

Washington Septic Contractor License Roadmap

Local installer approval and contractor registration

ContractorLicenseRequirements.com — verified 2026-09-30

Step-by-step roadmap

1. Identify the applicable installer pathway

An L&I registration is a business credential. The local health jurisdiction must also approve the septic installer.

2. Prepare the qualification records

Obtain installer approval from the local health jurisdiction and complete the appropriate L&I contractor registration. For specialty registration, L&I requires a \$15,000 bond; general registration requires \$30,000. Confirm which registration matches the business's scope.

3. Complete the applicable assessment and filing

Installer examination and training requirements depend on the local health jurisdiction. Do not apply designer licensing examinations to installers merely because both work on onsite systems.

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 L&I registration, insurance, and bonding, plus each local installer approval. Obtain current fees and renewal dates for both; no single combined statewide septic renewal amount is established here.

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: \$150.20

Examination: Confirm with authority

Examination fee: Not established; confirm with provider

Initial license: Not established; see fee guidance

Renewal: \$150.20; confirm the applicable renewal cycle

Estimated total cost: L&I lists \$150.20 for contractor registration and \$150.20 for renewal. Local septic installer approval, bond premium, insurance, and other business charges are additional. This is not a combined septic-program total.

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: L&I lists \$150.20 for contractor registration and \$150.20 for renewal. Local septic installer approval, bond premium, insurance, and other business charges are additional. This is not a combined septic-program total.

Renewal details: Maintain L&I registration, insurance, and bonding, plus each local installer approval. Obtain current fees and renewal dates for both; no single combined statewide septic renewal amount is established here.

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

[Washington Department of Health / local health jurisdictions / L&I — Program: https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-](https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-)

[environment/wastewater-management/septic-system/hiring-professional](#)

Washington L&I — contractor registration and bond requirements: <https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/contractors/register-as-a-contractor/index>

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