

MARYLAND REGISTER

Proposed Action on Regulations

Date Filed with AELR Committee

December 17, 2025

Date Filed with Division of State Documents

Document Number

25-312-P

Date of Publication in MD Register

1. Desired date of publication in Maryland Register: January 23, 2026

2. COMAR Codification

Title	Subtitle	Chapter	Regulation
09	08	01	01
09	08	01	03
09	08	01	04
09	08	01	28
09	08	06	02
09	08	07	02

3. Promulgating Authority

Maryland Department of Labor

4. Name of Regulations Coordinator

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5. Name of Person to Call About this Document

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6. Check applicable items:

☒	New Regulations
☒	Amendments to Existing Regulations
☐	Repeal of Existing Regulations
☐	Recodification
☐	Incorporation by Reference of Documents Requiring DSD Approval

7. Is there Emergency text that is identical to this Proposal:

☐ Yes ☒ No

8. Incorporation by Reference

☐	Incorporation by Reference (IBR) approval form(s) attached and 16 copies of documents proposed for incorporation submitted to DSD. (Submit 16 paper copies of IBR document to DSD and one copy to AELR.)
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9. Public Body - Open Meeting

- ☐ OPTIONAL - If promulgating authority is a public body, check to include a sentence in the Notice of Proposed Action that proposed action was considered at an open meeting held pursuant to General Provisions Article, §3-302(c), Annotated Code of Maryland
- ☐ OPTIONAL - If promulgating authority is a public body, check to include a paragraph that final action will be considered at an open meeting

10. Children's Environmental Health and Protection

- ☐ Check if the system should send a copy of the proposal to the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

11. Certificate of Authorized Officer

I certify that the attached document is in compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act. I also certify that the attached text has been approved for legality by Kenneth Sigman, Assistant Attorney General, telephone #2402810812, on December 15, 2025. A written copy of the approval is on file at this agency.

Name of Authorized Officer

Kenneth Sigman

Title

Assistant Attorney General

Telephone No.

2402810812

Date

December 15, 2025

Title 09

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Subtitle 08 HOME IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

09.08.01 General Regulations

09.08.06 Civil Citations

09.08.07 Fees

Authority: Public Utilities Article, § 7-320(c), Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[25-312-P]

The Department of Labor, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing proposes to:
amend Regulations .01, .03, .04, and .28 under COMAR 09.08., General Regulations, and Regulation .02, under COMAR 09.08.06, Civil Citations, and Regulation .02 under COMAR 09.08.07, Fees.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to establish a special solar contractor license in accordance with Public Utilities Article, § 7-320(c), Annotated Code of Maryland.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to David Finneran, Executive Director, Maryland Home Improvement Commission, Maryland Department of Labor, 100 S Charles Street, Tower 1, Baltimore, MD 21201, or call 410-230-6231, or email to DLOPLMHIC-LABOR@maryland.gov. Comments will be accepted through February 23, 2026. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

KENNETH SIGMAN
Assistant Attorney General

Economic Impact Statement Part C

A. Fiscal Year in which regulations will become effective: **FY 2027**

B. Does the budget for the fiscal year in which regulations become effective contain funds to implement the regulations?

No

C. If 'yes', state whether general, special (exact name), or federal funds will be used:

undefined

D. If 'no', identify the source(s) of funds necessary for implementation of these regulations:

Maryland Home Improvement Commission Special Fund

E. If these regulations have no economic impact under Part A, indicate reason briefly:

The regulations implement statutory licensing requirements.

F. If these regulations have minimal or no economic impact on small businesses under Part B, indicate the reason and attach small business worksheet.

The regulations impose a fee of \$50.00 on small businesses that sell residential rooftop solar panel installation and maintenance contracts to consumers.

G. Small Business Worksheet:

1a. The intended beneficiaries are consumers.

1b. The regulations will not impact their income or purchasing power. The businesses impacted will be businesses that sell residential rooftop solar panel installation and maintenance contracts to consumers.

1c. Not applicable.

2a. Maryland businesses sell residential rooftop solar panel installation and maintenance contracts to consumers will have to become licensed and become familiar with the laws applicable to residential rooftop solar panel installation and maintenance contracts.

2b. Not applicable.

3. Not applicable.

4. The regulations will have a minimal impact on the cost of providing goods and services, the workforce, the cost of housing, and efficiency in production and marketing, capital investment, taxation, competition, economic development, and consumer choice because it imposes only a small fee on affected businesses.

Title 09 MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Subtitle 08 HOME IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

Chapter 01 General Regulations

Authority: Business Regulation Article, §§8-207(a), 8-212(a)(1) and (2), 8-309, 8-311(a)(11)—(13), 8-501(c)(1)(ix), and 8-616, Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Definitions.

A. The definitions contained in Business Regulation Article, §8-101, Annotated Code of Maryland, are incorporated into these regulations, by reference[, as Regulation .01].

B. “Home improvement,” as defined in Business Regulation Article, §8-101, Annotated Code of Maryland, includes the installation and maintenance of residential rooftop solar energy generating systems.

C. “Minimum standards for product design” means the standards imposed by applicable local electrical, building, and fire codes, applicable federal and state law, and standards imposed by the pertinent electric utility if a residential rooftop solar energy generating system is to be connected to the electric grid.

D. “Owner” includes a homeowner, tenant, or other person who buys, contracts for, orders, or is entitled to a home improvement.

E. “Residential rooftop solar energy generating system” means a solar energy generating system installed on a rooftop of a house, townhouses, or an apartment building that contains no more than three single-family units.

F. (1) “Solar contractor” means a person, other than employee of an owner, who offers or agrees to install or perform maintenance on a residential rooftop solar energy generating system for an owner.

(2) “Solar contractor” does not include an electrician licensed by the Maryland Board of Electricians who installs or performs maintenance on a residential rooftop solar energy generating system pursuant to a contract with:

(a) a solar contractor to perform all or part of a home improvement contract; or

(b) another subcontractor who has a contract with a solar contractor to perform all or part of a subcontract to a home improvement contract.

G. “Solar contractor license” means a license issued by the Commission to act as a solar contractor.

.03 [Licenses for Contractors and Salesmen] Solar Contractors.

All contractors that act as a solar contractor must hold a solar contractor license [and salesmen required to be licensed shall have licenses] on and after [October 1, 1962] July 1, 2026.

.04 Corporate or Partnership Licensure.

A. License Required.

(1) A corporation or partnership may not act as a home improvement contractor unless it obtains a corporate or partnership contractor [home improvement contractor's] license.

(2) *A corporation or partnership may not act as a solar contractor unless it obtains a corporate or partnership solar contractor license.*

B. Individual Licensee Required.

(1) *To [In order to] obtain and maintain a corporate or partnership contractor [home improvement] license, the corporation or partnership shall employ one individual licensed contractor who shall be in responsible charge of the corporation's or partnership's home improvement work.*

(2) *To obtain and maintain a corporate or partnership solar contractor license, the corporation or partnership's individual licensed contractor in responsible charge of the corporation's or partnership's home improvement work must hold an individual solar contractor license.*

C.-E. (text unchanged)

.28 Residential Rooftop Solar Energy Generating System Installation and Maintenance.

A. *A person must have a solar contractor license whenever the person acts as a solar contractor.*

B. *Only individuals who hold an electrician license issued by the Maryland Board of Electricians may install or perform maintenance on the electrical components of a residential rooftop solar energy generating system.*

C. Solar Contractor Licensing.

(1) *An applicant for a solar contractor license must have an active contractor license.*

(2) *An applicant for a solar contractor license shall:*

(a) *submit to the Commission a complete application on the form that the Commission provides;*

(b) *certify, under oath, that the applicant*

(i) *understands and will comply with Public Utilities Article, § 7-320(b), Annotated Code of Maryland; and*

(ii) *will employ licensed electricians to install or perform maintenance on the electrical components of residential rooftop solar energy generating systems.*

(3) *Unless otherwise provided in this Subtitle, the provisions of Business Regulation Article §§ 8-305 - 8-317, Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 09.08.01 apply to solar contractor license applicants and licensees.*

D. *Nothing in this regulation is to be construed to require a licensed electrician who is acting within the scope of their license and who does not offer or agree to install or perform maintenance on a residential rooftop solar energy generating system for an owner to hold a solar contractor license.*

Chapter 06 Civil Citations

Authority: Business Regulation Article, §§8-207(a) and 8-620(c)(1), Annotated Code of Maryland

.02 Violation.

A.—DD. (text unchanged)

EE. *Offering to act as a solar contractor without a solar contractor license issued by the Commission:*

(1) *First violation — \$1,000; and*

(2) *Second or subsequent violation — \$3,000.*

FF. *Acting as a solar contractor without a solar contractor license issued by the Commission:*

(1) *First violation — \$1,500; and*

(2) *Second or subsequent violation — \$5,000.*

GG. *Falsely certifying that a residential rooftop solar energy generating system is compliant with all federal, State, and local laws regarding workmanship or that the solar panels, inverters, racking systems, and all other components meet the minimum standards for product design.*

(1) *First violation — 1,500; and*

(2) *Second or subsequent violation — \$5,000.*

Chapter 07 Fees

Authority: Business Regulation Article, §§2-106.11, 2-106.12, 8-207, 8-209, 8-210, 8-213, 8-302, 8-303, 8-308, and 8-308.1, Annotated Code of Maryland

.02 Schedule of Fees.

A. Pursuant to Business Regulation Article, §8-213, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Commission shall set fees to produce funds to approximate the cost of maintaining the Commission. Fees charged by the Commission are as follows:

(1) License application fees:

(a)—(b) (text unchanged)

(c) *Solar contractor* — \$50; and

[(c)] (d) Application processing fee — \$22.50;

(2) License renewal fees:

(a)—(b) (text unchanged)

(c) *Solar contractor* — \$25;

(3) Inactive status fees:

(a) (text unchanged)

(b) Renewal fees while license is in inactive status:

(i) Contractor — \$126.75; [and]

(ii) Salesperson — \$42.25; and

(iii) *Solar contractor* — \$10;

(c) (text unchanged)

(4)—(5) (text unchanged)

B. (text unchanged)