NJ Licensing Shift Changes What Homeowners Must Verify in a Roofer

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New Jersey's shift from contractor registration to licensure has changed what homeowners should confirm before hiring, according to Royalty Exteriors, a Succasunna roof replacement and repair company rated 5.0 stars across 105 verified Google reviews.

The change traces to P.L. 2023, c. 237, signed by then-Gov. Phil Murphy in January 2024. The law created the Home Improvement and Home Elevation Contractor Licensing Act and a new State Board of Home Improvement and Home Elevation Contractors. Education and training requirements took effect Feb. 1, 2026. Full licensure follows six months after the board finalizes its rules. Until then, existing registrations remain valid. Homeowners in Succasunna, Roxbury, Hopatcong, Sparta, Newton and Vernon Township are therefore hiring in a window when the rules are moving but the paperwork they should ask for has not changed.

"Most homeowners have no idea the state is rewriting how this trade is licensed, and they should not have to," said Ronald Rojas, owner of Royalty Exteriors. "What matters is that the documents a homeowner asks for today are the same ones that will protect them next year."

Four of those documents are already required under existing state rules. A home improvement contractor business must be registered with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, and the registration number must appear on contracts, estimates and advertising. Registration requires commercial general liability coverage of at least $500,000 per occurrence, and the 2024 law added workers' compensation and compliance bond requirements. Home improvement work costing more than $500 requires a written contract listing the contractor's legal name and business address, start and completion dates, a description of the work and the total price. Manufacturer certifications sit outside that system entirely; GAF certification, for example, is issued by the manufacturer, not by the state. Registration alone does not measure workmanship, which is one reason the 2024 law will require new applicants to pass an examination and complete an apprenticeship, trade school or at least two years of supervised experience. Contractors with long-standing registrations are expected to be grandfathered as the board phases the program in.

The consequences of skipping those checks are written into state law. A violation of the Home Improvement Practices Act is also a violation of New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act, which allows homeowners to seek triple the amount of any losses caused by a contractor. Royalty Exteriors is registered in New Jersey under HIC #13VH09083300 and is GAF certified. The company's published Google Business Profile hours run 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, a six-day window that matters when a homeowner finds water in the attic on a weekend.

Seasonal timing adds a second layer. NOAA's Aug. 6 update held its below-normal outlook for the 2026 Atlantic hurricane season, calling for seven to 13 named storms through Nov. 30. Northern New Jersey damage claims tend to follow wind and heavy rain rather than named storms alone.

"A quiet forecast is not a reason to relax about who you hire," Rojas said. "Watch how fast a contractor answers your questions before you sign, because that is the clearest preview you will get of how the job itself will go."

Homeowners in Succasunna, Hopatcong, Sparta and the surrounding Morris and Sussex county communities can review Royalty Exteriors' registration and GAF certification, see completed roof replacement and siding work and request a free estimate at https://royaltyexteriorsnj.com.

Any New Jersey contractor's registration status can be verified through the Division of Consumer Affairs' online license verification portal.

Information is believed accurate at the time of publication. Contact Royalty Exteriors directly for current details.

Royalty Exteriors is a residential and commercial exterior renovation company serving Morris and Sussex counties, New Jersey, with more than 15 years of industry experience. Owner Ronald Rojas leads a GAF-certified, licensed and insured team providing roof replacement, roof repair, siding and gutter services, with free estimates and financing available. The company is located at 151 NJ-10 Suite 103A, Succasunna, NJ 07876, and can be reached at (973) 333-7234 or https://royaltyexteriorsnj.com.

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For more information about Royalty Exteriors, contact the company here:Royalty ExteriorsRonald Rojas19733337234info@royaltyexteriorsnj.com151 NJ-10 Ste 103A, Succasunna, NJ 07876, United States

Royalty Exteriors

Royalty Exteriors is a GAF Certified roofing and siding contractor serving homeowners in Sussex County and Morris County, New Jersey, including Succasunna, Roxbury, Landing, Stanhope, Hopatcong, and Sparta.

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