

North Carolina Septic Contractor License Roadmap

North Carolina Grade Level II / IV Onsite Wastewater Contractor Certification

ContractorLicenseRequirements.com — verified 2026-09-30

Step-by-step roadmap

1. Choose the grade for the actual system

Use the current classification rule for permitted systems. Grade IV includes advanced treatment, drip, and other listed complex systems.

2. Complete the approved class

Take the Introduction class for Grade II. Grade IV requires two years of satisfactory Grade II certification and its advanced class.

3. Assemble the package

Send the certification application, exam application, class certificate, SSN evidence, and applicable fee to the board.

4. Meet the examination cutoff

The board must receive the complete package at least 15 business days before the exam; wait for its assigned date and location.

5. Pass and obtain certification

Pass the examination for the requested grade. Keep any separate project permitting, pumping, inspection, or evaluator requirements distinct.

6. Renew before the filing deadline

Submit \$75 and CE evidence by November 15 and check the January 2027 insurance requirements before the next year's work.

Pre-application checklist

- Grade and system scope confirmed
- Approved class completed
- Certification application and SSN evidence prepared
- Exam application and \$200 Grade II fee enclosed
- Complete package received before cutoff
- Certificate issued for intended grade
- CE and November 15 renewal tracked
- January 2027 insurance change reviewed

Key figures

Application fee: \$200.00

Examination: Required

Examination fee: No separate fee recorded

Initial license: No separate charge for this pathway

Renewal: \$75.00; every 1 year(s)

Estimated total cost: \$200 Grade II certification application, plus approved class tuition and any other applicable costs. The initial exam package does not list a separate exam payment. A later Grade IV application is \$300, plus its advanced class.

Time to license: Depends on training, application review, and examination scheduling; no fixed end-to-end timeframe is established here.

Fee scope: Fees represent Grade Level II certification. Grade IV's initial application fee is \$300; either installer grade has a \$75 annual renewal. Training-provider charges are additional, and the application fee is recorded only once.

Renewal details: Installer renewal is \$75 annually. Certificates expire December 31 each year, but renewal must be received by November 15 to avoid the late fee. The posted 2027 invoice is due November 15, 2026 and renews a certificate expiring December 31, 2026. Submit the attendance evidence and signed invoice. Plan for the insurance rule effective January 1, 2027.

Continuing education: Grade II requires 3 approved continuing-education hours each calendar year; Grade IV requires 6. Initial qualification class hours cannot also be used as renewal hours.

Primary sources

[NCOWCICB — current Grade Level II application: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Application-for-Grade-Level-II-Certification.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Application-for-Grade-Level-II-Certification.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — installer certification instructions: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/How-to-Receive-Certification-as-an-Installer.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/How-to-Receive-Certification-as-an-Installer.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — 21 NCAC 39 rules, readopted November 2025: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/21-NCAC-39-NCOWCICB-Rules-2025.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/21-NCAC-39-NCOWCICB-Rules-2025.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — examination FAQ: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/NCOWCICB-Exam-FAQ.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/NCOWCICB-Exam-FAQ.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — renewal invoice for 2027 certification: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/2027-NCOWCICB-Website-Renewal-Invoice.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/2027-NCOWCICB-Website-Renewal-Invoice.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — general liability change effective January 1, 2027: https://ncowcicb.info/certification-holder-insurance-requirements/](https://ncowcicb.info/certification-holder-insurance-requirements/)

[NCOWCICB — installation, inspection and pumping FAQs: https://ncowcicb.info/faqs/](https://ncowcicb.info/faqs/)

[NCOWCICB — Chapter 90A Article 5 statutory text: https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Chapter-90A-Article-5-3.pdf](https://ncowcicb.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Chapter-90A-Article-5-3.pdf)

[NCOWCICB — current applications and examination forms: https://ncowcicb.info/forms/](https://ncowcicb.info/forms/)

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