

Fire Sprinkler Contractor: How to become a licensed Fire Sprinkler Contractor

In Washington State, a company contracting to install, inspect, test, maintain, and/or service any portion of a water-based fire protection sprinkler system must be licensed by the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office.

Any company licensed for installation, repair, or design must have at least one full time employee certified by this office to perform these functions. This individual is known as their Certificate of Competency Holder.

The Contractor and Certificate of Competency Holder levels must match for at least one of their employees.

Before you can become a licensed Fire Sprinkler Contractor; you must have registered with the applicable agencies first.

- Labor and Industries**
L&I registers contractors. You will need an L&I account number.
- Department of Licensing**
DOL licenses businesses. You will need a UBI number.
- Department of Revenue**
DOR registers businesses for tax purposes
- Secretary of State**
SOS registers Corporations, LLC's, etc.
- Department of Social Health Services**
Employer is required to report all new and re-hire employees within 20 days to the Division of Child Support.

Begin by selecting the licensing level, of Fire Sprinkler Contractor, you will work at.

- LEVEL I** Fire Protection Sprinkler System Contractor; licensed to work on the installation of sprinkler systems falling under the purview of the National Fire Protection Association N.F.P.A. 13 – D. This means any single or dual family occupancy residential structure and its dedicated underground fire service main.
- LEVEL II** Fire Protection Sprinkler System Contractor; licensed to work on the installation of sprinkler systems falling under the purview of N.F.P.A. 13 – D and 13 – R. This means any single or dual family occupancy residential structure up to and including a four-story structure and their dedicated underground fire service main.
- LEVEL III** Fire Protection Sprinkler System Contractor; licensed to work on the installation of sprinkler systems falling under the purview of N.F.P.A. 13 – D, 13 – R, 13 and/or 24. This means any kind of work on any kind of structure including the dedicated underground fire service main of such structures.
- LEVEL U** Fire Protection Sprinkler System Contractor; licensed to work only on the underground installation of the dedicated fire protection sprinkler system supply main falling under the purview of N.F.P.A. 24. This means any installation of underground work of any kind for any type of structure.
- LEVEL I & T** Fire Protection Sprinkler System Contractors are not required to have a Certified design professional on staff. They are allowed to contract for the inspection and testing work of a wet and dry pipe fire protection sprinkler system under the purview of N.F.P.A. 25. Each individual who physically performs such inspection and testing work must be certified by this office as competent.

Fire Sprinkler Contractor Bond requirement.

Obtain the required Bond for the position to be licensed:

- Level 1; Level 2 and I&T Contractors – \$6,000 Bond
- Level 3 and U Contractors – \$10,000 Bond

Simultaneously obtain Certificate of Competency for at least one employee

As a Contractor you must have at least one employee or business partner who holds a certificate of competency in the level of work you will perform. The COC must either test or hold the appropriate NICET certificate to become certified

Submit a completed:

- Contractor application, and
- Certificate of Competency Holder application, or
- Certificate of Competency Transfer application

Note: The Certificate of Competency application, or transfer application must match the contractor's license level.

SFMO will review all applications for completeness. Upon completion of the review, and once the COC holder has tested or provided NICET certification, you will receive an invoice for the total amount due. Once the payment is received by our office.

Contractor License is issued! Be on the lookout for renewal notices and ensure that your bonds stay

