

LOUISIANA LOCKSMITH LAW

- Gives administration of the law to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal who may issue rules and regulations, collect fees and enforce the law.
- Law covers Life Safety and Property Protection devices.
- Life safety systems and equipment includes but is not limited to fire sprinkler, fire alarm, fire suppression, special locking systems and equipment (electronic), and portable fire extinguishers.
- Property protection systems and equipment" means those life safety and property protection systems intended to protect lives and property from the risk of theft, unauthorized entry, or other physical harm to a structure's occupants or property. Security systems and equipment include, but are not limited to intrusion alarms, closed circuit television, mechanical locks, and electronic locks.
- There will be a Life Safety and Property Protection Advisory Board that will have 12 seats representing the various industries including one member for locksmiths.
- No person or firm shall engage in life safety and property protection contracting without holding a current and valid license issued by the fire marshal. Life safety and property protection contracting is divided into the three main categories of fire sprinkler, fire protection, and security. Each operating location of a firm shall hold a separate firm license.
- Each person who acts as an apprentice performing life safety and property protection contracting must apply to the state fire marshal for an apprentice license. An apprentice may perform such services only under the direct supervision of a technician holding a valid license pursuant to this Subpart who works for the same firm as the apprentice.
- Exemptions include: Any sworn police, fire, or other peace officer or certified medical technician may open any lock or locked motor vehicle while engaged in the performance of his official duties within the course and scope of his employment, provided that he receives no additional compensation for such services; Any automotive service dealer, lock manufacturer, or manufacturer's employee engaged in servicing, installing, repairing, or rebuilding automotive locks; Any employee of a towing service, or an automobile club, while such person is opening automotive locks in the normal course of his duties; Any merchant or retail store that is in the business of re-coding new locks on the retail premises only or duplicating keys, except for those keys which are proprietary and those marked "do not duplicate" or "master key". This exception from licensure shall also apply to the employees of the merchant or retail store but only as to work performed by them on behalf of the exempted employer.
- An applicant for a firm license shall submit the following to the fire marshal: a completed firm application; documentation that the firm is an entity duly authorized to conduct business within this state; an original certificate of insurance documenting that the firm has a minimum of five hundred thousand dollars general liability coverage; an original certificate of insurance documenting that the firm has a current and valid worker's compensation insurance policy as required by state law; the name of the person who will serve as the designated agent of the company; proof of employment of a qualifying individual with the proper certification and training at each of its operating locations for each endorsement held; proper application fee.
- A firm holding a property protection endorsement must be located within the physical boundaries of the state.
- Cannot be convicted of a felony, received a first-time offender pardon for a felony, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a felony charge, unless the felony has been dismissed. A conviction or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a felony charge or receipt of a first-time offender pardon shall not constitute an automatic disqualification as if ten or more years has elapsed between the date of application and the date of successful completion or service of any sentence, deferred adjudication, or period of probation or pardon. Any person convicted of a felony crime of violence, a sex offense, or a felony offense against property shall be automatic disqualification.
- All licenses are valid for one year. Individual licenses may be transferred from one firm to another for a fee.

THIS IS A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE LAW AND DOES NOT INTEND TO REPRESENT THE ENTIRE SET OF QUALIFICATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS. FOR FULL TEXT OF THE LAW SEE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES 40:1664.1 THROUGH 1664.16 (WITH AMENDMENTS FROM 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION).