

Work Requiring a Home Improvement Contractor (HIC) Registration or Construction Supervisor License (CSL)

Please note that as of July 1, 2009, the HIC program was moved to the Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA). Please direct HIC questions to OCA @ (617) 973-8787 or (888) 283-3757.

for Existing Owner Occupied 1- to 4-Family Dwellings

Type of Work (for jobs over \$500 each or over \$5000/yr total)	Do I need to be registered or licensed?	Which one?		Do I need a Bldg. Permit?	Comments
		HIC Reg.	CSL		
Air Conditioning, central.	see comments			yes	By licensed trades only.
Awnings	no				Non structural only.
Carpentry, structural	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Carpentry, trim	yes	√			
Decks	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Demolition	yes	√	√	yes	Demo CSL min. + HIC guaranty fund.
Door Replacement	yes	√		maybe	BP req'd if exit door or public safety concern.
Door Installation	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Driveways	no				
Energy Conservation Devices	no				Caulking, thermostats, light bulbs.
Fencing	no			maybe	BP not req'd if less than six feet high.
Flooring, finish, carpet, tile	no			maybe	Fire requirements in 3- and 4-family.
Flooring, structural	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Gutters	yes	√			
Heating System, central.	see comments			yes	By licensed trades only.
Insulation	yes	√		yes	
Kitchen Cabinets and Shelving	yes	√	maybe	maybe	if public safety concern or not ordinary repair.
Landscaping, routine	no				
Locks	yes	√			
Masonry Walls, not retaining	no				If no threat to public safety.
Masonry, related to building.	yes	√	√	yes	Masonry CSL min.+HIC guaranty fund
Masonry, landscaping	no				If no threat to public safety.
Painting, exterior	yes	√			
Painting, interior	no				
Patios	no				
Plastering	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Plumbing	see comments			yes	By licensed trades only.
Roofing , minor repairs	yes	√		maybe	Dependent on repair size.
Roofing, new or replacement	yes	√	√	yes	Roofing CSL + HIC guaranty fund.
Septic System Repairs/Installation	see comments			yes	Requires Dept. Environmntl Protectn. License
Shed construction	yes	√			Floor area less than 120 square feet.
Sheetrock/wallboard	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Shutters	no				
Siding	yes	√	√	yes	Window/Siding CSL + HIC guaranty fund.
Solar Panels	yes	√		yes	Licensed plumber and electrician req'd
Solid Fuel Burning Appliance	yes	√	√	yes	Appliance CSL+ HIC guaranty fund.
Stairs, exterior	yes	√	√	yes	Must pay HIC guaranty fund.
Swimming Pools, above ground.	no			yes	ANSI/NSPI-4 Design/Construction Required
Swimming Pools, below ground.	yes	√		yes	ANSI/NSPI-5 Design/Construction Required
Tile	no				
Walls, exterior retaining.	yes	√			Less than 4 feet high.
Window Install/Replace	yes	√	√	yes	Window/Siding CSL + HIC guaranty fund.
Wiring	see comments			yes	By licensed trades only.

