

Selecting Mold Remediation Contractors

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Regulations

In 2003 Texas adopted one of the most stringent set of regulations in the nation for individuals engaged in mold remediation. Because of floods along the Gulf Coast, the Texas Legislature adopted House Bill 329 (HB 329), “The Texas Mold Assessment and Remediation Rule.” The Texas Department of State Health Services (formerly the Texas Department of Health) is the state agency responsible for enforcing the rules. The law requires that all individuals engaged in mold assessment and/or remediation be licensed.

Licenses are required for mold assessment companies, mold analysis laboratories, mold assessment technicians, mold assessment consultants, mold remediation workers (with registration as a worker), mold remediation contractors and mold remediation companies.

Individuals who inspect, analyze and recommend remediation actions are known as **mold assessors**. People who engage in the business of correcting mold problems are known as **mold remediators**. To do either, Texas law requires a license from the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS).

Requirements for a Mold Remediation Business

Before a business can engage in mold remediation, it must meet certain educational, training, examination and licensing requirements. Consumers should ask to see copies of a business’s licenses (including those of the employees doing the work).

Before entering into a remediation contract, make sure the terms spell out exactly what is to be corrected. A diagram or survey should be prepared that details the area in square feet, rooms or sections where remediation will be done. The contract should specify the amount of time it will take to complete the remediation work. Materials (e.g., lumber, sheet rock, carpet and padding, and paint) required to complete the remediation should be itemized in the contract. It should be agreed upon in advance whether the contractor or the homeowner will provide the renovation materials.

The contract also should describe how the contaminated materials will be handled and whether the homeowner or contractor will remove the debris from the site. The contract should detail warranties of work and guarantees on remediation.

Contact Information

For information about the Texas Mold Assessment and Remediation Rules, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services Indoor Air Quality Branch at 1-800-293-0753 or 512-834-4509. Personnel can explain the rules and licensing standards.

Consumers also can visit the website at *www.tdh.state.us/beh/mold/* to review the rules governing mold remediation in Texas.

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