

Does a Contractor Need a Contractor License?

A Town Business License and a Town Building Contractor License are not the same thing. For the purpose of this discussion: **1)** a town business license is a license authorized by the Estes Park Municipal Code 5.20; and is hereafter referred to as a **business license**; **2)** a town building contractor license is a license authorized by the Estes Park Municipal Code 4.28; and is hereafter referred to as a **contractor license**; **3)** references to either a **business license** or a **contractor license** are licenses required and issued by the Town of Estes Park.

- **Contractor license** requirements are not applicable to work that does not require a permit.
- **Contractor license** requirements are not applicable to persons who perform work and are not compensated for their work (volunteers, home owners, property owners, business owners, tenants).
- Every contractor who for compensation provides a service and works within town boundaries is required to obtain a **business license** prior to commencing work (EPMC Chapter 5.20).
 - The Town Clerk issues **business licenses**. There is a fee for **business licenses**.
 - The chief building official assists the town clerk with the enforcement of **business license** requirements for contractors (EPMC 14.04.030).
- Every contractor working within town boundaries is required to obtain a **business license**; but, not every contractor working within town boundaries is required to obtain a **contractor license**.
 - The building official issues **contractor licenses**. There is no fee for a **contractor license**.
 - A **business license** must be obtained from the Town Clerk's office before a **contractor license** may be issued by the Building Official.
 - **Contractor licenses** are issued based on qualifications. When a State license is required to perform specific work (plumbing, electrical, etc.), a copy of the applicable State License is the only requirement necessary to obtain a **contractor license**.
- A subcontractor is not required to have a **contractor license** when working under a permit issued to a general contractor who possesses the appropriate **contractor license**.
- A subcontractor is required to have a **contractor license** when not working under a permit issued to a general contractor who possesses the appropriate **contractor license**.
- A contractor cannot work without a contractor license or under a permit issued to a person who does not possess the appropriate contractor license to supervise the entire project (home owner, property owner, business owner, tenant, etc.)
- When a contractor is required to have a contractor license, the contractor is also required to obtain a separate permit for the work requiring the contractor license.

Exemption from contractor license requirements is not an exemption from other requirements, such as State and local regulations, permits, fees, inspections, and technical requirements of the codes.