

California contractor numbers and deadlines

Every dollar amount and day count below is quoted from the statute or the official publication named beside it, and carries the date the rule is current to. Law current to 2026-01-01.

Three numbers most study material still gets wrong

\$1,000, not \$500. The licensing exemption threshold was raised on 1 January 2025 (AB 2622). Material written before then teaches \$500.

"Immediately", not 8 hours. A serious injury must be reported to Cal/OSHA immediately by phone or the online mechanism. AB 1804 changed this in 2020; the 8-hour figure is the old rule.

2028, not 2026. Universal workers' compensation for all classifications was set for 2026 by SB 216 and then moved to 1 January 2028 by SB 1455. Until then the exemption needs no employees *and* none of C-8, C-20, C-22, C-39, C-61/D-49.

The table

Value	Rule	Citation
\$1,000	Aggregate contract price below which the chapter does not apply — "casual, minor, or inconsequential" work that does not require a building permit	LB B&P § 7048(a)
\$25,000	Contractor's bond, condition precedent to issuance/renewal	LB B&P § 7071.6(a)
\$7,500	Cap on a surety's aggregate liability for claims other than those by § 7071.5(a) beneficiaries	LB B&P § 7071.6(b)
\$100,000	LLC surety bond, for the benefit of employees damaged by unpaid wages, interest, or fringe benefits	LB B&P § 7071.6.5(a)
\$25,000	Qualifying individual's bond, required when the qualifier is not the proprietor, a general partner, or a joint licensee. In addition to the contractor's bond and not combined with it	LB B&P § 7071.9(a)(1), via § 7071.10
lesser of \$1,000 or 10%	Maximum down payment on a home improvement contract	LB B&P § 7159.5(a)(3)

This is the first 6 rows of 17. The full table, drilled both directions (value→rule and rule→value) with your score tracked, is in the trainer.

This trainer teaches what the CSLB Law and Business examination tests. It is not legal advice and it is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or approved by the Contractors State License Board. Law current to 2026-01-01. Verify anything you rely on against the cited code section.