HORTICULTURE, NURSERY AND APIARY LICENSES AND PERMITS
The Louisiana Horticulture Law states that no person shall receive fees, advertise, or solicit business in a
regulated profession or occupation unless he holds the appropriate license or permit, or has a regular
employee who holds the appropriate license or permit, or is employed by a person who holds the
appropriate license or permit. For specifics on what each license or permit authorizes, see Section 3808 of
the Horticulture Commission Law. All licensees are required to place at least one of their license numbers
on all business related vehicles that have advertisements on them (Section 115 E of regulations).

Retail Florist License
Authorizes the holder to arrange and sell floral designs, cut flowers and ornamental plants. Does not
include the sale of woody ornamentals, such as tall trees or fruit trees. Must have a regular employee
(minimum of 32 hours per week) at each place of business who is a licensed florist. Does not apply to
artificial materials or dried plant materials.
Requirements: Exam - Written by appointment
Fee - Written - $50
License Fee - $75 per year.

Landscape Horticulturist License
Authorizes the holder to recommend and execute measures for interior and exterior beautification through
the use of nursery stock, may sell or lease and maintain nursery stock. Includes bed preparation, plant
installation, sod installation, pruning, fertilizing, landscape maintenance and operating a nursery. Cannot
draw landscape designs for a fee. May prepare drawings to indicate the placement of nursery stock. Must
have licensees name, the words “Landscape Horticulturist”, and license number on all drawings. We do
not regulate yard work (cutting lawns, edging and hand-weeding beds).
Requirements: Written Exam - By appointment
Fee - $50
License Fee - $75

Landscape Irrigation Contractor License
Authorizes the holder to construct, install, connect, repair, maintain, improve or alter any portion of a
landscape irrigation system, including the required wiring for that system. Requires the licensee to obtain
a water supply protection specialist endorsement from the State Plumbing Board before connecting to a
public or private water supply system. Licensees must enter into a written contract with the property
owner specifying the landscape irrigation services to be performed and the sum to be paid for the
services.
Requirements: Written Exam - By appointment
Fee - $50
Certificate of Liability Insurance - $25,000 per person bodily injury and
$50,000 per person for property damage
Attendance of continuing education seminar every three years for renewal of
license.
License Fee - $75

Wholesale Florist License
Authorizes the holder to prepare and sell cut flowers, plant materials and ornamental plants to retail
florists and cut flower dealers. Cannot make and/or sell floral arrangements.
Requirements: Written Exam - By appointment
Fee - $50
License Fee - $75

Arborist License
Authorizes the holder to make recommendations or execute tree surgery type work including tree
removal, pruning, trimming, cabling, fertilization and cavity work. Licensees must enter into a written contract with property owners specifying work to be done and sum to be paid.

Requirements: Written Exam - By appointment
Fee - $50

Certificate of Liability Insurance -
$25,000 per person for bodily injury and
$50,000 per person for property damage

Attendance of continuing education seminar annually for renewal of license.
License Fee - $75 per year.

Utility Arborist License
Authorizes the holder to recommend and execute the removal of trees or portions of trees along utility rights of way.

Requirements: Written Exam - By appointment
Fee - $50

Certificate of Liability Insurance
$25,000 per person for bodily injury and
$50,000 per person for property damage

Attendance of continuing education seminar annually for renewal of license.
License Fee - $75 per year.

Landscape Architect License
Authorizes the holder to prepare landscape plans, grading plans, studies, designs, construction details, etc. for a fee.

Requirements: National Exam - Given twice yearly
Fee - Changes each year - cost of National Exam plus $200 for new applicants and applicants for reciprocity and $100 for applicants retaking the exam.
Minimum of 8 credit hours of continuing education annually.
License Fee - $75 per year.

Nursery Certificate Permit (Growers Permit)
Authorizes a grower to sell nursery stock, cut flowers, and bulbs which he/she grows. Permit is issued after inspection is made. Nursery is inspected for any major insects or diseases. No exam is required.
Fees are as follows:
NC1 - Area greater than 2,500 sq. feet and/or Greenhouse greater than 200 sq. ft. - $100 per year.
NC2 - Home Yard (less than 2,500 sq. ft.) and/or Greenhouse less than 200 sq. ft. - $25 per year.

If a person wants to both grow and buy nursery stock to sell from only one location, they would need either a grower’s permit or a nursery stock dealer permit, not both. If they will be growing the majority of their stock, then they can operate under just a nursery grower’s permit. However, if they plan on growing and selling nursery stock at one location, and also selling at additional locations, they would need both the grower’s permit and a nursery stock dealer permit for each additional location.

Nursery Stock Dealer Permit
Authorizes the holder to sell nursery stock. In order to apply for a nursery stock dealer permit, the applicant must be involved in the business of selling nursery stock. A Louisiana State Sales Tax number, issued by Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation ((225) 219-7318), is required prior to issuance of permit.
Requirements: Permit only - no exam - separate permit required for each outlet.
Fee - $130 per outlet per year.

Cut Flower Dealer Permit
Authorizes the holder to sell cut flowers, either singly or in bunches. Cannot arrange flowers in any fashion. In order to apply for a cut flower dealer permit, the applicant must be involved in the business of selling cut flowers. A Louisiana State Sales Tax number, issued by Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation (225) 219-7318), is required prior to issuance of permit.
Requirements: Permit only - no exam - separate permit required for each outlet.
Fee - $70 per outlet per year.

Many of these licenses and permits have overlaps. For example:
1. If a nursery grower wants to install and maintain landscapes, they are required to have a landscape horticulturist license.
2. A retail nursery outlet selling nursery stock may operate with a landscape horticulturist license or a nursery stock dealer permit. If they install nursery stock, they are required to have a landscape horticulturist license.

3. A retail florist is not required to have a cut flower dealer permit if they want to sell cut flowers that are not in an arrangement. Also, they are not required to have a nursery stock dealer permit to sell potted plants. However, if they have sod (grass) or woody ornamentals (such as trees, shrubs, etc.) for sale, they would need a nursery stock dealer permit as well as a retail florist license.