

District of Columbia Septic Contractor License Roadmap

Work-specific plumbing and wastewater approvals

ContractorLicenseRequirements.com — verified 2026-09-30

Step-by-step roadmap

1. Identify the applicable installer pathway

DC Water's Water and Sewer Availability Certificate review is a project process, not a septic contractor certification. The reviewed sources do not support claiming that septic systems are universally permitted or universally prohibited in DC.

2. Prepare the qualification records

Describe the planned excavation, piping, treatment, and disposal work to the District's licensing and permitting authorities. Determine the plumbing credentials required and whether a proposed private disposal arrangement can be approved. Do not treat an unanswered septic-license question as an exemption.

3. Complete the applicable assessment and filing

Examination requirements depend on the plumbing credential and work the District authorizes. No separate septic examination is established by the cited sources.

4. Obtain the project approvals

Identify the permitting authority for the property, secure the required approved plans and construction authorization, and arrange inspections before covering the work. Keep the occupational credential separate from the site approval.

5. Track the applicable renewal requirements

Maintain the actual occupational and business credentials required for the approved work. DC Water project approvals have their own conditions; they are not a recurring septic-installer license.

Pre-application checklist

- Work scope and responsible authority identified
- Applicable qualification records prepared
- Required examination, training, and application completed
- Current fee and insurance requirements checked
- Site approval and inspection arrangements obtained
- Actual credential expiration and renewal requirements recorded

Key figures

Application fee: Not established; see fee guidance

Examination: Confirm with authority

Examination fee: Not established; confirm with provider

Initial license: Not established; see fee guidance

Renewal: Not established; see fee guidance; confirm the applicable renewal cycle

Estimated total cost: The reviewed sources do not establish a complete current fee schedule for this pathway.

Obtain the current application and renewal amounts from the issuing authority. Local project charges, training, insurance, and business costs are separate; unspecified amounts are not zero-cost exemptions.

Time to license: Depends on the selected pathway, qualification review, and local project approvals. No complete end-to-end timeframe is established here.

Fee scope: The reviewed sources do not establish a complete current fee schedule for this pathway. Obtain the current application and renewal amounts from the issuing authority. Local project charges, training, insurance, and business costs are separate; unspecified amounts are not zero-cost exemptions.

Renewal details: Maintain the actual occupational and business credentials required for the approved work. DC Water project approvals have their own conditions; they are not a recurring septic-installer license.

Continuing education: Confirm the education requirements for the actual credential or local authorization. No unverified number of continuing-education hours is quoted here.

Primary sources

DC Council — plumbing scope, § 47–2853.121: <https://code.dccouncil.gov/us/dc/council/code/sections/47-2853.121>

DC Water — permits: <https://www.dewater.com/permits>

DC Water — application types: <https://www.dewater.com/permits/application-types>

Generated from ContractorLicenseRequirements.com. Always verify current requirements with the issuing state board before applying.