

# Georgia Contractor Licensing 2008 for Georgia Pool and Spa Professionals 2008 Update

Presented: January 8, 2008

Georgia Board of General and Residential Contractors website: <http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/contractors>.

**LICENSING** -- Licensing test information: [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com).

- Also available from [http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/contractors/Exam information.htm](http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/contractors/Exam_information.htm).
- Be sure to download the Candidate Information Bulletin.

The test will determine the applicant's ability to make practical application of knowledge of profession in the category. The test will determine:

- Qualifications in reading plans and spaces
- Knowledge of building codes, estimating costs, construction, ethics, contracting and other similar matters.
- Knowledge of responsibility to public, owners, subcontractors and suppliers
- Knowledge of state law relating to contractors, workers comp, insurance and liens.

I would strongly urge all Pool and Spa Professionals to make every effort to be licensed and not to rely on the unclear limitations of the 25% rule of the specialty contractor exemptions if you are involved in construction. The 25% rule for specialty contractors may not be the safe harbor needed.

You cannot take the test until you have submitted your application to the Board.

Do NOT delay. There will be an avalanche of applications as the deadline approaches in July 2008.

**EXAMINATION EXEMPTION.** The periods to submit an application for examination exemptions have expired and closed under the current law. HOWEVER, if you actually applied for Examination Exemption in a timely manner and have a letter back from the Board that you would not be considered for a license because you "merely installed pools" it is time to consider requesting an appeal and you may be able to become exempt based on structures that you have constructed. .

**LICENSE ISSUANCE** – Physical licenses will be issued in late May or June 2008.

**BUILDING PERMITS** – The Board is working on informing local building permit officials about the rules and requirements but ANTICIPATE problems with permits in July and a few months after implementation. Expect delays.

**CONSIDER IMPORTANT MODIFICATIONS:** Your contracts to indicate whether you are licensed or exempt, acknowledgements and changes orders. Watch for updates and other information.

[www.georgiaresidentialcontractor.com](http://www.georgiaresidentialcontractor.com)

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