

Registration of Commercial Building Contractors

Grandfathering arrangements

Commencing on 15 April 2025, the Northern Territory Government is introducing registration requirements for building contractors undertaking Class 1b and 3-9 building work.

To support experienced and skilled building practitioners in continuing work as usual, a grandfathering initiative has been introduced to assist current Northern Territory builders in transitioning into the registration scheme.

What is grandfathering?

Grandfathering allows builders in the Northern Territory to obtain a building contractor commercial registration based on their commercial building work experience without needing to meet qualification requirements.

The 12-month grandfathering initiative is only applicable to commercial registration applications and ends on 15 April 2025. Full registration requirements will apply to anyone wanting to register as a commercial building contractor at this date.

All Commercial Building Contractors must be registered to undertake building work on Class 1b and 3-9 buildings.

Who can apply for the grandfathering?

Any builder who can demonstrate at least 3 years' recent experience building Class 1b, Class 3 -9 buildings in the Northern Territory, can apply under the grandfathering initiative for either of the following types of registration:

- up to 3 storeys for Building Contractor Commercial (Restricted); or
- greater than 3 storeys for Building Contractor Commercial (Unrestricted).

You will need to provide a net assets certificate, certified by a registered accountant, that you have Net Tangible Assets of \$50,000 or more. You will also need to provide other information to make sure you are a fit and proper person to be registered, such as references and financial history.

Do I need to be registered for commercial fit-out building works?

No. You do not need to be registered to complete renovations or alterations to commercial buildings if there is no increase in floor area or height, no structural elements have been altered and there is no change in use that impacts on compliance with the National Construction Code or changes the building classification.

Can I hold both a commercial and residential registration?

Yes. If you are a registered building contractor with experience doing commercial building work, you will be able to apply for registration as a commercial builder.

You will only be charged a registration fee for your initial registration (i.e., residential) and you will not be charged for an additional registration.

Transitional arrangements

There will be transitional arrangements in place from 15 April 2025 that allow building works to be undertaken or completed by building contractors that do not have registration as restricted or unrestricted building contractors, provided the Building Permit has been issued by the Building Certifier prior to 15 April 2025.

Who will assess grandfathering applications?

The Building Practitioners Board assesses all applications from building contractor registration.

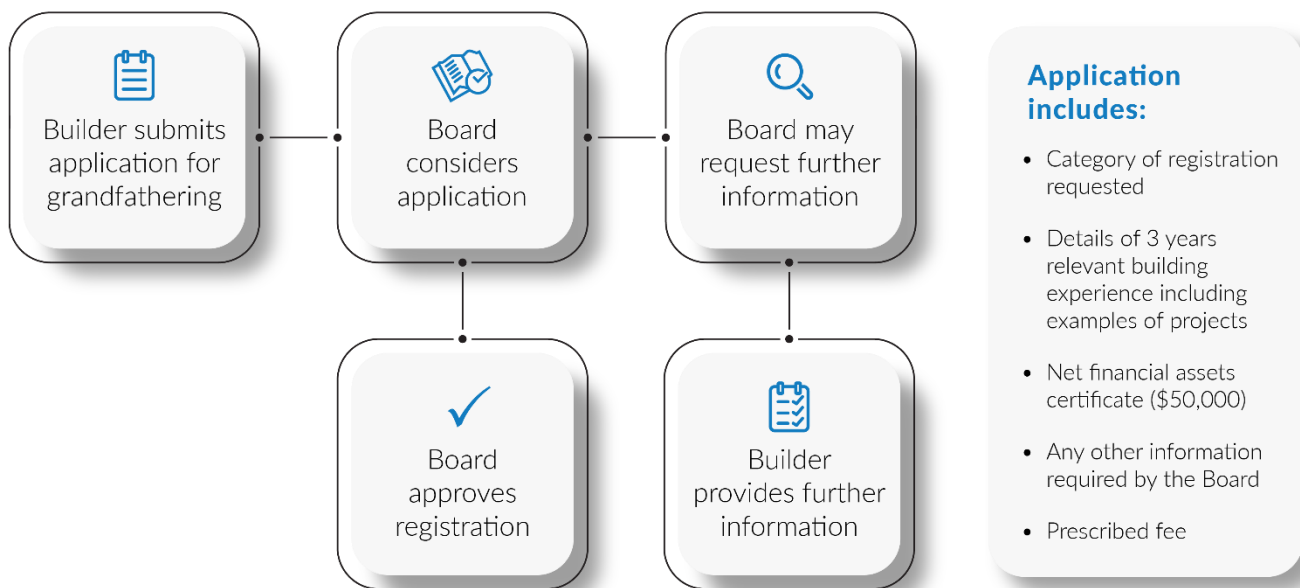
Only complete applications will be processed. Builders or companies must ensure they have submitted all the required documents when lodging their applications.

Where do I lodge my application for grandfathering?

Application forms and referee statement forms are available at: <https://bpb.nt.gov.au/application-forms>

Completed applications can be lodged in person, email or via post to Territory Business Centre operated by the Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations.

The flowchart below outlines the process for grandfathering applications.



For more information, visit <https://bpb.nt.gov.au> call 1800 193 111 or email bpb@nt.gov.au