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# 50-State Home Care Licensing Summary

A comprehensive reference table covering licensing requirements across all 50 states and the District of Columbia

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# Introduction

Home care licensing requirements vary dramatically from state to state. Some states impose rigorous application processes with extensive documentation, on-site surveys, and fees exceeding several thousand dollars. Others have streamlined registration processes that can be completed in a matter of weeks. Perhaps most surprising to aspiring agency owners, 15 states currently do not require any state-level license at all to operate a non-medical home care agency—though local business licenses and other regulations may still apply.

This guide provides a quick-reference table covering all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Use it to compare regulatory bodies, license types, estimated fees, typical processing timelines, and survey requirements at a glance. While this summary is based on the most current information available (2024–2026), licensing regulations change frequently. Always verify requirements directly with your state's regulatory body before beginning your application.

## Complete State-by-State Licensing Reference

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
Alabama	—	No State License Required	—	—	—
Alaska	Alaska Department of Health, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services	Personal Care Services Program	\$500	60 Days	Yes
Arizona	—	No State License Required	—	—	—
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Aging, Adult and Behavioral Health Services	Private Care Agency	\$1,000 Application Fee	60 to 90 Days	Yes
California	California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licesing Division, Home Care Services Bureau	Home Care Organization (HCO)	\$5,603 Application Fee for 2-years	6 Months	Yes

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
Colorado	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)	Class B Non-Medical/Personal Care	\$2,200	60 - 90 Days	Yes, prior to issuing license
Connecticut	State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection	Homemaker Companion Agency (HCA) - Registration not License	\$375	Couple weeks	No
Delaware	Delaware Health Care Commission - Office of Health Facilities Licensing and Certification (OHFLC)	Personal Assistance Services Agency (PASA) or Home Health Agency - Aide Only (HHAA) HHA is nurse directed and supervised medical care	PASA - \$250 Initial Licensure, \$100 Renewal; HHA - \$500 Initial Licensure, \$300 Renewal	PASA - Initial license granted for 90 days	Yes, both PASA and HHA have on-site within 90 days of Initial License, License then granted for 1 year
District of Columbia	DC Health, Home Care Agencies	Home Care Agency	\$600 Application Fee	60 to 90 Days, Need Certificate of Need, then Complete Application	Yes
Florida	Agency for Health Care Administration	Homemaker & Companion Services OR Home Health Non-Skilled Only	\$50.75 for Homemaker & Companion, \$1,705 for HH Non-Skilled Only (Plus \$300 Biennial Assessment Fee)	60 to 90 Days	Yes, prior to issuing license
Georgia	Georgia Department of Community Health	Private Home Care Provider (PHCP)	\$800	60 - 90 Days	Yes, within 6 months after license
Hawaii	Hawaii Department of Health - Office of Health Care Assurance, State Licensing Section	Home Care Agency	\$1200 Initial and 2-Year Renewal	—	Not for initial, subject to unannounced inspections
Idaho	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
Illinois	Illinois Department of Public Health	Home Care Services Provider Agency	\$1,500	3 to 4 Months	Yes, prior to issuing license
Indiana	Indiana Department of Health - Consumer Services & Health Care Regulation - Division of Home and Community Based Care	Personal Care Services Agency	\$250 Initial and 1-Year Renewal	60 Days	Not for initial, subject to unannounced inspections
Iowa	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
Kansas	Kansas Division of Public Health, Health Facilities Program,	Home Health Classification B - Non-Medical Services	\$100, sliding scale based on visits for 1-Year Renewal	60 to 90 Days	Yes, prior to issuing license

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
	Licensure and Certification				
<b>Kentucky</b>	Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services - Office of Inspector General	Personal Services Agency	\$500 Initial and \$300 Renewal	60 to 90 Days	No
<b>Louisiana</b>	Louisiana Department of Health - Health Standards Section - Home and Community Based Service Providers (HCBS)	Home and Community Based Service Provider - Personal Care Attendant (PCA)	\$200 for Facility Need Review Application, \$600 for Home and Community Based Service Provider Application	60 to 90 Days	Yes, prior to issuing license
<b>Maine</b>	Maine Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Licensing and Certification	Personal Care Agency	\$25 Application Fee	6 months	No
<b>Maryland</b>	Maryland Department of Health - Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ)	Residential Service Agency (RSA): Option 1: RN Supervision of Aides without medication management, Option 2: RN Supervision of Aides WITH medication management	\$1,000 Application Fee for 3-year license, \$1,000 for 3-year renewal	—	May for initial, subject to unannounced inspections
<b>Massachusetts</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Michigan</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Minnesota</b>	Minnesota Department of Health - Health Regulation Division, Licensing, Certification and Registration	Home Care Provider: Option 1: Basic Home Care License, Option 2: Comprehensive Home Care License	\$2,100 for basic, \$4,200 for comprehensive 1-year, Renewal based on revenue (\$231-\$7,651)	60 to 90 Days, Temporary license issued within 90 days and good for 1 year	On-site survey within 90 days after agency starts providing services, then receive permanent license
<b>Mississippi</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Missouri</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Montana</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
Nebraska	—	No State License Required	—	—	—
Nevada	Department of Health and Human Services Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)	Personal Care Agency	\$1,374 Application Fee	—	Yes
New Hampshire	Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Legal and Regulatory Services, Health Facilities Administration	Home Care Service Provider	\$25 Application fee	60 to 90 Days	Yes, within 60 days of application approval
New Jersey	New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, Division of Consumer Affairs, Office of Consumer Protection, Regulated Business Section	Health Care Service Firm	\$500 Application Fee	90 Days	Yes
New Mexico	—	No State License Required	—	—	—
New York	New York Department of Health, Home Care and Hospice	Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA)	\$2,000 Application Fee	180 to 365+ Days, must obtain Certificate/Determination of Need first	Yes
North Carolina	North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Service Regulation	Home Care Agency	\$560 Application Fee, \$510 Renewal Fee Annually	60-90 Days, Must be able to complete entire process within 12 months	Yes
North Dakota	—	No State License Required	—	—	—
Ohio	Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Regulatory Operations	Non-Medical Home Health Services License	\$250 Application Fee	4 to 6 months	Yes
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Department of Health, Medical Facilities, Home Care Division	Home Care Agency (To Add Personal Care) or Companion Sitter Agency	\$1,000 Application Fee, \$500 Renewal Fee	60 to 90 Days	Yes
Oregon	Oregon Health Authority, Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement, Health Facility Licensing & Certification	In-Home Care Agency (Limited, Basic, Intermediate, Comprehensive)	\$2,000 Limited, \$2,250 Basic, \$2,500 Intermediate, \$3,000 Comprehensive	90+ Days	Yes

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	Pennsylvania Department of Health, Quality Assurance, Home Care Agencies and Registries	Home Care Agency	\$100 Application Fee	3 to 6 months	Yes
<b>Rhode Island</b>	Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Systems Policy and Regulation, Home Care Providers	Home Care Provider	\$500 Certificate of Need Application Fee, \$650 License Application Fee	Certificate of Need App needs to be submitted 45 days prior to Health Services Council meeting, then License Application can take 60 to 90 Days	Yes
<b>South Carolina</b>	South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control - Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing	In-Home Care Provider	\$1,000 Application Fee, \$800 Renewal Fee	60 Days	Yes
<b>South Dakota</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Tennessee</b>	Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Office of Licensure	Personal Support Services Agencies (PSSA)	\$810 Application Fee	60 to 90 Days	Electronic Desk Audit
<b>Texas</b>	Texas Health and Human Services, Home and Community Support Services Agencies (HCSSA)	Personal Assistance Services (PAS)	\$2,625 Application Fee, \$1,750 for 2-year renewal, \$2,625 for 3-year renewal	60 to 90 Days	Yes
<b>Utah</b>	Utah Department of Health and Human Services	Personal Care Agency	\$1,607.50	30 Days for Provisional License, up to 6 months for permanent license	Yes, within 6 months after provisional, on-site after actual clients
<b>Vermont</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—
<b>Virginia</b>	Virginia Department of Health, Division of Acute Care Services, Home Care & Hospice Unit	Home Care Organization	\$500 Application Fee, \$500 Renewal Fee	60 to 90 Days	Yes
<b>Washington</b>	Washington State Department of Health, Home Care Agencies	Home Care Agency	\$3,286 Application Fee	90+ Days	Yes
<b>West Virginia</b>	—	<b>No State License Required</b>	—	—	—

STATE	REGULATORY BODY	LICENSE TYPE	EST. FEE	TIMELINE	SURVEY REQUIRED
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Residential and Community-Based Care Licensing and Certification, Personal Care Agencies	Personal Care Agency	\$300 Application Fee + \$10 per staff member	Application decision within 90 days, provisional license approval good for 1-year	Must have on-site survey within 9 months of application approval after serving at least 5 clients
Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Health, Healthcare Licensing & Surveys	Home Health Agency (Need For Hands-On Personal Care) Otherwise No License Required	\$100 Application Fee	60 Days	Yes

# Certificate of Need (CON) States

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A Certificate of Need (CON) is a regulatory requirement in certain states that requires healthcare providers to obtain state approval before establishing new facilities or expanding services. In the context of home care, CON requirements can significantly extend your timeline and add complexity to the licensing process. The following 20 states currently have CON requirements that may affect home care, home health, or hospice agencies:

**CON** Alabama

**CON** Florida

**CON** Georgia

**CON** Illinois

**CON** Kentucky

**CON** Louisiana

**CON** Mississippi

**CON** Missouri

**CON** Montana

**CON** Nebraska

**CON** New York

**CON** North Carolina

**CON** Ohio

**CON** Oklahoma

**CON** South Carolina

**CON** Tennessee

**CON** Virginia

**CON** Washington

**CON** West Virginia

**CON** Wisconsin

## Important Note About CON Requirements

CON requirements vary significantly in scope. Some states apply CON only to home health (skilled) or hospice agencies, not to non-medical home care. Others apply CON broadly across all home-

based service types. Contact your state's CON program directly to determine whether your specific service model requires a Certificate of Need before you invest in the licensing process.

## Important Notes

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### Please Keep in Mind

- **15 states do not require a state license**

for non-medical home care: Alabama, Arizona, Idaho, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and West Virginia. However, you may still need local business licenses, and Medicaid waiver programs may have their own provider requirements.

- **Fee data is based on 2024–2026 information**

and may change. Many states adjust fees annually or biennially. Some states also charge separate renewal fees that differ from the initial application fee.

- **Always verify current requirements directly with the state regulatory body**

before beginning your application. Regulations, fees, and processing times can change with new legislation or administrative updates.

- **CON requirements may apply to home health and hospice**

even in states that do not license non-medical home care. If you plan to offer skilled services or expand into hospice, research CON requirements separately for those service lines.