

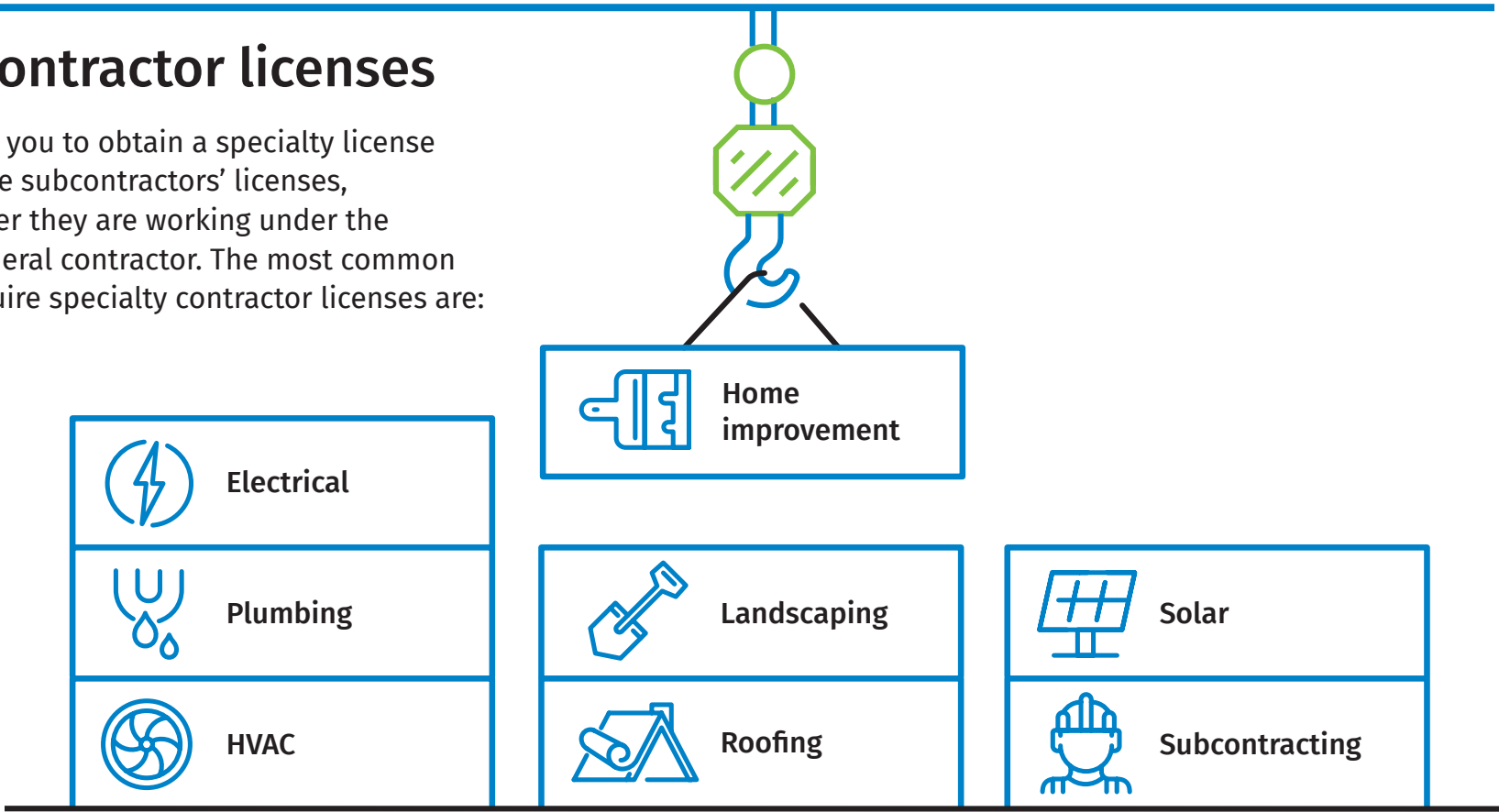
General contractor business license requirements

From small residential to large commercial projects, contractors can face unique licensing laws, specialty classifications, and application requirements at both the state and local level. Whether you're steering a construction business, a site supervisor, or working as a tradesperson, you'll encounter certification and licensing requirements that can vary by state, jurisdictions within the same state, and across specific trades.



Specialty contractor licenses

Some states require you to obtain a specialty license and may also require subcontractors' licenses, regardless of whether they are working under the supervision of a general contractor. The most common specialties that require specialty contractor licenses are:

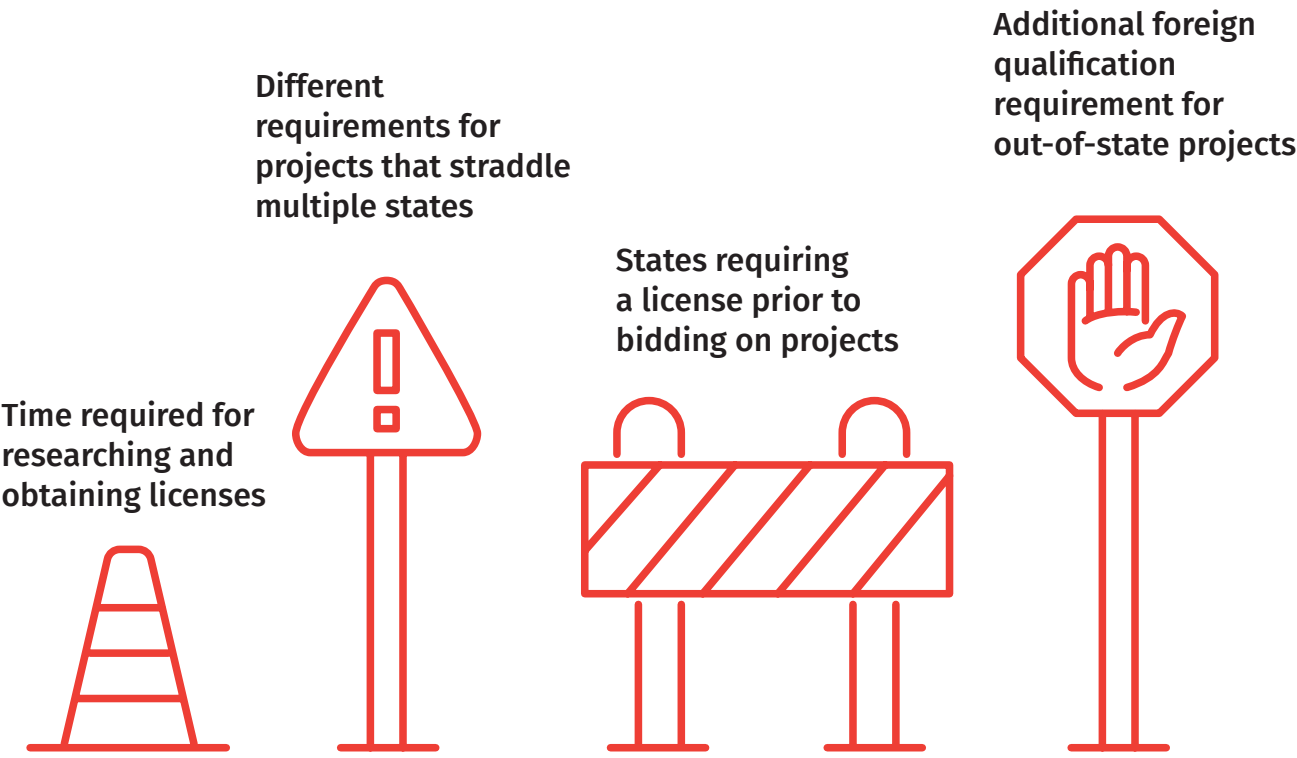


General business requirements

- Description of the work and services to be performed
- License classification
- Proof of insurance and surety bonds
- Trade, business and law exams
- State business registration as LLC or corporation
- Federal tax ID (EIN)
- Workers' Comp Insurance
- Payroll tax registration
- General business license from the city/county
- Building permit
- DBA (assumed name) registration



Compliance challenges



Consequences of noncompliance

- Harsh civil and criminal penalties
- Administrative sanctions (fines)
- Loss of business opportunities
- Damage to reputation and image



Maintaining construction license compliance

With changing regulations at the local, state, and federal levels, compliance is a time-consuming process. It's important to have a system in place to ensure you comply during a project and before the work starts.

Meeting contractor license requirements is not always an easy process. CT Corporation is dedicated to helping contractors handle their **business licensing needs**. For more information, [contact us today](#).

