FIRE SPRINKLERS — GUIDE

How to check a sprinkler contractor licence by state

Find the right public register, match the business identity and check that the listed scope fits your proposed work.

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Start with the authority for the state where the building is located. Ask the contractor for its legal business name, licence or registration number, issuing agency and work scope. Then use the agency's own website. A directory entry or trade membership is not the same check.

California: use the contractor board

The California Contractors State License Board provides a public Check a License service. Search the exact business name or number. Match the result to the entity that will sign your contract. Review the status and classification shown on the live record.

The board's C-16 classification describes layout, fabrication and installation of fire protection systems and associated equipment. Its description excludes electrical alarm systems. Do not assume that a sprinkler credential includes every alarm task. Ask the board or local authority about work outside the stated scope.

Texas: use the State Fire Marshal route

The Texas Department of Insurance publishes a Fire Sprinkler Licensing page. It links to registration, licence and test information that describes types of credentials and the work each permits. The State Fire Marshal home page also links to its company and licensee search.

Use those official links rather than an insurance agent search. Check the business and relevant individual records for the work proposed. If a record is unclear, ask the issuing office before accepting a credential claim.

Other states and Canadian provinces

This is a method with verified examples, not a complete map of every jurisdiction. Open the relevant state fire marshal, contractor board or provincial authority site. If responsibility is unclear, ask the local fire prevention office which agency handles this work. Ask whether installation, inspection, backflow testing and alarm work use different credentials.

Save the lookup URL, the date checked, the exact record name and any scope limits. Repeat the live check before signing if the earlier result is no longer current.

Check certification separately

NICET has a distinct Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems certification program.

Match any claimed credential to its holder and discipline. Do not substitute a person's certificate for a business licence. Ask the issuing agency how it treats that credential for your work.

Fire Sprinklers does not certify contractors. Its paid ownership badge does not settle any of these checks.

Sources

- California Contractors State License Board, Check a License. Fetched 2026-11-10.
- California Contractors State License Board, C-16 Fire Protection Contractor. Fetched 2026-11-10.
- Texas Department of Insurance, Fire Sprinkler Licensing. Fetched 2026-11-10.
- NICET, Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems. Fetched 2026-11-10.

For information only. Confirm the adopted code, local rules and system requirements with the authority having jurisdiction and a qualified contractor.

Frequently asked questions

Can I use an insurance agent lookup for a Texas sprinkler contractor?

Use the State Fire Marshal company and licensee route linked from the Texas fire pages. The insurance agent lookup serves a different purpose.