

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY ELIMINATION
HB 425 (2009) IMPLEMENTATION

CERTIFICATES OF AUTHORITY/QUALIFIED BUSINESS LICENSES

Effective October 1, 2009, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation will no longer issue Certificates of Authority (qualified business licenses). HB 425 eliminated the requirement for a separate business license for construction companies in Florida. Contractors will still be required to qualify construction businesses with their license and provide background information for the business they are seeking to qualify.

1. When does the new law take effect?

Beginning October 1, 2009 the Department of Business and Professional Regulation will not issue a separate certificate of authority (also known as “qualified business license”) for construction businesses.

2. Will contractors still be required to qualify a construction business?

Yes, contractors will still be required to qualify a construction business with their individual license.

3. Will contractors still be required to provide the same background information to qualify a business?

Yes, contractors will still be required to provide the same background information to qualify a construction company.

4. Will the name of the construction business be listed on the contractor’s license?

Yes, the name of the qualified business will continue to be placed on the contractor’s license.

5. What happens to my existing certificate of authority?

The certificate of authority will no longer be regarded as a license, but the business information will remain on the Department’s public website.

6. Will my application and renewal fees change?

The application fees for an initial contractor’s license or change of status will remain the same. However, beginning with the renewal cycle in the year 2011, all licenses that qualify a business entity will be assessed an additional business qualification fee of \$50 in addition to the regular renewal fee.