

OREGON LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS BOARD

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Exam Qualification Requirements

To qualify to take the exam(s), an applicant must be 18 years of age (or legally emancipated) and at least one of the following requirements must be met:

1. **Two years of landscape related experience** (nursery work, landscape maintenance work, employed by a landscape contracting business, etc.) within the last 10 years. If applying for the modified license, only 1-year of landscape related experience within the last 10 years is required.
2. **Associates, Bachelors or Master's Degree in horticulture or a related field** which includes cooperative work experience. If no cooperative work experience, documentation showing 6 months of landscape related experience may substitute.
3. **A certificate in horticulture or other related field** from an accredited school or college that requires a minimum of 72 credit hours, which includes cooperative work experience in landscaping (if no cooperative work experience, documentation showing 6 months of landscape related experience may substitute).
4. **A current certification with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) as a Certified Arborist.** This is required for the arborist license phase.
5. **Landscape Industry Certified Exterior Technician** certification from the National Association of Landscape Professionals.
6. **A current membership with Association of Professional Landscape Designers as a Certified Professional Member.**
7. **A current Oregon Backflow Assembly Tester Certification or completion of a Backflow Assembly Tester 5-day course** approved by the Oregon Drinking Water Program.
8. Other landscaping related certified membership on an individual basis to be determined by the board. Please submit relevant documentation to the agency for board consideration.

If you have other qualifications for the board to consider to qualify to take the exam, submit documentation to the agency with a letter of explanation. If you're uncertain if the experience or other qualifications you have may qualify you to sit for the exam, please contact the office to discuss.

What if I don't meet any of the qualifications to sit for the exam?

For applicants that do not meet any of the above qualifications, a probationary license may be the best option. Approved applicants must pass all 6 exam sections within one year of the first sitting of the exam.

Once all exams are passed and a Probationary All Phase license is issued, the individual may:

- Start a landscape contracting business where the business will be required to carry a \$15,000 bond and will only be allowed to perform landscape projects that do not exceed \$15,000.

- Work for an employee of a licensed landscape contracting business under the direct supervision of a non-probationary licensed construction professional.
- Work for 24 months as an employee of a licensed landscape contracting business and be the phase basis of this business. The business must carry a \$15,000 bond and will only be allowed to perform landscape projects that do not exceed \$15,000.

After a period of 24 months meeting one of these requirements, the licensee may request the probationary status be removed.