs may be rendered in the same judgment in which the injunction is made absolute. The trial of the proceeding by injunction shall be summary and by the trial judge without jury. Anyone violating this chapter who fails to cease work, after a hearing and notification from the board, shall not be eligible to apply for a contractor's license for a period not to exceed one year from the date of official notification to cease work. It shall be within the power of the board to withhold approval, for up to six months, of any application from anyone who prior to the application has been found in violation of this chapter.

- (d) The submission of the contractor's current license number before considering the bid shall be sufficient evidence to relieve the owner, architect, engineer, construction manager, or awarding authority of any liability under this chapter.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §12; Code 1940, T. 46, §77; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 99-199, p. 251, §3; Act 2009-725, p. 2168, §1.)

Section 34-8-7 Exemptions from chapter; subcontractor requirements.

- (a) The following shall be exempted from this chapter:
- (1) The practice of general contracting, as defined in Section 34-8-1, by an authorized representative or representatives of the United States Government, State of Alabama, incorporated town, city, or county in this state, which is under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer provided any work contracted out by the representative shall comply with the provisions of this chapter for "general contractor."
 - (2) The construction of any residence or private dwelling.
 - (3) A person, firm, or corporation constructing a building or other improvements on his, her, or its own property provided that any of the work contracted out complies with the definition in this chapter for "general contractor."
 - (4) The installation, repair, maintenance, or removal of facilities, equipment, or systems used in or substantially related to the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications in an emergency by a utility regulated by the Public Service Commission, or any entity engaged in the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications, or any of their respective general contractors or subcontractors, provided the work is performed under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "emergency" is defined as a situation whereby service to the consumer has been interrupted or may be interrupted if work to remedy the emergency is not performed and completed within 60 days, and such other situations that are determined to be an emergency in the discretion of the board.
 - (5) The repair, maintenance, replacement, reinstallation, or removal of facilities, equipment, or systems used in or substantially related to the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications on a routine, regular, or recurring basis by a utility regulated by the Public Service Commission or any entity engaged in the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications or any of their respective general contractors or subcontractors, provided the work is performed under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer.
 - (6) Routine or regular maintenance, repair, replacement, reinstallation, or removal of equipment, specialized technological processes, or equipment facility systems as determined by the board with regard to scope, frequency, and speciality of the work to be performed.
- (b) The aforementioned exemptions shall exclude a swimming pool contractor. Provided, however, a person, firm, or corporation constructing a swimming pool on his, her, or its own property shall be exempted from this chapter.
- (c) A subcontractor, as defined in subsection (c) of Section 34-8-1, is subject to and shall comply with all the provisions of this chapter as specified for general contractor except as follows:
- (1) A subcontractor shall pay one-half the fees as required in this chapter for general contractor.
 - (2) No bid limits shall be established for a subcontractor.

- (3) A subcontractor shall submit with license application and renewals a statement of financial condition as prescribed by the board.
- (4) A subcontractor shall furnish three references from any combination of the following: Licensed general contractors, registered professional engineers, or registered architects, or qualified person, as declared by the board, for whom they have worked. If a subcontractor has only been employed by one company, the subcontractor shall provide the following: Three or more jobs he or she has worked on, the amounts of the contracts, the time period of the contracts, the location of the contracts, and a statement of experience.
- (5) A subcontractor is not required to be licensed at the time a project is bid, but must be licensed with the board prior to beginning work on the project.
- (6) A general contractor license and license number issued by the board to subcontractors shall denote subcontractor status.
- (7) A subcontractor is not required to sit for any examination before being licensed.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §13; Code 1940, T. 46, §78; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1989, No. 89-648, p. 1278, §2; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Acts 1997, No. 97-270, p. 486, §1; Act 99-199, p. 251, §3; Act 2009-725, p. 2168, §1; Act 2011-165, p. 308, §3.)

Section 34-8-8 Copy of chapter to be included in plans of owners, architects, and engineers; inclusion of license number on bid.

- (a) All owners, architects, engineers, construction managers, and private awarding authorities preparing plans and specifications for work to be contracted in Alabama pursuant to this chapter shall include in their invitations to bidders, including but not limited to all public and private advertisements, and their specifications a copy of the portions of this chapter as are deemed necessary to convey to the invited bidder, whether he or she is a resident or nonresident of this state and whether a license has been issued to him or her or not, the information that it will be necessary for him or her to show evidence of license before his or her bid is considered. Any person including an owner, architect, engineer, construction manager, or private awarding authority who violates this section shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and shall for each offense of which he or she is convicted be punished, fined, or both, in accordance with Sections 13A-5-7 and 13A-5-12.
- (b) All owners, architects, engineers, construction manager, or private awarding authority receiving bids pursuant to this chapter shall require the person, firm, or corporation to include his or her current license number on the bid. The owner, architect, engineer, construction manager, or private awarding authority shall reject all bids that do not contain the current license number of the general contractor submitting the bid. All persons who violate this subsection shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and shall for each offense for which he or she is convicted be punished, fined, or both, in accordance with Sections 13A-5-7 and 13A-5-12.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §14; Code 1940, T. 46, §79; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 2009-725, p. 2168, §1.)

Section 34-8-9 Issuance of building permits.

Any person, firm, or corporation, upon making application to the building inspector or such other authority of any incorporated city, town, village, or county in Alabama charged with the duty of issuing building or other permits for the construction, alteration, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, remediation, reclamation, or demolition of any building, highway, sewer, structure site work, grading, paving or project or any improvement where the cost of the undertaking is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more, shall, before he or she shall be entitled to the issuance of permits, furnish satisfactory proof to the inspector or authority that he or she is duly licensed under this chapter. It shall be unlawful for the building inspector or other authority to issue or allow the issuance of the building

permit unless and until the applicant has furnished evidence that he or she is either exempt from this chapter or is duly licensed under this chapter to carry out or superintend the work for which the permit has been applied. The building inspector, or other authority, violating the terms of this section shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and shall for each offense of which he or she is convicted be punished in accordance with Sections 13A-5-7 and 13A-5-12.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §15; Code 1940, T. 46, §80; Acts 1947, No. 402, p. 293, §1; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1987, No. 87-175, p. 236, §3; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Acts 1997, No. 97-270, p. 486, §1.)

Section 34-8-10 Indictment or complaint.

In all prosecutions for the violation of the provisions of Section 34-8-6 for engaging in the business of general contracting without a certificate of authority, it shall be sufficient to allege in the indictment, affidavit, or complaint that "A. B. unlawfully engaged in business as a general contractor, without authority from the licensing board for contractors so to do."

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §16; Code 1940, T. 46, §81; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

STATE LICENSING BOARD

Section 34-8-20 Creation; composition; appointment and removal of members.

In order to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the general public welfare by requiring that only properly qualified persons be permitted to engage in general contracting, there shall be a State Licensing Board for General Contractors, consisting of five members, who shall be citizens of this state and appointed by the Governor. Each of the members shall be a general contractor, within the meaning of this chapter, with at least 10 years' experience in the field as a contractor. At least one member of the board shall have as a larger part of his or her business the construction of highways. At least one member of the board shall have as a larger part of his or her business the construction of public utilities. At least one member shall have as a larger part of his or her business the construction of buildings. At least one member of the board shall have as a larger part of his or her business the performance of construction work as a subcontractor. The members of the board shall be appointed for one, two, three, four, and five years respectively, their terms of office expiring on December 31 of those years. Thereafter, on the thirty-first day of December in each year the Governor shall appoint to fill the vacancies caused by the expiration of the term of office a member for a term of five years. In appointing members to the board, the Governor shall select those persons whose appointments, to the extent possible, ensure that the membership of the board is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state. Each member shall hold over after the expiration of his or her term until his or her successor shall be duly appointed and qualified. If a vacancy shall occur on the board for any cause, the vacancy shall be filled by the appointment of the Governor, and the Governor may remove any member of the board at any time, with or without cause.

(Amended by Act 2015-190, § 1, eff. 5/18/2015. Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §2; Code 1940, T. 46, §66; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 99-199, p. 251, §§2, 3; Act 2003-142, p. 441, §3; Act 2008-134, p. 199, §3.)

Section 34-8-21 Oath of board.

Each member of the board shall before entering upon the discharge of the duties of his or her office take and file with the Secretary of State the oath required by Section 279 of the Constitution of Alabama.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §3; Code 1940, T. 46, §67; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-22 Officers; bonds; compensation and expenses; rules and regulations.

When the Governor appoints the board, he or she shall designate and commission one member as the chairperson, another as vice-chairperson, and another as secretary-treasurer. The board may make the bylaws, rules, and regulations as it shall deem best, provided the same shall not conflict with the laws of the State of Alabama. The secretary-treasurer shall give bond in the sum as the board shall determine with the surety as shall be approved. The bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of the office and for the faithful

accounting of all moneys and other properties as shall come into his or her hands. Each member of the board shall receive two hundred dollars (\$200) per day for attending sessions of the board or its committees, and for time actually spent in necessary travel in attending meetings of the board or its committees and in addition shall be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses as are paid to state employees incurred in carrying out this chapter. All expenses certified by the board as properly and necessarily incurred in the discharge of its duties, including authorized compensations, office rent, and supplies shall be paid out of the State Licensing Board for the General Contractors' Fund in the State Treasury in the manner provided in Section 34-8-25, provided, that no funds shall be withdrawn or expended except as budgeted and allotted according to the provisions of Article 4 of Chapter 4 of Title 41, and only in the amounts as stipulated in the general appropriation bill.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §4; Code 1940, T. 46, §68; Acts 1951, No. 835, p. 1466, §1; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1980, No. 80-698, p. 1404, §1; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1.)

Section 34-8-23 Seal

The board shall adopt a seal for its own use. Such seal shall have the words "License Board for Contractors, State of Alabama," and the secretary shall have the charge, care, and custody thereof.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §5; Code 1940, T. 46, §69; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-24 Meetings; quorum.

The board shall have four regular meetings in each year, one in January, one in April, one in July, and one in October, for the purpose of transacting business which may properly come before it, and as many special or adjourned meetings as the board may deem necessary, on call of the chair of the board. Special or adjourned meetings may be held at the time the board provides in the bylaws or at a time the board may provide by reasonable resolution. Due notice of each regular meeting and the time and place thereof shall be given to each member by mail at least one week prior to the meeting. Three members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §6; Code 1940, T. 46, §70; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1; Acts 1986, No. 86-557, p. 1133, §3; Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1.)

Section 34-8-25 Records and accounts.

The secretary-treasurer shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board, shall receive and account for all the moneys derived from the operation of this chapter and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, all such moneys in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors; and the funds shall be subject to withdrawal only upon warrant of the state Comptroller to be issued upon certificate or voucher certified by the secretary-treasurer of the board. Any funds remaining in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors at the end of each year shall be paid into the General Fund of the state on or before January 15 in each succeeding year. The board has the right, however, at all times to retain a sum not in excess of 33 percent of its budget of the previous year to meet any emergency that may arise which may affect its efficient operation.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §7; Code 1940, T. 46, §71; Acts 1951, No. 835, p. 1466, §2; Acts 1975, No. 485, p. 1115, §1; Acts 1991, No. 91-197, p. 361, §3; Act 2008-134, p. 199, §3.)

Section 34-8-26 Register of applicants; roster of contractors; annual report; investigation and report of complaints.

The secretary-treasurer shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board and a register of the applicants for license, showing for each the date of application, name, qualifications, place of business, and whether the license was granted or refused. The books and register of this board shall be prima facie evidence of all matters recorded therein, and a certified copy of such books or register, under the seal of the board, attested by its secretary, shall be received in evidence in all courts in this state in lieu of the original.

A roster showing the names and places of business of all licensed general contractors shall be prepared by the secretary of the board as soon as convenient after the board first meets each year. Such roster, which shall include a copy of the licensing law, shall be printed by the board out of funds of the board, as provided in Section 34-8-25, and a copy mailed to and placed on file by the clerk of each incorporated city and town in the state and to and by the probate judge of each county in the state.

On or before March 1 of each year, the board shall submit to the Governor a report of its transactions for the preceding year and shall file with the Secretary of State a copy of such report, together with a complete statement of receipts and expenditures of the board, attested by the affidavit of the chairman and secretary and a copy of the roster of licensed general contractors.

It shall be the duty of the secretary-treasurer to investigate and report to the board each complaint filed relative to violation of this chapter.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §8; Code 1940, T. 46, §72; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-27 Appeals.

Any party aggrieved by any decision of the State Licensing Board, either in denying an application for license as a general contractor or in revoking a license, may appeal to the Circuit Court of Montgomery County by filing a bond with the clerk of the court, conditioned to pay all costs of the appeal. Upon notice of the appeal being served upon the Licensing Board, an issue shall be made up by the court between the appellant and the Licensing Board, in which the appellant shall allege in what respect the action of the Licensing Board was erroneous and prejudicial to him or her; whereupon the court shall hear the evidence and, without regard to the decision of the Licensing Board, shall render such decision as the court is of the opinion the Licensing Board should have rendered in the first instance.

(Acts 1935, No. 297, p. 721, §17; Code 1940, T. 46, §82; Acts 1959, No. 571, p. 1429, §1.)

Section 34-8-28 Distribution of funds; annual report.

- (a) An amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) from the fees required for application and renewal for certification and registration of general contractors in Section 34-8-2, and an amount of fifty dollars (\$50) from the fees required for application and renewal of the license of a subcontractor pursuant to Section 34-8-7, shall be distributed by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors to all accredited public institutions of higher education offering American Council for Construction Education accredited courses in building science, and to all accredited public institutions of higher education offering courses in building science which are in the candidate status of the American Council for Construction Education and to institutions of higher education offering courses leading to a bachelor of civil engineering degree which offers courses in highway engineering and construction at the undergraduate and graduate levels and whose civil engineering program is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Funds identified by the general contractors and subcontractors for building science shall be distributed pro rata among institutions based upon the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in the department of building science at the institution. Funds identified by the general contractors and subcontractors for civil engineering shall be distributed pro rata among institutions based upon the number of full-time equivalent civil and pre-civil engineering students enrolled at the institution. These funds shall be distributed 30 days after certifications of enrollment packages have been received from all eligible public institutions of higher education.
- (b) Revenue derived from the additional fees for all licenses shall be distributed for (1) building science (general construction) purposes and (2) civil engineering (highway engineering or construction, or both) purposes. Contractors shall be given an opportunity to select which program they want to support.

- (c) Revenues derived from the additional fees for all licenses that are not specifically designated by contractors for one of the purposes above, shall be distributed between the programs defined in subsection (a) in a pro rata manner based on the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in each program at each institution.
- (d) Each institution receiving funds pursuant to this article for building science purposes shall utilize the funds for research projects relating to the construction industry, for faculty development, for program enhancement, and for continuing education programs related to construction. The funds shall be administered by a committee appointed by the dean responsible for the building science program, and shall include the head of the department of building science, or comparable position, faculty representatives, and representatives of the building science industry advisory committee of the institution.
- (e) Each institution receiving funds pursuant to this article for civil engineering purposes shall utilize the funds to enhance activities in the highway engineering or construction area, or both. This includes, but is not limited to, scholarships, fellowships, research, faculty development, and continuing education. Funds received pursuant to this article shall be administered by a committee appointed by the dean of engineering. The committee should undertake, as part of its mission, to work with the public and private sectors of the highway industry to encourage student participation in co-op and summer industry employment programs as well as to lead students toward career employment in the highway industry upon graduation.
- (f) Each institution receiving funds pursuant to this article shall provide to the board an annual report on or before January 31 for the preceding fiscal year during which the institution received the funds. This report shall disclose the total amount of funds received by the institution pursuant to this article and shall provide an accurate accounting for the utilization of the funds. The report shall disclose sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the utilization specifications prescribed in subsections (d) and (e). Responsibility for the reports shall be retained by the administrative committees formed pursuant to subsections (d) and (e) and the dean appointing the committee.
- (g) The board shall retain an amount of five percent of the amount to be distributed pursuant to subsection (a) as a fee for administrative expenses associated with the collection and distribution of the funds.
- (h) The provisions of this amendatory section are remedial and curative and shall be retroactive to January 1, 1998.

(Acts 1991, No. 91-473, p. 857, §§1-4; Acts 1993, No. 93-614, p. 1006, §1(11); Acts 1996, No. 96-640, p. 1013, §1; Act 2003-142, p. 441, §3; Act 2011-165, p. 308, §3.)